

Texas PORN Timeline

How long until children are safe?

May 7, 2019

Parents tried to get rid of the obscenity exemptions in state law in 2019. [House Bill 3135](#) would have eliminated the educational and governmental exceptions. But lawmakers in the Republican-controlled House failed to put the bill on the calendar for a vote.

October 25, 2021

Amid pushback from parents about inappropriate and even pornographic material available to children in public schools, State Rep. [Matt Krause](#) (R–Fort Worth) [launched an inquiry](#) into [potentially questionable books](#).

October 29, 2021

State Rep. Jeff Cason (R–Bedford) is calling for the removal of sexually explicit material, as well as potential criminal charges on schools that approved the distribution of the pornographic material to students. Cason is calling upon Attorney General Ken Paxton to “start a statewide investigation” into books “that may violate the Penal Code in relation to pornography, child pornography and decency laws, as well as the legal ramifications to school districts that approved of these types of books.”

November 1, 2021

In response, on November 1, Abbott [requested](#) that the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB), which is a non-governmental entity, take action on the issue, drawing criticism from State Rep. Jeff Cason (R–Bedford), who [said](#), “Asking a politicized TASB is not really going to accomplish much, but it does look good on Twitter.”

November 3, 2021

On November 3, TASB [responded](#), ultimately encouraging Abbott to instead place his request in the hands of an actual government entity, such as the Texas Education Agency. The TASB executive director said:

We felt it was critically important to respond to your letter to clarify the work we do here at TASB, clarify the primary responsibilities of school boards, and respectfully note that regulatory agencies like the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and State Board of

Education (SBOE) are more appropriate venues for the type of monitoring that you ask for in your letter.

November 8, 2021

On Monday, November 8, Abbott [responded](#) by submitting a letter to the commissioner of the Texas Education Agency, Mike Morath; the chair of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Martha Wong; and the chairman of the Texas State Board of Education, Kevin Ellis to “develop statewide standards to prevent the presence of pornography and other obscene content in Texas public schools.”

December 2021

Kerrville ISD permanently removes “[l8r. g8r](#)” from the district libraries and instructional resources per [Kerrville Daily Times 3/4/22 article](#) using EF Legal and the adopted EF Local. Kerrville ISD decided that all book purchases will now go through a committee.

January 25, 2022

[In January letter](#), State Rep. [Jared Patterson](#) (R–Frisco) contacted Prosper ISD Superintendent Ferguson about the sexually explicit books in Prosper ISD libraries. He asked the district to be transparent with parents and taxpayers, and to hold accountable vendors and staff who provided and approved obscene books.

“To be very clear, this is not a matter of policy or a disagreement on teaching materials,” he wrote in his letter. “This is criminal activity, as possession or promotion of child pornography is illegal in Texas.”

February 2022

Kerrville ISD removes books from libraries and instructional resources in the classroom using EF Legal and the adopted EF Local per [Kerrville Daily Times 3/4/22 article](#).

1. Kerrville ISD permanently removed “I am Jazz”.
2. Kerrville ISD permanently removed “[Looking for Alaska](#)”.
3. Kerrville ISD permanently removed “[The Perks of Being A Wallflower](#)”.

March 4, 2022

The [Kerrville Daily Times](#) posted the 'School district has process to review books for content' article [available here](#) and below:

an attempt to remove access to books offensive, I gently suggest that my "lith" may be a literary. It is not my place to remove books from the library. Ms. Avery's or the KISD board can either.

Sarah Oates, Kerrville

US

Others' opinions expressed in guest columns and letters

the opinions expressed in this column are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the newspaper.

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HOW HE SEES IT

School district has process to review books for content

Kerrville Independent School District

In response to a recent request from a parent to remove certain books from circulation in our district's libraries, Kerrville Independent School District would like to share our book review and ordering policies and processes in the spirit of transparency.

During our board meeting on Feb. 21, a parent read excerpts from four books on our library circulation lists. This parent also provided a list of 17 books identified as having objectionable material. They requested that the books be removed and that the district review our collections for other objectionable content.

We immediately removed all of the books on the list that were active in our collection, and we will follow what is referred to as KISD board policy EF (Legal) and (Local) for review.

CHALLENGED BOOK LISTS

In November 2021, Gov. Greg Abbott ordered Texas Education Agency Commissioner Mike Morath to respond to Texas Rep. Matt Krause's, R-Fort Worth, list of 850 objectionable books in Texas school libraries. We have not received guidance from TEA, but we did begin to review and adjust our collections. We also reviewed our policy EF (Local) to address challenged books through committees. Policy EF (Local) requires our committees to include parents, teachers, librarians and administrators.

In December 2021, the Curriculum and Instruction Department met with librarians and made them aware of Krause's list of books he recommended should

be removed from school libraries in Texas. At that time, the librarians began reviewing their collections to ensure grade level appropriateness and to determine if any titles needed to be relocated or removed. Some titles, such as "L8R;G8R," cited at our February board meeting, were removed from circulation in December and January. Other titles are under review by the librarians.

We are reviewing the status of all 17 titles on the list submitted to the district on Feb. 21. We found that five of the 17 titles were removed or not active in our collection. One title, "The Kite Runner," is on the Advanced Placement Exam Reading List and assessed on the high school senior English AP Literature Exam. AP students read this book as part of their AP preparation, with parent permission. If parents of students in 12th grade object to this title, the students are given an alternate one.

THE FOUR BOOK EXCERPTS

Books that clearly violate laws related to "pornography" have been permanently removed, and all other contested titles will follow policy EF (Local) and go to committee review.

• "I am Jazz": In the Tom Daniels Elementary School collection since 2014, never checked out, permanently removed from inventory on Feb. 22.

• "L8R;G8R": In the Tivy High School collection since 2016, checked out one time in 2016, permanently removed from inventory in December 2021.

• "Looking For Alaska": In the Hal Peterson Middle School and Tivy High School collections since 2014, checked out with parent

request/permission one time only at HPMS. Never checked out at THS. Permanently removed circulation on Feb. 22.

• "The Perks of Being a Wallflower": In the HPMS and THS collection since 2002, checked out one time at HPMS with parent request/permission, checked out one time in 2020 and once again in 2022 at THS. Permanently removed from circulation on Feb. 22.

BOOK ORDERING PROCESS

The KISD board of trustees is responsible for approving required instructional materials (i.e. text books) but does not approve library books used for voluntary inquiry. The book ordering process is the responsibility of our campus librarians. All of our libraries operate under the School Library Programs: Standards and Guidelines for Texas (2018) established by the Texas State Library and Archives Commission and TEA. This is aligned to policy EFB (Legal). KISD has more than 90,000 books in its circulation.

The librarians receive requests from students and teachers to order books and consult with teachers and department chairs on lists of requested and recommended books before purchasing. The librarians read reviews of books before purchasing, but they do not read every book before they are purchased. They have sources designed for librarians with lists of book synopses and reviews, such as the Texas Library Association, American Library Association, Hornbook, Kirkus School Library Journal and Publishers Weekly.

In recent years, our librarians have also reviewed controversial or banned books

lists prior to placing book orders. We are considering ways to augment our book review system to improve our ability to keep inappropriate materials out of our libraries.

Our librarians use the Follett System (also our book check out/in digital inventory system) and other purchasing means to buy library books. Prior to this semester, Tivy used a subscription service that would send award winning books monthly. Because the service was sending books that the librarian felt did not match the values of our community, we ended that subscription service. Our elementary librarians have used the Jr. Library Guild subscription service to receive books monthly. That practice is under review, and in December 2021, the decision was made that all book purchases will now go through a committee review before being ordered. Our committee review for spring book purchases is scheduled for April.

Beside teacher and student requests for books, our librarians use book award lists such as Printz, Bluebonnet, Caldecott, Newbery and Lone Star Awards lists to select books for our libraries. The books on these lists have synopses and detailed reviews but do not always disclose controversial content. We expect the new committee review process to be an added layer of protection to keep inappropriate materials out of our libraries. We will continue to seek resources to improve our book ordering processes.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support of KISD.

Bible Verse

“I have not commanded you...”

March 8, 2022

Texas House Representative Jared Patterson [posts his pledge](#) for law makers and school districts to sign to stand against vendors who sell sexually explicit materials.

March 24, 2022

Prosper ISD [released a statement](#) that they have removed 22 books based on EF (Local).

PROSPER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

605 East Seventh Street, Prosper, TX 75078
Phone: 469-219-2000 Fax: 972-346-9247



March 24, 2022

As part of our continuous efforts to ensure the best possible instructional resources in our classroom and age-appropriate books in our libraries, Prosper ISD is undertaking a comprehensive review of the district's instructional materials selection procedures and library collection development standards.

- Certified librarians and English-Language Arts-Reading educators are looking at the age-appropriateness of books, centered around [Board Policy EF \(Local\)](#), which provides the ability for employees to remove content determined to be explicit or pervasively vulgar.
- Prosper ISD is also working on ways to keep obviously inappropriate content out of libraries by refining processes for selecting book vendors. That process includes consulting with parents, librarians, and other educators to make sure we continue to uphold the high standards our community expects.

"The Prosper ISD Board of Trustees has the utmost confidence in the highly qualified, highly trained, and experienced librarians and educators who are dedicated to ensuring that every student leaves our system equipped with the problem-solving and research skills necessary to navigate an increasingly complex and technologically demanding world," said Board of Trustees President Jim Bridges.

President Jim Bridges.

As a district, we want to explicitly state that adult content has no place in public schools. The school district will remove obviously age-inappropriate content if they see it and do everything they can to make sure it does not make its way into our schools. We have been in communication with our state representatives in regard to this issue. As a public entity, funded by taxpayers, the district is required to abide by laws and Board policies that dictate the process for removing books, because permanently removing a book from a library is not something that should be taken lightly.

"Our libraries support and enrich our curriculum and provide content that is of interest to our students. Finding that balance is the art of library science, and I believe that by taking a closer look at our library and classroom collections, we are making our libraries better for all our students," said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Holly Ferguson.

**PROSPER INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL DISTRICT**



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Therefore, the district has weeded 22 books from district libraries and classroom library collections. By weeding these books, we are not making a broader statement about the artistic validity of these books, but that the content was, based on our community standard, vulgar or explicit. Over 375,000 titles remain in the libraries of Prosper ISD.

For further information, please see:

- [Board Policy EF \(Local\)](#)
- [Collection Development Decisions](#)

March 27, 2022

Fredericksburg ISD removed 10 books permanently from their district based on EFLegal/EFLocal by a district administration team and reported on [April 20, 2022](#) by the Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post and [updated here](#) on a school posted list on the district website. More titles are being slated to be reviewed by a newly created committee as excerpts are gathered. Titles removed are:

1. [FADE](#) by McMann
2. [L8r, g8r](#) by Myracle
3. [ttyl](#) by Myracle
4. [Eleanor & Park](#) by Rowell
5. [Me and Earl and the Dying Girl](#) by Andrews
6. Jailbait by Newman
7. [Crank](#) by Ellen Hopkins
8. [Looking for Alaska](#) by Green
9. Jesusland
10. [Perks of Being a Wallflower](#) by Chosky

March 31, 2022

[TexansWakeUp.com](#) launches the [“Books” portion of their website](#) highlighting some of the most commonly found sexually explicit and generally harmful books found in Texas public libraries. Notice: NOT appropriate for minors!

April 6, 2022

Texas House Representative Jared Patterson [reports that more than 30 Texas school districts](#) have signed on to pledge to fight vendors who sell explicit materials.

April 11, 2022

In a [letter to Abbott](#), posted on the [TEA website](#), Texas Commissioner of Education, Mike Morath, releases his [model local school board policy](#) relating to instructional materials in response to Abbott’s Nov, 2021 letter.

Way to get on that, Morath (roughly 110 business days later).

April 20, 2022

The [Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post](#) published a piece entitled ‘Book excerpts signal troubling content’ in which Irma Delgado gives “many thanks to the Fredericksburg ISD School Board for its 7-0 vote [last month](#) to remove pornographic books from our middle school and high

school libraries” based on EF(Legal) and EF(Local). See screenshot below. Titles removed [updated here](#) on a school posted list on the district website. More titles are being slated to be reviewed by a newly created committee as excerpts are gathered, but not voting has occurred to date.

BOOKS IN SCHOOLS

Book excerpts signal troubling content

By Irma Delgado

We would like to give many thanks to the Fredericksburg ISD School Board for its 7-0 vote last month to remove pornographic books from our middle school and high school libraries.

In this paper, as well as in speeches before the school board (prior to the 7-0 vote), there has been a lot of virtue signaling about the First Amendment to the Constitution and how the Supreme Court in *Tinker v. Des Moines* held that students do not "shed their constitutional rights to freedom of speech or expression at the schoolhouse gate." A person speaking before the school board added that "any removal of a book based on an individual's disagreement with its political, religious or moral viewpoint is censorship."

Neither the First Amendment nor the decision in *Tinker v. Des Moines* have anything to do with removing pornographic books from the libraries of our 11-17-year-olds. The First Amendment (affirmed in *Tinker v. Des Moines*) protects the right of students to EXPRESS THEMSELVES, in the *Tinker* case, the wearing of black arm bands to protest the Vietnam war. *Tinker* did not invent a right in favor of children to have access to obscene and potentially corrupting books provided by the schools.

Another who spoke before the school board stated that "What library books can and should do is awaken young readers to different ideas outside of their own world. That is knowledge...

It can lead to questions and discussions with parents, peers and others so that young minds flourish and ask questions ... banning books makes our students unprepared for what they aspire to be. Banning books promotes ignorance."

Here we go again. "Book Banning!" Some have used the phrase "Book Burning!" ... both absurd phrases. Never do these confused advocates of the First Amendment want you to actually read the excerpts from the library books that the board voted to remove, much less have them printed in this newspaper.

Your readers are only receiving one side of the story because the other side is being, shall we say, "censored," in that the content of these books is not being exposed. Those who would like to truly understand what this issue is all about will find excerpts from the offensive books by going to www.makeschoolssafeagain.com/library-books.

Throughout all of history parents have sought to protect their children from damaging experiences and influences at least until their children are of an age where parental protection ceases to be appropriate or effective. In keeping with this, there are age restrictions on the ability of children to enter adult book stores; likewise there is The Motion Picture Association's rating system of PG-13 and R, etc., prohibiting children from seeing violent or overly sexual content. Are these examples of censorship?

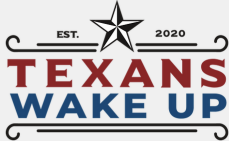
Readers, take a look at the excerpts at the above referenced site and decide for yourselves.

June 22, 2022

The Texas GOP post their 2022 Legislative Priorities and put 'Stop Sexualizing Texas Kids' in the top 8 which includes absolving the obscenity exemption.

Today

Numerous Texas school districts and public libraries have not even started evaluating the sexually explicit materials in their libraries.... and we haven't even started talking about the digital content. We'd personally like to thank the Republican majority legislature in Texas for ignoring parents in [2019](#). We all knew this content existed prior to then. Secondly, we'd like to thank the weak school board members and superintendents for not protecting our children and grandchildren. Please visit www.TexansWakeUp.com/shop to see what your tax dollars have been purchasing.



EST. 2020

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WARNING- NOT APPROPRIATE FOR CHILDREN

All of the following content falls under the Fair Use Law and is for the sole purpose of alerting parents of the dangers available to children in public and government school libraries.

Search your own library at www.gpFollett.com | [Amarillo ISD](#) | [Canyon ISD](#)

"You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness."
1 Thessalonians 5:5

Filter by

Texas Library

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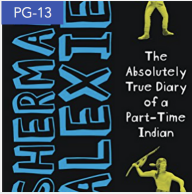
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PG-13

CHERMA ALEXIE

The Absolute True Diary of a Part-Time Indian



THE PURIM SUPERHERO

Elizabeth Kubler

Illustrated by Mike Sykes



Beautiful BASTARD

READ BY JORGE GRANT

CHRISTINA LOBBEN



THE FAMILY BOOK



Two Dads



ROOMMATE

Michael Willhoite