

Jan 6, 2022 | 📅 Literature List Review Minutes

Attendees: Jenifer Young (facilitator), Deborah Arn, Sonia Salberg, Patience Sharp, Pam Fulk, Teresa Smith (note-taker), Kathleen Alexander, Randi Posner, Ryan Deaustin, Susan Seep, Heidi Winden, Raquel Kimball, Laura Hill, Liza Richards, Matt Rinn

[Agenda](#) [Slideshow](#)

Key Decisions	Next Steps	Timeline	Person / Responsible
The group voted to keep <i>Born a Crime</i> on the literature list, but they were undecided about whether to keep both versions or just the YA version	<p>Present information to district leadership and ask for guidance on next steps</p> <p>Communicate guidance with committee members and stakeholders</p>	1-2 weeks	Jenn Young
Develop an efficient process for review of community or parental concerns about approved literature selections.	Work with district leadership to approve a process for reviewing parental concerns about approved literature selections	Jan - Feb	Jenn Young

Notes

- Purpose of the meeting and outcomes were shared
- As a result of a parent concern, the committee is re-evaluating the Trevor Noah book, BAC, to determine whether it will remain on the literature list in the original version, the YA version, or both
- Introductions
- Reviewed meeting norms
- Goal is consensus with fallback of super majority vote
- Discussed options (keep both versions, remove adult version but keep YA version, remove both versions)
- Links to review the title were shared
- RK raised a concern that we should not consider the original version because it was not submitted by the teacher; others pointed out that both books went through a formal process and were approved by the Governing Board. The two books are very similar aside from the language.
- Parent concern was raised about the original version, but most concerns were based on content (not language) so we will discuss both versions.
- Time for members to review the documents (original submission, parent concern, reviews, evaluation forms, teacher resource materials)
- Open discussion - Topics included the following:
 - the treatment of racism in the book and parent's concern about CRT
 - Reference to Noah looking at porn on page 164; not included in the YA version
 - the educational value of the book because it reflects a period in history, represents a diverse perspective, and provides great lessons and themes
 - audio version and how it is only available in the adult version; this is why many committee members advocate to keep both versions on the list ([audio version](#))
 - religion and whether or not the book is offensive to Catholics

- Noah's political views on The Daily Show and whether or not they should be considered
- Different perspectives and how a discussion of perspectives could be a learning opportunity for students
- Voting form was distributed
 - 66% leave both versions on the literature list; 33% YA version only on literature list
 - 66% do not mark the YA title as sensitive; 33% mark the YA version sensitive (Note: one member changed her vote)
 - Reached consensus to NOT remove both titles
- Results of this meeting will be presented to executive leadership. Next steps will be determined and communicated with the committee members
- Meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.