

Instructional Materials Reconsideration Committee

April 8, 2024

Meeting Called to Order: 4:03 p.m.

Meeting attendees: Michelle Kruse, Lonna Anderson, Emily Thomson, John Osako, Jessica Camacho, and Carrie Campbell

Absent: Doreen Underwood and Angel Thurn

The Instructional Materials Reconsideration Committee met on Monday, April 1, 2024 to discuss the novel, *The Bluest Eye* (1970) by Toni Morrison.

The complainant objected to the entire book, specifically to the age appropriateness for high school students due to the sexual content including rape. *The Bluest Eye* is a novel that exists in our high school libraries, but is not part of our curriculum.

The committee, composed of three district employees and three parents, discussed the graphic novel and the survey over the course of almost one hour on April 1st.

Committee members discussed the merit of the novel in relation to CRCSD's Guidelines for Selection of Library and Instructional Materials Policy (402.2), as well as considered the age appropriateness of the text for high school students. We reviewed several book reviews that were published about *The Bluest Eye* as well.

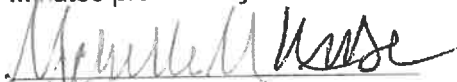
Due to an even number of attendees at the meeting Michelle Kruse abstained from her vote. The committee voted unanimously on the following statement:

- **Retain the book on the high school library shelves within Cedar Rapids Community School District.**

It is noted that the complainant asked for this book to be removed from curriculum use, however two representatives of the secondary English Language Arts curriculum are members of the committee, and they confirmed that that book is not currently taught in our schools.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:45 p.m.

Minutes provided by:


Michelle Kruse

Date: 4/9/2024

April 8, 2024

To: Dr. Tawana Grover, Superintendent

From: Instructional Materials Reconsideration Committee

Through: Michelle Kruse, Committee Chair

Subject: Reconsidered: *The Bluest Eye* (1970) by Toni Morrison

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If you concur with the above recommendations, please sign below and return this form to Michelle Kruse at Roosevelt Creative Corridor Business Academy.


Superintendent

4/17/2024
Date