

Central Bucks Reconsideration Committee Report

Per Board Policy and Administrative Regulation 109.2, the Reconsideration Committee met to discuss a challenged library work. All committee members read the work in its entirety, as well as the policy and administrative regulation prior to reconsideration, as delineated below.

Role	Read Book in Entirety	Read Policy and AR 109.2	Read Submitted Challenge Form
Library Coordinator			
District Administrator	×	×	
Professional Educator	⊠	⊠	
Professional Educator	\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
Professional Educator			

Challenged Material:

The Reconsideration Committee reviewed the request for reconsideration of the following library book:

Title: Lawn Boy

Author: Jonathan Evison

<u>Summary of Concerns</u>: The 'Request to Reconsider Library Materials' form was not available for review. Administration verbally expressed a concern regarding sexually explicit content.



Literary Merit:

The Reconsideration Committee evaluated the literary merit of the challenged work. The findings regarding the work's literary merit are below:

☑ Literary Awards and Honors:

- 2018 Booklist Editors' Choice Best Fiction Books
- 2019 ALA Alex Award Awarded to ten books written for adults that have special appeal for young adults (teenagers)

☑ <u>Professional Literary Reviews</u>:

Library Journal (January 1, 2018)

Mike Muñoz just can't seem to get ahead. It's one crappy landscaping job after another. He likes being outside and dreams of creating elaborate topiary but can't stand working for "the man." Mike is his own worst enemy. He spends most of his free time taking care of his disabled adult brother Nate, a tyrant addicted to Despicable Me and Oreos. The rest of his time is spent grubbing quarters out of the sofa to scrape together enough to buy dinner at Mitzel's so he can catch a glimpse of his favorite waitress. But he has a plan for self-improvement, and it involves the library. There are unlimited books, free AC, and an earnest librarian, Andrew, who might just be the one to help him see his authentic self. VERDICT Readers who are uncomfortable with the author's frequent use of profanity and vulgarity will miss out on a deeply real portrait of an everyday Joe just trying to find his way. Evison combines humor, honesty, and anger with an insightful commentary on class that's also an effective coming-of-age novel.

Publishers Weekly starred (February 5, 2018)

This moving fifth novel from Evison (This is Your Life, Harriet Chance) enters the wry, conflicted mind of Mike Muñoz, a recently fired yard worker with a real talent for topiary and a genuine love for landscaping. When Mike is sacked after refusing to comply with a client's orders to pick up after his dog, he takes refuge in the one place in the world that's always welcomed him: the library. As he tries to figure out what to do next, Mike contemplates writing the "Great American Landscaping Novel"-the sort of novel he'd like to read-but writing novels, he realizes, isn't for people like him: "landscapers, especially unemployed ones... had bills to pay. Cars to fix. Disabled siblings to care for." Evison convincingly evokes the small disasters and humiliations that beset America's working poor. Mike's gradual growth into self-awareness is punctuated by moments of human kindness and grace that transpire in and among broken-down trucks, trailer parks, and strip malls. Focusing on the workers who will only ever be welcome in gated communities as hired help, Evison's quiet novel beautifully considers the deterioration of the American Dream.



Policy and Administrative Regulation 109.2

In accordance with Policy 109.2, the reconsideration committee evaluated whether any excepts within the work included prohibited content, as delineated by the policy.

☐ <u>Elementary School Library Materials</u> : N/A
 Do any excerpts contain visual or visually implied depictions of sexual acts or simulations of such acts? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 Do any excerpts contain explicit or implied written descriptions of sexual acts? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 Do any excerpts contain visual depictions of nudity or implied nudity? ☐ Yes ☐ No
☐ Middle School Library Materials: N/A
 Do any excerpts contain visual or visually implied depictions of sexual acts or simulations of such acts? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 Do any excerpts contain explicit written descriptions of sexual acts? □ Yes □ No
 Do any excerpts contain visual depictions of nudity - not including materials with diagrams about anatomy for science or content relating to classical works? of art ☐ Yes ☐ No
 ☐ High School Library Materials:
 Do any excerpts contain visual or visually implied depictions of sexual acts or simulations of such acts? ☐ Yes ⋈ No
 Do any excerpts contain explicit written descriptions of sexual acts? ☐ Yes ☒ No



Reconsideration Committee Decision:

Based on the reconsideration of the literary work as outlined in this report, the Reconsideration Committee has rendered the following decision:

☑ Reconsideration Outcome:		
☑ The literary work will remain on the library shelves and no change to its inclusion in any library will be made.		
☐ The literary work will be moved to another level (elementary, middle, or high school) as checked below:		
☐ Elementary School		
☐ Middle School		
☐ High School		
☐ The literary work will be removed from all school libraries in the Central Bucks School District. Per Policy 109.2, a book of the same genre will be purchased for the collection as a result of the removal of this literary work.		
☑ Reconsideration Vote:		
☑ All members of the Reconsideration Committee contributed input pertaining to the reconsideration of the literary work in this report.		
☑ All members of the Reconsideration Committee voted on the outcome of the decision based on the findings of the report. The decision was unanimous.		