



MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH

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MEMO

Date: December 9, 2024

To: Library Citizens' Advisory Committee

From: Jillian Morrissey, Community Development Director

RE: Final Decision on the Library Material *Forever* by Judy Blume

I have reviewed the meeting recording, your comments, your score cards and the votes on the book *Forever*. I would like to make you aware of the factors that I used to determine my final decision:

1. The purpose of the creation of the LCAC by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Assembly was to "incorporate citizens in the review process, providing a better understanding of the attitudes and opinions held in the community...".
2. I appreciate the LCAC answering the initial Evaluation Criteria section of your score cards for this book.
3. In the Library Collection Development Policy, the Young Adult Collection purpose is "to provide material for young adults 16 & over in a variety of formats. To meet the recreational and informational interests as well as to support their formal educational curriculum".
4. A summary of your responses under the section for Suitability for Minors under 16 and your Suggested Disposition:

Member	Q1 Does the material depict the following act or simulated conduct?	Q2 Would the average individual, applying contemporary community standards, find that the material, taken as a whole, appeals to the prurient interest in sex for persons under 16 years of age?	Q3 Would a reasonable person find that the material, <i>taken as a whole</i> , lacks serious literary, artistic, educational, political, or scientific value for persons under 16 years of age?	Q4 Does the material depict actual or simulated conduct in a way that is patently offensive to the prevailing standards in the adult community as a whole with respect to what is suitable for persons under 16 years of age?"	Suggested Disposition
Susan Hillman	Yes	Yes	No	No	Reshelve the book to the YA section
Aaron Malone	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Remove the book from the library
Camilla Potts	Yes	No	No	Yes	Reshelve the book to the YA section
Erik Palin	Yes	No	No	Yes	Reshelve the book to the YA section
Dorothy Denison	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Not recorded
Chad Scott	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Remove the book from the library
Nancy Bertels	Yes	Yes	No	No	Reshelve the book to the YA section

After reviewing all the comments on the dais, scorecard notes, MSB Administrative policy, "Forever" by Judy Blume will remain in the Young Adult section of the Willow Library. Four members of the LCAC are in alignment with my decision.

My decision respects parental choice to apply for a library card with their child, parental responsibility for the library material choices of the child and provide the freedom for patrons to choose library materials of their interest. I would like to add that parents and guardians can view their children's checked out books at any time by logging into their account online or inquiring at the library. Additionally, the joint Alaska Library Network is working on a refresh of their app and it will include the ability of parents to 'tether' their account to their child's. Parents will be able to review all library material checked out to the minor from the convenience of their mobile app when this service is launched.

I want to thank all the Library Citizens' Advisory Committee for their service and their recommendations.