Scottsdale Unified School District

Engaging all students in world-class, future-focused learning

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MINUTES OF SCOTTSDALE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 48
Secondary Novel Review Committee
8500 E. Jackrabbit Rd. Room-B
Scottsdale, AZ 85250

Date: November 10, 2026 Time: 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

1. Call to Order
Meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM

Attendance
Present: Shelby Proctor, Becky Williams, Kate Satterstrom, Traci Avalos, Jamie Freedman, Kelly Dinon, Heather Hotta, Kelly Plowman, Jessica Winget, Tracy Powers, Jenna Dobkin, Melody Dorame

Absent:Amy Luis, Jordan Holland, Katarina Sisic, Jacob Wampfler, Liz Atkinson, Gail Oper
Committee Chairpersons: Molly, Kiesig, Dr. Tamara Jagodzinski
Committee Support: Tiffany Sorensen

Information/Discussion and Possible Action

2. Approval of Agenda for November 10, 2026 - **Action Item**

- Motion to approve: Heather Hotta moved to approve the agenda for 11.10.26 as written
- Seconded: The motion was seconded by Jamie Freedman
- Vote: A vote was taken, and the motion passed with a unanimous decision

3. Open Meeting Laws and Public Records Review
Molly Kiesig

- Presentation provided for committee to review Open Meeting Law and purpose
    - Ensure decisions are not made in private
    - Allow the public to observe the process
    - Promote trust and accountability
    - Protect both committee members and the district from allegations of improper decision-making
- Committee members express understanding and are in agreement to observe Open Meeting Law

4. Committee Goals
Molly Kiesig

- Working in alignment with SUSD Strategic Plan

- Goal 1: Academic Excellence
- Goal 5: Optimized Resources

5. Committee Norms and Expectations

Molly Kiesig

- Establishing Committee Norms
  - Encourage behaviours that allow groups to work together successfully
  - Allow groups to dialogue, engage productively in conflict, discuss and decide, invent and problem solve
  - Create and maintain a safe environment to examine one's practice and talk about difficult to discuss topics
- Clarifying Decision-Making Process - Defining Consensus
  - All points of view have been heard
  - The will of the group is evident even to those who most oppose it

6. Committee Timeline -

Molly Kiesig

- Notification of 2026-2027 Secondary Novel Review Committee Reconvening and Open Application Process: October 30, 2026
- District Committee Review: November 10, 2026– February 16, 2027
- Submission Deadline: December 11, 2026
- Possible Public Review (60 days): February 16- May 11, 2027
- Possible Board Approval: May 11, 2027

7. Secondary Novel Information

Molly Kiesig

- Purpose
  - The committee will review proposed supplemental fiction and nonfiction titles for possible inclusion on the District's Board-approved Supplemental Novel List. Members will evaluate submitted texts using a district rubric and established review process to ensure literary merit, instructional value, grade-level appropriateness, and alignment to student learning needs.
- Objective
  - Read assigned novels being considered for classroom use
  - Evaluate each title using a committee-approved rubric
  - Share findings and recommendations with the full committee
  - Participate in discussions that help inform recommendations to the Governing Board

8. Secondary Novel Review Requests

Molly Kiesig

- Secondary ELA Teachers were sent the proposal form on October 30, 2026 via Google Form asking for following information:
  - School and grade level (honors, gifted, SPED)
  - Novel Title, Author, Summary, Lexile Level
  - Alignment to AZ Standards and rationale
  - Evidence of sensitive material
    - How will it be addressed?
- Committee questions and concerns addressed to group satisfaction

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9. Rubric Review

Molly Kiesig

- Committee provided with copy of rubric and given time to review
    - Comments, questions, and suggestions discussed
        - Committee in consensus to vote to approve rubric at next meeting with recommended changes

10. ARS 15-120.03

Molly Kiesig

- Review of laws and look fors

12. Future Whole Group Meetings

- Tuesday, December 15, 2026 | 4:00-6:00
- Tuesday, January 12, 2027 | 4:00-6:00
- Tuesday, February 16, 2027 | 4:00-6:00

Good of the order

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Adjournment:

- Motion to adjourn made by Heather Hotto
- Motion seconded by Kelly Dinon
- Meeting was adjourned at 5:07 PM

Dated this day, Tuesday, November 10, 2026

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