

Subject: Re: Pornographic images in the HS Library
From: Tamara Parks <tparks@ewsd.org>
Date: 12/15/2021, 7:56 AM
To: Elizabeth von Nagy <evonnagy@ewsd.org>

Hi Liz,

Yes! I will be out of the building this morning for a meeting until 12pm. After that I am available. Please let me know when you would like to meet. Also- Beth corrected our previous email- the procedures are "administrative procedures" not "board procedures". I let the parent know so he is aware the board does not get involved at this level.

See you soon,

Tamara

On Wed, Dec 15, 2021 at 7:48 AM Elizabeth von Nagy <evonnagy@ewsd.org> wrote:

Hi Tamara,

Can we meet this morning to talk about next steps?

Thanks,
Liz

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Tom Williams <tom8williams@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Dec 14, 2021 at 11:09 PM
Subject: Re: Pornographic images in the HS Library
To: Tamara Parks <tparks@ewsd.org>, Elizabeth von Nagy <evonnagy@ewsd.org>
Cc: Beth Cobb <bcobb@ewsd.org>

Tamara, Elizabeth,
Please find attached my formal complaint form for the book Gender Queer. Note that this is the first time I have submitted a complaint like this to a school in my life. I hope it's the last.

I am a strong advocate for our freedoms including speech, press, etc. but when it comes to my children and their peers in our publicly funded high school, we must draw a line for their protection. I believe that Gender Queer crosses that line with its graphic sexual images. I should not have to tell my children to "be careful" what you pickup in your school library because it may be pornographic and/or offensive. I should not have to worry about my children's physical or mental safety in their own high school. Surely you must agree with this sentiment.

Please let me know what the next steps are after submission of this form.
Thanks very much
Tom

On Mon, Dec 13, 2021 at 11:04 AM Tamara Parks <tparks@ewsd.org> wrote:

Dear Mr. Williams,

Thank you for your letter. Here is the board procedure link: <https://www.ewsd.org/Page/8397> and here is the [Request for Reconsideration form](#). Once the request for reconsideration form is completed it should be submitted to both me and our librarian (who is copied on this email).

Sincerely,

Tamara Parks

On Fri, Dec 10, 2021 at 5:56 PM Tom Williams <tom8williams@gmail.com> wrote:

Tamara,

I have two children at Essex High school and one in middle school. I would like to know how to submit a formal complaint about the book Gender Queer in the Essex Highschool Library. I received the letter about this book yesterday.

Whereas I appreciate the District being proactive with letting parents know of this book's existence on the shelf, I was **horrified** when I did some research. Are you aware this book contains sexually explicit drawings?

This has nothing to do with homo or hetero sexual behavior but everything to do with **pornographic images in our school library**. With students as young as 14 years old, we cannot allow this to persist. We must protect our children. I would be equally horrified if books like the Anarchist's Cookbook or Mein Kampf were sitting on the shelf - or any book that propagated hate or white supremacy. Certainly the district is in agreement as I'm confident these books are not on our shelves.

I am confident if I were to check out this book from the Essex HS Library and open it to the images in question, then leave it on my desk at work, I would be promptly **fired** for violating the zero-tolerance policy on pornographic content. We cannot allow this same book to be in our public-school libraries.

Please advise on how I can file a more formal complaint about this book.

Thank you
Tom Williams

--

Tamara L. Parks
Principal of Teaching & Learning
[Essex High School, VT](#)
Pronouns: she, her, hers

CONFIDENTIAL COMMUNICATION. THIS MESSAGE MAY NOT BE FORWARDED.

The information contained in this communication, including any attachments, is confidential, constitutes privileged communication, and is intended only for the use of

the addressee. This message may not be forwarded without prior consent from the sender. The information in this e-mail is also protected by the rights afforded under Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and school district policies. Any unauthorized use, forwarding, distribution, disclosure, printing or copying is strictly prohibited and may be unlawful. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately at 802-857-7777 or return e-mail, and delete any copies of this message immediately. Any inadvertent disclosure of this communication shall not compromise the confidential nature of the communication.

--



--

Tamara L. Parks
Principal of Teaching & Learning
[Essex High School, VT](#)
Pronouns: she, her, hers