

**NATIONAL
COALITION
AGAINST
CENSORSHIP** **KIDS'
RIGHT
TO READ**

November 7, 2023

School Board
Boyle County School District
101 Citation Drive, Suite C
Danville, KY 40422

Dear Members,

The National Coalition Against Censorship is an alliance of national nonprofit groups dedicated to protecting freedom of expression, including the rights of K-12 students, teachers, and staff. We are writing to object to the removal of over 100 books from district libraries.

According to media reports, BCS Superintendent Mark Wade said the decision to pull the titles was made "to ensure compliance with the law (SB 150)."¹ However, SB 150, which limits student exposure to issues related to "gender identity, gender expression, or sexual orientation," only applies to "any instruction or presentation;"² it does not mention libraries. In fact, The Kentucky Department of Education has stated that "SB 150 does not provide for the removal of library media resources from a school library,"³

Therefore, we call on you to return all removed books to library shelves.

We understand issues around what materials should be available to students are often emotionally charged. NCAC has created a resource to help school officials address the problem of book challenges in a manner that ensures that all sides feel that their concerns have been addressed. NCAC's *Material Review and Policy Guidelines and Examples* is attached.

Please let us know if you have any questions or need any further support in this matter; I would be delighted to discuss these recommendations further with you.

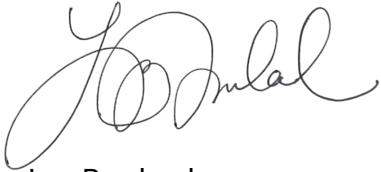
¹Kentucky school district bans more than 100 books, citing anti-LGBTQ+ law. (2023, October 19). Louisville Public Media. <https://www.lpm.org/news/2023-10-19/kentucky-school-district-bans-more-than-100-books-citing-anti-lgbtq-law>

² Chapter 132, SB 150 (2023). <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/acts/23RS/documents/0132.pdf>

³The Courier-Journal Subscription Offers, Specials, and Discounts. (n.d.). [Subscribe.courier-Journal](https://www.courier-journal.com/story/news/education/2023/10/19/anne-frank-book-ban-kentucky-school-district-library-sb-150/71229027007/)
<https://www.courier-journal.com/story/news/education/2023/10/19/anne-frank-book-ban-kentucky-school-district-library-sb-150/71229027007/>

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lee Rowland". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lee" being particularly prominent.

Lee Rowland
Executive Director
National Coalition Against Censorship
Lee@ncac.org

Co-signed by: American Booksellers for Free Expression
The Authors Guild
Children's and Young Adult Books Committee, PEN America
National Council of Teachers of English

A project of the National
Coalition Against Censorship

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