

SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING: Public Hearing - Request for Reconsideration of Objections to School Library Materials (Tuesday, May 28, 2024)

Generated by Sarah Wilcox on Tuesday, May 28, 2024

Members present

Kelly Barrera, Patrick Canan, Bev Slough, Anthony Coleman, Jennifer Collins

Meeting called to order at 9 AM**A. Meeting Opening**

1. Open Meeting
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance by Bev Slough

B. Introduction by Mr. Upchurch**C. Open Public Hearing**

1. Books in Question - a. Slaughterhouse Five, b. Freedom Writer's Diary, c. L8R, G8R, and d. A Stolen Life
2. Presentation of Appeal (5 minutes per book) - Ms. Jean Moore

D. Staff Response**E. Public Comment**

1. Kerri Gustavson, 92 Magnolia Beach Trl, Ponte Vedra, FL 32081.
2. Hazel Robinson, 645 W Marina Cove Dr #404, St. Augustine, FL 32080.
3. Elizabeth Potter, 827 Kallick Ln, St. Augustine, FL 32080
4. Gayle Crawford, 26 Ocale Ct, St. Augustine, FL 32084.
5. Mary Ann Cordray, 2052 Crown Dr, St. Augustine, FL 32092.
6. Michelle Jennings, 3015 Aqua Vista Ln #307, St. Augustine, FL 32084.
7. Bonnie Wahiba, 924 N. Lilac Loop, Saint Johns, FL 32259.
8. Ervin Bullock, 1808 Vista Cove Rd, St. Augustine, FL 32084.
9. Rose DiMuzio, 415 Chelsye Meadow Ct, St. Augustine, FL 32084.
10. Nancy Tray, 25 Crawford, Saint Johns, FL 32259.
11. John Miller, 1 Hawkbill Ln, St. Augustine, FL 32080.
12. Pat Jensen, 1705 Montclair Cove Ct, Fruit Cove, FL 32259.
13. Cheryl Blowers, address not available.
14. Lynda Kouroupis, 128 Oceanview Dr, St. Augustine, FL 32080.
15. Leonie Halstead, 201 W Berkswell Dr, Saint Johns, FL 32259.

F. Close Public Hearing**G. Board Discussion and Vote**

1. Board Discussion and Vote

Motion to restrict "Slaughterhouse Five" to grades 11 and 12 with parental consent by Kelly Barrera, second by Anthony Coleman

Final Resolution: Motion Fails

Yea: Kelly Barrera, Bev Slough

Nay: Patrick Canan, Jennifer Collins, Anthony Coleman

Motion to restrict "Slaughterhouse Five" to grades 11 and 12 by Jennifer Collins, second by Kelly Barrera

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Jennifer Collins, Kelly Barrera, Bev Slough, Anthony Coleman

Nay: Patrick Canan

Motion to restrict "Freedom Writer's Diary" to grade 12 with parental consent by Kelly Barrera, second by Jennifer Collins

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Kelly Barrera, Anthony Coleman, Jennifer Collins, Bev Slough

Nay: Patrick Canan

Motion to restrict "L8R, G8R" to grade 12 with parental consent by Kelly Barrera, second by Jennifer Collins

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Kelly Barrera, Jennifer Collins, Bev Slough, Anthony Coleman

Nay: Patrick Canan

Motion to retain "A Stolen Life" by Anthony Coleman, second by Patrick Canan

Final Resolution: Motion Fails

Yea: Anthony Coleman, Patrick Canan

Nay: Kelly Barrera, Bev Slough, Jennifer Collins

Motion to restrict "A Stolen Life" to grades 11 and 12 by Bev Slough, second by Jennifer Collins

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Kelly Barrera, Jennifer Collins, Bev Slough, Anthony Coleman

Nay: Patrick Canan

H. Closing Comments by Board and Superintendent

Jennifer Collins shared her thoughts on the vote.

Tony Coleman spoke about making decisions for all children in St. Johns County School District.

Kelly Barrera shared her appreciation for the community input, those who serve on committees, and for public feedback.

Patrick Canan thanked the presenters and for those who attended in person and online.

Bev Slough thanked all who spoke for their civility.

Tim Forson clarified the votes and thanked everyone for civil discussions and for giving of their time.

I. Adjournment at 11:12 a.m.