

Per policy 602.21 and 602.21 AR, a District Administrative Review was conducted on December 12, 2023 by a team of District personnel, including the Chief Academic Officer, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, a middle school Principal, a high school Principal, a high school ELA teacher, and the District's Library Coordinator. The review utilized the West Ada School District Book/Learning Resource Alignment Guide (attached), professional reviews/ratings, content excerpts (see below), and circulation stats, as well as taking Meridian Public Library placement into consideration. While West Ada School District Librarian perspectives are valued, this particular committee was composed of dedicated individuals committed to the responsible and inclusive curation of our library resources. It is crucial to acknowledge that, in the formation of this committee, efforts were made to include librarians from the West Ada community. Several librarians were approached to serve on the committee, but all opted out, declining to participate in the process.

In the careful deliberation of our book review process, the decision to remove specific titles, particularly those with explicit and graphic content, is guided by thoughtful consideration. Our paramount concern extends beyond the pages, as we prioritize the well-being and comfort of our diverse community. It's essential to clarify that the books under consideration for removal do not fall under the category of children's literature; rather, they represent works of a more explicit nature.

Our dedication lies in creating and nurturing an educational environment that upholds the diverse needs of our community. We are steadfast in ensuring that the materials available align with both age-appropriate and intellectual standards. This discerning approach underscores our commitment to fostering a space that is simultaneously stimulating and responsible. In this commitment, we strive to cultivate an environment that fosters intellectual growth while maintaining a space that is respectful, inclusive, and harmonious with the core values of our community.

In the careful curation of knowledge, the decision to remove certain books from our library shelves is not made lightly. It is a deliberate choice aimed at fostering an environment that encourages diverse perspectives while ensuring the protection of our students. Our commitment is to provide a spectrum of choices that promote critical thinking and respectful discourse, fostering a space where learning thrives, and minds are both challenged and safeguarded. The review determined the following titles (see below) do not align with the West Ada School District program philosophy or the selection criteria of learning resources and should be removed from circulation at all schools in the district.

Title	Author	Excerpts
A Stolen Life	Jaycee Dugard	<p>https://booklooks.org/data/files/Book%20Looks%20Reports/S/A%20stolen%20life.pdf</p> <p>"The last time he made me have sex with him, he didn't pull out in time and the semen went in. He said this time would be the last time ever." - Page 120</p>
Collected Poems 1947-1980	Allen Ginsberg	<p>https://booklooks.org/data/files/Book%20Looks%20Reports/C/Collected%20Poms%201947%201980.pdf</p> <p>"...who let themselves be fucked in the ass by saintly motorcyclists, and screamed with joy, who blew and were blown by those human seraphim, the sailors, caresses of Atlantic and Caribbean love" - Page 128</p>
Empire of Storms	Sarah J. Maas	<p>https://booklooks.org/data/files/Book%20Looks%20Reports/E/Empire%20of%20Storms.pdf</p> <p>"She was delicately built, small enough that he might have thought her barely past her first bleed were it not for the full breasts beneath her close-fitting leathers." - Page 17</p>
Kingdom of Ash	Sarah J. Maas	<p>https://booklooks.org/data/files/Book%20Looks%20Reports/K/Kingdom%20of%20Ash.pdf</p> <p>"A shift of her hips, and he was buried, the heated silk of her enough to make him forget that they had a camp around them, or kingdoms to protect. He did not bother with phantom touches. He wanted her all for himself, skin to skin. Every thrust into her, Manon answered with a rolling, demanding movement of her own. Stay. The word echoed in each breath." - Page 537</p>
Milk and Honey	Rupi Kaur	<p>https://booklooks.org/data/files/Book%20Looks%20Reports/M/Milk%20and%20Honey.pdf</p> <p>The illustration on this page depicts a naked woman sitting with her legs open with the words "you have been taught your legs are a pit stop for men that need a place to rest a vacant body empty enough for guests but no one ever comes and is willing to stay". The words are written over the pubic region of the illustration. - Page 8</p>

<p>The Handmaid's Tale: The Graphic Novel</p>	<p>Margaret Atwood adapted by Renee Nault</p>	<p>https://booklooks.org/data/files/Book%20Looks%20Reports/H/The%20Handmaids%20Tale%20The%20Graphic%20Novel.pdf</p> <p>The illustration on the bottom of the page depicts several women being assaulted. There is a nude woman with a shaved head bending her upper body toward the floor to drink from a water bowl on the floor. She has a collar around her neck with a chain link leash being pulled. There is a man's shoes and pants standing in front of the water bowl.</p> <p>Another woman's torso is shown with her dress pulled up above her hip bones. A knife is being held to torso just under her left breast. Another hand is holding her left hip down.</p> <p>Another illustration shows a zoomed in view of a topless woman from mid-breast, upward, from a three-quarters view. Her head is upturned with her eyes closed. A gun is placed in her mouth with a finger on the trigger.</p> <p>Another woman is illustrated laying on her side with her hands tied behind her back and tape over her mouth. Her eyes are wide with fear and her skirt is pulled up, exposing the lower portion of her buttocks.</p> <p>There is another woman laying on her back, topless. She has panties and stockings on. There is a pool of blood underneath her torso. - Page 101</p>
<p>The Sun and Her Flowers</p>	<p>Rupi Kaur</p>	<p>https://booklooks.org/data/files/Book%20Looks%20Reports/S/The%20Sun%20and%20her%20flowers.pdf</p> <p>"do you still touch yourself to thoughts of me do you still imagine my naked naked tiny tiny body pressed into yours" - page 40</p>
<p>Water for Elephants</p>	<p>Sarah Gruen</p>	<p>https://booklooks.org/data/files/Book%20Looks%20Reports/W/Water%20for%20Elephants.pdf</p> <p>The men crowd toward the exit, slapping each other on the back, already exchanging memories. "Did you see those titties?" "Man,</p>

		what a rack. What I wouldn't give to play with those for a while." - Page 44
Wicked: The Life and Times of the Wicked Witch of the West	Gregory Maguire	https://booklooks.org/data/files/Book%20Looks%20Reports/W/Wicked.pdf <p>"...He took some coconut oil and warmed it between his palms, and slid his hands like leathery velvet animals on her small, responding breasts. The nipples stood, the color flushed. He was already fully dressed, but recklessly he pressed himself against her mildly resisting form. One hand slid down her back; she arched against him, moaning. But perhaps, this time, not from need? Still his hand moved down onto her buttocks, felt between her cheeks, beyond, felt the place one muscle pulled in crookedly, endearingly, felt the very faintest etching of hair beginning its crosshatch shadows, its swirl toward vortex. He worked his intelligent hand, reading the signs of her resistance." - Page 206</p>
You: A Novel	Caroline Kepnes	https://booklooks.org/data/files/Book%20Looks%20Reports/Y/You%20a%20novel.pdf <p>"I slouch and kick my feet up on a chair. My cock is inches from your head and your mouth and you can smell it and your nostrils flare and you swallow, nervous..." - Page 112</p>