



# A MESSAGE

FROM THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF  
PALM BEACH COUNTY

@PBCSD

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

3300 Forest Hill Blvd., West Palm Beach, FL 33406  
(561) 434-8000



May 26, 2022

Teachers,

In preparation for the 2022-2023 school year, to be in compliance with recent legislation (i.e., HB [1467](#), [7](#), [1557](#), [241](#)), all instructional materials available to our K-12 students, including classroom libraries, must be reviewed for compliance. While the District must comply with these new laws, it does not change or weaken our commitment to affirm ALL students by ensuring a safe and nurturing learning environment. Although school districts continue to await guidance from the Florida Department of Education, Superintendent Burke felt it was important to provide this information regarding teacher classroom library books in advance of these laws taking effect July 1, 2022. If you have no classroom library or if your classroom library does not include any books impacted by Steps 1 and 2, no action is needed.

**Step 1:** The books included on the [SDPBC List of Titles Submitted For Review](#) have been identified for review. If your classroom library includes any of the books on the list, move these books to a location where students do not have access (e.g., classroom closet, office in media center, conference room, etc.). **If you have no books on the list, no action is needed for this step.**

**Step 2:** If you have a classroom library, before you welcome students for the 2022-2023 school year, review the checklist provided below. If you have any books where the answer to any question is “Yes” or “Unsure,” give the identified book(s), with a completed copy of this form (only for each impacted book), to your school library media specialist. **For books that do not meet the “Yes” or “Unsure” criteria, no further action is needed.**

Again, if you do not have a classroom library or if your classroom library does not include any books impacted by Steps 1 and 2, no action is needed.

For questions, please contact [Nolan.Rowell@palmbeachschools.org](mailto:Nolan.Rowell@palmbeachschools.org).

Thank you and have a wonderful summer!

## Classroom Library Checklist

Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title of Book with at least one "Yes" or "Unsure": \_\_\_\_\_

1. If the book **explicitly instructs** on sexual orientation or gender identity:

- Is the book accessible to students in grades K-3?
- If the book is for students beyond grade 3, is the content age-appropriate or developmentally appropriate? (If unsure about age-appropriate or developmental appropriateness, mark "Unsure" below.)

NOTE: This does not include books that reference non-traditional family structures. However, a book available to students in grades K-3, with a storyline where a character questions their own gender or sexual orientation should be submitted for review (mark "Yes" below).

- Yes  
 Unsure

2. Does the book **promote, compel, or encourage a student to believe** one or more of the following:

- Members of one race, color, national origin, or sex are morally superior to members of another race, color, national origin, or sex.  
 Yes  
 Unsure
- People are racist, sexist, or oppressive, whether consciously or unconsciously.  
 Yes  
 Unsure
- A person's moral character or status as either privileged or oppressed is determined by his or her race, color, national origin, or sex.  
 Yes  
 Unsure
- Treat others disrespectfully based on their race, color, national origin, or sex.  
 Yes  
 Unsure
- An individual **should be discriminated against** because of the historical actions of others of the same race, color, national origin, or sex.  
 Yes  
 Unsure
- A person, based on their race, color, national origin, or sex, **should be discriminated against** to achieve diversity, equity, or inclusion.  
 Yes  
 Unsure
- A person bears personal responsibility for and **must feel guilt**, anguish, or other forms of psychological distress because of actions, in which the person played no part, committed in the past by other members of the same race, color, national origin, or sex.  
 Yes  
 Unsure

- Characteristics such as merit, excellence, hard work, fairness, neutrality, objectivity, and racial colorblindness are racist or sexist, or were created by members of a particular race, color, national origin, or sex to oppress members of another race, color, national origin, or sex.
  - Yes
  - Unsure

- 3. Is the book from the 1619 Project and/or does it quote or reference the 1619 Project? See FDOE Board Rule linked [HERE](#) for additional information.
  - Yes
  - Unsure

As required by [HB 7](#) and [State Board Rule 6A-1.094124](#), instructional resources must present content in a factual and objective manner and may not suppress or distort historical events including how individual freedoms have been infringed by slavery, racial oppression, racial segregation, and racial discrimination, as well as topics relating to the enactment and enforcement of laws resulting in racial oppression, racial segregation, and racial discrimination and how recognition of these freedoms has overturned these unjust laws.

- 4. Does the book propose that racism **is currently** embedded in American society and its legal systems in order to uphold the supremacy of white persons?
  - Yes
  - Unsure
- 5. Does the book deny or minimize the Holocaust?
  - Yes
  - Unsure