

EXHIBIT A

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Name Asmaa B. Silventes Date 5/24/2016

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Do you represent yourself? an organization? _____ (If an organization, please identify: _____)

Resource on which you are commenting:

- Book _____ Magazine _____ Audio Recording _____
- Textbook _____ Library Program _____ Newspaper _____
- Video/DVD _____ Electronic information/network (please specify) _____
- Display _____ Other _____

Title Looking for Alaska

Author/Producer John Green

1. Have you reviewed the materials in their entirety? If not, please do so before completing and submitting this form. Pages (87-88) (126-128) (130-131)
2. To what in the material do you object? (Please be specific: cite pages, and the like)
Sexual content, Profanity, Drugs & Alcohol
3. What do you believe might be the result of using this material?
Increase teens' curiosity, ruin their morals...
4. For what age group would you recommend this material?
16+

5. In its place, what material of equal quality would you recommend that could be used to teach similar subject matter?

The giver, The book Thief, The boy in striped pyjamas...

6. What do you believe should be done with the material in question?

- Remove it from the curriculum.
- Do not allow my child to use this material.
- Use it as resource material or a choice selection.

Complainant signature Asmaa B. Silventes Date 5/24/16

EXHIBIT A

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Name Kathy Overstreet Date 5-24-16

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Do you represent yourself? Yes an organization? _____ (If an organization, please identify: _____)

Resource on which you are commenting:

- Book
- Magazine
- Audio Recording
- Textbook
- Library Program
- Newspaper
- Video/DVD
- Electronic information/network (please specify)
- Display
- Other _____

Title Looking for Alaska

Author/Producer John Green

1. Have you reviewed the materials in their entirety? If not, please do so before completing and submitting this form. Yes

2. To what in the material do you object? (Please be specific: cite pages, and the like) The entire book is inappropriate.

esp. pg 126-128

3. What do you believe might be the result of using this material? sexually inappropriate materials, sex, profanity, drug, alcohol, "blow job", countless vulgarities,

Harming our children, Taking away innocence,

4. For what age group would you recommend this material?

No school age

5. In its place, what material of equal quality would you recommend that could be used to teach similar subject matter?

6. What do you believe should be done with the material in question?

- Remove it from the curriculum.
- Do not allow my child to use this material.
- Use it as resource material or a choice selection.

Complainant signature Kathy Overstreet Date 5-24-16

Looking for Alaska – girls' club discussion re book

- These books have really good messages that are so much more than one paragraph.
- Kids are going to find out about this stuff from friends/experiences/tv shows. It's better to read them in books because they can skip over it and read it when they are ready for it.
- *Looking for Alaska* deals with friendships, grief, popularity and finding yourself, which are all important good things to learn through books.
- *Looking for Alaska* deals with grief, how to grow and evolve and help you with your self esteem.
- Let kids make their own boundaries. Many kids will skip stuff they aren't ready for.
- It's important to read the entire book because if you just look at the parts with drugs, alcohol, sex, you're not getting the whole book and all of the message, which may be drugs, alcohol and sex are not good for you to do. Many of these books and *Looking for Alaska* in particular don't make light of these things and the whole message of the books is a good one. It's well written too. Don't you want to expose your kids to good books? They may find this stuff online or somewhere else that doesn't have the same level of quality
- No book is perfect, there is always going to be something to offend someone. If it doesn't offend you it could be something else and how would you feel if someone else told your kid what they could read if it didn't offend you.
- Books that are dystopian have similar things in them and people don't care, but it's the realistic books that are so important because you can see yourself more easily in them and it makes you think about different sides of things. Like you may never have made that decision but it makes you a better person knowing how someone came to that decision so when you meet someone in real life like that you know how to handle it.
- A lot of these books [mature] books are at a high level and probably aren't for everyone. They aren't *Harry Potter* or the *Hunger Games* so people are finding them through their friends or seeking them out by themselves which probably means they're ready for them and need these books.
- Kids aren't dumb, they know how to set boundaries for themselves
- Books with swearing – middle school kids swear all the time and we hear WAY worse at school than what we read in books, just a fact that parents need to know.
- Kids are testing their limits in school by cursing. Reading is the same thing, you would rather them read to try to find themselves and test their limits rather than do the actual things.
- If you take these books out of the library, you aren't keeping them from the kids. Kids own these books and taking them out of the library will make more kids who didn't have an interest in them before want to read them because they are all of the sudden banned.

Compromise for keeping the books in the library

- Maybe 6th graders shouldn't read these books
- Have a permission form for parents to sign saying that their kids can read certain books that have mature content.
- Have a station at the library on open house day when you get your schedules for parents to sign
- Somehow create a list on the computer so that Ms. Stevenson and the aides know that certain kids can't check certain books out.