
From: kimberly carden
Sent: Monday, June 6, 2022 11:31 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] I support proposal for LGBTQIA+ inclusive & medically accurate sex ed lessons

I support science and therefore support the proposal for 4th & 5th grades lessons that are gender inclusive, **LGBTQIA+ inclusive, medically accurate.**

It is time to bring our schools into this century

Kimberly Carden
Sparks, NV

From: Elizabeth Hill
Sent: Monday, June 6, 2022 12:08 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Education in schools

I am confused and saddened by the turmoil in the education system here in Washoe County as well as throughout the United States. There was such a long battle to get any sex education at all into the education of our children. Unfortunately many children will not get that at home, but they will get it somewhere and all too often what they get elsewhere will be incorrect. It is also so disheartening and cruel to see LGBTQ children almost vilified and discriminated against in our education system and society in general. These children have done nothing to deserve this, and deserve to be recognized for who they are and to live in a society where they are not ostracized. Remember, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness? That does not refer to just White, straight children.

I'm even more astounded at the battle over the so called teaching on CRT. I seriously doubt that the people complaining about CRT even have any idea what it is. It is an extremely complex theory that is seldom taught even at the advanced University level. My daughter has been a teacher in high school and now in college for decades and never heard of it being taught. I taught at Duke University and never heard of CRT being taught. But teaching history accurately and comprehensively is completely different and should always be a critical component of education. It is not an attempt to teach White children they are evil. It helps both White and Black children understand the history of racism in this country, and how it affects our lives today. This in turn helps children of all races understand and appreciate each other, and move towards a stronger, healthier society in the future.

(Elizabeth) Emery Hill, PhD, RN
Lieutenant Colonel, US Army (Retired)

From: Susan Thompson
Sent: Monday, June 6, 2022 2:53 PM
To: Share Committee; Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Our family supports new and inclusive materials

Dear SHARE and WCSD,

As a parent of a child in the WCSD, the wife of a WCSD substitute teacher, and long- time resident of Nevada, I am writing to express my strong support of inclusive materials in the SHARE program.

My family and I wholeheartedly reject bigotry ginned up by a vocal minority, hell-bent on reversing the progress we have made in protection of LGBT+ rights. For too long the LGBT community has been treated as "less than" or even worse "disgusting." That kind of bigotry and discrimination has no place in our modern society or our schools. We and our kids deserve better.

A Gallup poll conducted last month reflects 71% of Americans support same-sex marriage. That tracks almost exactly with the percentage of Nevadans that support it too. Updated educational materials in our schools that acknowledge the existence of people in the LGBT+ community should not even be a question.

It's 2022 and our kids understand that not everyone is the same - they are more accepting of people with different sexual and gender identities than we ever have been in this country. Inclusive materials don't make anyone gay or trans but they sure can help our kids understand that if they or a classmate is gay, nonbinary, or transgender - that it's okay.

Nevada has long been a strong "live and let live" state. Let's keep it that way and reject this manufactured hate and discrimination that is not reflective of the views of vast majority of people who live here.

Sincerely,

Susan Thompson

From: Jen Mortensen
Sent: Monday, June 6, 2022 5:13 PM
To: Share Committee; Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] SHARE

Dear Board of Trustees,

I'm writing to support the adoption of the new 4th/5th grade SHARE materials. I have two young children in the district and I'm happy that they will experience the revised curriculum.

I also support the revised curriculum as a professor of child development and early education. The new curriculum covers topics and uses terminology in line with current research and what are considered developmentally appropriate practices for discussing sex and gender with young children. Leading education advocacy and research organizations would endorse this curriculum. Moreover, depression and suicide rates for transgender children are exponentially higher than the cis population - any efforts of inclusion for children who are feeling the slightest bit different from their peers (yes even in 4th and 5th grade) are important.

I understand that these are controversial topics for some families, which is why SHARE is an "opt in" program. Parents do not have to let their children participate. For parents who DO opt in, our children should be offered scientifically accurate and developmentally appropriate information.

Thank you!
Dr. Jennifer Mortensen

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~Jen

From: Sarah Dockins
Sent: Monday, June 6, 2022 5:37 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Gender identity

Hello,

I do not agree with teaching fourth and fifth graders gender identity. I have an incoming fourth grader next year, and I feel that teaching identity at this age is inappropriate and confusing. They are just starting to learn about their bodies, but i feel introducing and teaching gender identity will make it more confusing for them at this age. At the middle school age is more appropriate.

I am against this proposal as a parent.

Thank you

Sarah Dockins

Sent from my iPhone

Sarah Dockins

From: Tammy V Abernathy Vineyard
Sent: Monday, June 6, 2022 6:27 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Comments in favor of SHARE

Dear committee,

As a lifelong educator and a researcher who has studied sexual health education I am offended by the idea that people believe that our children should not be taught the anatomically correct names of the parts of their bodies. Sexual health and comprehensive sexual health education are actually a way to protect our children. It is part of self-determination to know your body, what it does, how and why it works the way it does and how it should and shouldn't be used.

Children in fourth and fifth grades are not all ready to understand abstractions. Giving fake names to body parts, separating boys and girls and using false language and euphemisms leads to confusion. Protecting children from scientific language and not allowing them to learn about each other creates a mystery that can lead to problems later. Our children deserve the best preparation they can receive.

It is very easy to write public comments and take a critical stance, but there is no scientific data to suggest support for the public statements in the agenda. If nothing else, we should be a district that supports science, well researched human development and family choice. Families can opt out of SHARE. Derailing an entire program is what we call the scooter rule.

Let me explain. Years ago when Razor scooters were the fad, an elementary school near my house allowed students to ride their scooters to school. They needed to be tagged and locked up in the bike corral every day. There were rules about where you could ride. One afternoon a boy decided that he wanted to break one of the rules. The result was that rather than deal with boy who broke the rules, over 100 kids were punished and never allowed to ride a scooter again. It would have been so much easier and smarter to deal with the one student who broke a rule.

Please do not sacrifice the students of this district for those with the loudest and sometimes rudest voices who are fully against anything related to sexual health education. Let them opt out. Yes we are public entity, but public voices are only a piece of the puzzle. Longitudinal research and evidence-based practices must also be considered.

I know that the job of the committee is difficult and maybe more difficult than ever before. I appreciate the hard work that they do and the level of tolerance they are being asked show.

For more information on

https://siecus.org/siecus-releases-new-report-on-attacks-against-comprehensive-sex-education/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=siecus-releases-new-report-on-attacks-against-comprehensive-sex-education



SIECUS Releases New Report on Attacks Against Comprehensive Sex Education - SIECUS

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Tammy Abernathy, Ph.D.
Professor of Special Education, Emeritus
Educator Preparation
College of Education & Human Development

From: dsturgill
Sent: Sunday, June 12, 2022 2:51 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Yearbook at Reed High School

I am saddled by the censorship of my grandson's yearbook. A student expressed their belief that there are two genders and a lot of mental illnesses. A sticker was put over her thoughts in the yearbook. If a student believes this they should be able to express it. We don't all have the same beliefs. All students should be treated equally no matter what their beliefs are. Education is a mess and I pray that you will get back to making reading, writing, and math a priority. Thank you

Sent from my iPad

From: RICHARD PETERSEN
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 6:45 AM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] We have a young man problem

We have a young man problem. It's only been in the last couple of decades that they have engaged in criminal activity including mass shootings. You can have a great impact on our young men by helping them feel valued and worthy of their gender. Outside of their parents you have the most contact with young men.

I do not wish to demonize any specific group. I practice live and let live. You may disagree with me, which is your right. These are my opinions and hopefully you will find some common ground with me. It is my fervent hope that there will be no more school shootings. I am almost 80 years old and my heart aches for my nation.

The disintegration of the family is destroying our future. Young men need a strong father figure to set boundaries for them. They need a spiritual component in their lives to provide a template for acceptable behavior i.e. the Ten Commandments. All great religions have a moral code to live by. If not religion, then JROTC, Scouting, 4H, FFA or training in the Trades or enlisting in the military, all present structure. WOKE culture has demonized these institutions and made them to be anachronistic, but they worked for decades. Young men need to be taught respect for all people. They need to respect women, their elders and ancestors, and also those who have chosen alternate lifestyles. What they do not need is to be marginalized and devalued.

“For thousands of years our youth had chores like feeding the animals, tending the soil, planting and harvesting, and other responsibilities that supported life of the household and contributed to the community, our youth have little or no personal responsibilities that directly support, nurture or protect their families and or neighbors” from **Think Indigenous** by Douglas Good feather, Lakota author.

Richard Petersen/Sparks

From: Beth Martin
Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 4:50 PM
To: Public Comments
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment 3.06

Thank you to Emily Ellison and the majority of the board for understanding the important role that our ESP employees play in the day to day operations of our schools, most importantly the positive role they play in the success of our students. Compensation does matter and your presentation reflected that you recognize that. Thank you for your time, patience, and hard work between WESP and the district Mrs. Ellison.

Respectfully,
Beth Martin