

From: [Gregory Rachel](#)
To: [Bartholomew Carol](#)
Subject: Re: Info
Date: Friday, October 21, 2022 10:09:06 AM
Attachments: [TBIG notes.docx](#)

I am sending you bullets now- it took a lot. Please call if you need clarification, am about to work on math grades- phew!

From: Bartholomew_Carol <Bartholomew_Carol@asdk12.org>
Sent: Friday, October 21, 2022 9:14 AM
To: Gregory_Rachel <gregory_rachel@asdk12.org>
Subject: Info

I have a short break from my meeting and wanted to check in. Let me know if you need to chat about the book but am happy if you can send me a bulleted list. I'm not sure if you can see how many times it was actually checked out from Polaris. C



Hi Carol,

Here are the bullet points- I really tried to keep it simple, but it isn't.

*This Book is Gay, by Juno Dawson, is an award winning text with high reviews from multiple sources including the American Library Association.

*TBIG was purchased for Polaris November, 2020. It was brought to our attention that our LGBTYQ section was lacking- we looked to expand it. We pulled from a variety of lists- American Library Association-World Cat, Barnes and Noble, etc.

*Due to the topic, we kept it behind the counter so Elementary students would not have access to it (as we do with some others). We now have a teen section that we are expanding, in view of the circulation desk to further monitor age appropriate material. In short, an Elementary student is not going to walk out with this book (unless it is a sneak issue- there is not always someone at the desk). Students of any age are not allowed behind the counter, unless we are there.

*It was checked out in December of 2021, lost and not recovered- standard library procedure is to mark it as lost after a year- and reorder. We have no plans to reorder it now as it we do not have students asking for it. ALL ASD teen students have access to this book through the Loussac Library (if their parent has linked their ASD library card). A hard copy might only be in 3-4 schools, but students can get ahold of this text. (A note- at this second- all digital copies from the Loussaac are checked out- we have no way of knowing if they are checked out by Polaris students or not.)

*I was professionally advised that this text- due to reviews, subject matter, population and information- makes sense in a young adult

collection- and is a thoughtful choice- provided in our K-12 library it is not accessible to Elementary readers.

Not bullet points- perspective-

I am reading it now- it is graphic and blunt in a cartoony, keep it light way- but there is a tremendous amount of good information for a lost student in this situation- no one to talk to or ask questions of. This is a book of information for the LGBTQ community. The reading level is 14+ and the author constantly discussing safety, safety, safety. He touches on STDs, condoms- gay terms, graphic pictures (in cartoon image) but no where does he encourage unsafe behavior (this will be argued, I am sure). This book has no business in an Elementary setting- but we try to maintain access to as much information as possible for teen readers. I fear it will be pulled off the shelves in our ASD libraries. There is a process for this, and I have the link if needed with this parent.

On another note- I have the Bible on the shelf, 12 verses refer to Sodomy and sexual behavior, selling your daughter into slavery.... This is such a slippery slope. Let me know what else you need.