

TEXAS HOUSE *of* REPRESENTATIVES



COMMITTEE ON GENERAL INVESTIGATING

Chair Matt Krause • Vice Chair Victoria Neave

October 25, 2021

Via Email

Texas Education Agency
Deputy Commissioner School Programs
Attention: Lily Laux
1701 N. Congress Avenue
Austin, Texas, 78701

Via BCC Email

Selected Superintendents

Re: School District Content Inquiry

Dear Ms. Laux and Superintendents:

Recently, a number of Texas school districts around the state including Carroll ISD¹, Spring Branch ISD², Lake Travis ISD³, Leander ISD⁴, and Katy ISD⁵, have removed books from libraries and/or classrooms after receiving objections from students, parents, and taxpayers.

I am writing to you as the Chairman of the Texas House Committee on General Investigating. Pursuant to Government Code Section 301.020(a)(4), the committee may initiate inquiries concerning any "matter the committee considers necessary for the information of the legislature or for the welfare and protection of state citizens."

In accordance with the Committee's jurisdiction and my authority as Chairman, I am initiating an inquiry into Texas school district content and request preliminary information regarding the following:

¹ <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/southlake-texas-anti-racist-book-school-library-rcna2734>.

² <https://abc13.com/spring-branch-isd-sbisd-removes-controversial-book-transgender-library/11096467/>.

³ <https://www.kxan.com/news/education/lake-travis-isd-pulls-will-review-book-deemed-sexually-explicit/>.

⁴ <https://www.kvue.com/article/news/education/leander-isd-book-inappropriate-in-the-dream-house-board-meeting/269-63852d91-f8f7-40f7-8de8-6438c9ca757f>.

⁵ <https://www.reuters.com/world/us/texas-schools-remove-childrens-books-branded-critical-race-theory-2021-10-07/>.

Capitol Office: E2.170 • P.O. Box 2910 • Austin, Texas 78768-2910 • (512) 463-0780

Members: Stephanie Klick, Reggie Smith, District 118

Darren Keyes, Committee Clerk & General Counsel

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1. Please identify how many copies of each book in the attached Addendum your District possesses and at what campus locations including school library and classroom collections.
2. Please identify the amount of funds spent by your District to acquire the books identified in request No. 1 above.
3. Please identify any other books or content in your District, specifying the campus location and funds spent on acquisition, that address or contain the following topics: human sexuality, sexually transmitted diseases, or human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), sexually explicit images, graphic presentations of sexual behavior that is in violation of the law, or contain material that might make students feel discomfort, guilt, anguish, or any other form of psychological distress because of their race or sex or convey that a student, by virtue of their race or sex, is inherently racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously.

Your prompt attention to this request is appreciated, and I request a written response via email by November 12, 2021. If you have any questions, please contact me or the Committee's General Counsel, Darren Keyes.

Respectfully,



Matt Krause
Chairman
Texas House Committee on General Investigating

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ADDENDUM

[see attached]



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