



July 21, 2023

Mr. Chris Line
Staff Attorney
Freedom From Religion Foundation
P.O. Box 750
Madison, WI 53701
(608)256-8900
www.ffrf.org

RE: Request for Removal of the Bible from Academy School District 20

Dear Mr. Line:

On behalf of Academy School District 20, I am writing in response to your letter dated June 22, 2023. You request that the District either ban the Bible based on the criteria it has used to ban two books with similar sexual and violent content or cease banning books and return the two books to the shelves.

Academy District 20 acknowledges that the Board of Education assumes final responsibility for all books and instructional materials available in the District’s library media centers. C.R.S. § 22-32-110(1)(r). The District has established reconsideration procedures to address concerns about those resources. See Procedure IJL R, Reconsideration of Library Media Center Materials. It is the intent of the District to follow the law and employ established, regular, and unbiased procedures for the review of challenged materials before removing books. Formal requests for reconsideration shall be uniformly addressed according to policy and law.

Consistent with administrative policy IJL and procedure IJL R, the District must hold religious texts, such as the Bible, to the same standards it holds all other library books, subject to review and reconsideration before removal. After careful consideration, the District assures that the removal of library materials will be based on established policies and procedures. Therefore, any books recently removed without following the District’s procedure shall be reinstated and subject to reconsideration upon formal request.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to our attention, and please feel free to reach out should you have any further questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,
/s/ Tonya Thompson, Esq.

MISSION
We educate and inspire students to thrive.

VALUES
We believe people are the heart of our success.
—
We believe relationships matter.
—
We believe in quality education.

VISION
We provide creative and personal learning opportunities, accessible to all students, preparing them to thrive in an ever-changing world.