

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	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
District Administrator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Professional Educator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Professional Educator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Professional Educator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Challenged Material:

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

Title: This Book Is Gay

Author: Juno Dawson

Summary of Concerns: 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:

- **2015 Booklist Top 10 LGBTQ Books for Youth**
- ***Guardian* Best Book of the Year**
- **2018 Garden State Teen Book Award Winner**
- **Over the Rainbow Project Book List**

Professional Literary Reviews:

BookTrust

Ages 13+. Following her previous book *Being a Boy*, young adult author and former PSHCE teacher Juno Dawson offers up a funny, frank look at all things LGBT in this intelligently written non-fiction book. Including testimonials from people across the gender and sexual spectrums, this is an accessible and inclusive take on what it's like to grow up LGBT, addressing all the worries and anxieties young people may have about this topic - whether or not they are questioning their own sexuality. Dawson writes responsibly and sensitively about her subject, but has plenty of fun along the way - and Spike Gerrell's irreverent illustrations add an extra dose of humor too.

A fantastic book for classrooms and school libraries, *This Book is Gay* is a must-read for teachers and parents, as well as teens themselves.

Booklist Starred (May 15, 2015 (Vol. 111, No. 18)

Grades 8-12. Often breezy in tone but always informative, Dawson's book is filled with facts and stories about being lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or, as the author puts it, "the full and infinite spectrum of sexual and gender identities." If you think this means the book is aimed at straight readers as well as gay ones, you would be right. The need for the book is dramatically demonstrated by the results of a 2012 survey that revealed that, of the 300 kids participating, 95 percent had been taught nothing about gay sex as part of sex-education classes. This egregious gap has now been filled by Dawson's book, which is witty and wise and so packed with information it's hard to imagine a reader who won't learn something new. Illustrated with clever cartoon art, the book is generally upbeat while honestly acknowledging downsides of being LGBTQ, such as homophobia and bullying. Another plus is the careful and generous attention it gives to transgender people and topics. Originally published in Britain, the book is international in scope and, to its credit, evidences the universality of the LGBTQ experience. Highly recommended.

Policy and Administrative Regulation 109.2

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

Elementary 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 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:

- 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 is unanimous.