

The School District of Hernando County, Florida

Office of the Superintendent

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Gus Guadagnino

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Learn it. Love it. Live it.

TO: Ms. Thomas

FROM: Mr. John Stratton, Superintendent

DATE: December 14, 2023

SUBJECT: Media Challenge SHS 044-23

This response is in reference to your challenge for the book, "Poet X" at Springstead High School. The review committee at Springstead High School has evaluated the book, "The Poet X", written by Elizabeth Acevedo based on the criteria from Hernando County School Board Policy 2522. The committee, in evaluating the questioned material, was guided by the following criteria: the appropriateness of the material for the age and maturity level of the students with whom it is being used, the accuracy of the material, the objectivity of the material, the use being made of the material.

The committee's recommendation is that the book is not removed, but access is limited to grades 9-12 in Hernando County Schools. The Board will review the case, including all evidence proffered, during a publicly noticed Board meeting on January 23, 2024. The Board will announce during the meeting whether the challenged material meets the requirements of Policy 2522. You may submit any additional evidence for the Board's consideration no later than fourteen (14) days before January 23, 2024.