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Notes from a meeting with library director Michael Tyree

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TYREE MEETING 02/25/09

Met with Library Director, Michael Tyree, last night.

He says he understands (thought he said "agreed", but cannot verify this in my notes) with our moral values, but says librarians cannot censor books. We told him he **WAS censoring books** by not offering a "balance." We also told him that we are requesting a "ban" on The Perks of a Wallflower book in the YA Zone. It is adult language and needs to, at the very least, be reclassified as such and moved into the adult section of the library.

Would not address our position as parents as "pornography is in the eyes of the beholder." (His words.)

Could not give criteria for selecting books other than "valid and valuable resources." (His words.)

Stated "West Bend is not a homogeneous community; we are now becoming diverse." (Don't agree. This is clear indoctrination.)

He won't remove the books (says he can't), but he will work on finding a bunch of faith-based and ex-gay books to balance both youth AND adult sections. No promises.

We signed the form that said we did not come to a full agreement. They won't take down the web site. They would "balance" it, though, if they "could."

He plans to present his conclusions of our meeting at the upcoming Library Board meeting.