

Below are the results from our survey of Texas schools in the 2014-2015 school year.

Learn more about Banned Books Week and find more resources at the American Library Association.

13 BOOKS CHALLENGED 2 BANNED in 2014-2015

In 2014-2015, we recorded thirteen book challenges submitted to Texas schools. Most of the books in question were challenged due to profanity, violence, or sexual content, while drug use, politics, and offense to religious sensibilities recorded one challenge each.

Based on responses to our open records requests, a total of ten school districts logged book challenges this past year, with Red Lick ISD topping the list. In many cases, librarians and school administrators found a way to accommodate the parents' complaints while not depriving other students of the challenged material, either by denying access to the book to the child of the parent who filed the complaint, or by requiring students to have parental permission before checking out the texts in question.

Only two books were banned outright: Hans Wilhelm's *I Hate My Bowat* Red Lick Elementary School and Andy Riley's *The Book of Bunny Suicides* at Chapel Hill Junior High.

School Districts with book challenges, 2014-2015:

- Red Lick ISD
- Chapel Hill ISD, Titus County
- Meridian World School
- Irving ISD
- Calhoun County ISD
- Round Rock ISD
- Highland Park ISD, Dallas County
- Conroe ISD
- Community ISD
- New Braunfels ISD

Titles of Challenged Books and Results of Challenge, 2014-2015:

- *The Host* by Stephenie Meyer (**use restricted**)
- *I Hate My Bow* by Han Wilhelm (**banned**)
- *The Book of Bunny Suicides* by Andy Riley (**banned**)
- *The Natural* by Bernard Malamud (**alternate book allowed**)
- *Beyond Magenta: Transgender Teens Speak Out* by Susan Kuklin(**retained**)
- *Red Azalea* by Anchee Min (**use restricted and decision pending**)
- *The Berlin Boxing Club* by Robert Sharenow (**retained**)
- *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein (**retained**)
- *Thirteen* by Lauren Myracle (**use restricted**)
- *Santa Clause Around the World* by Lisl Weil (**retained**)
- *Drive-By* by Lynn Ewing (**alternate book allowed**)
- *Drama* by Raina Telgemeier (**use restricted and content changed or deleted**)

Challenged Books by District, 2014-2015:

Calhoun County ISD

Book: *Red Azalea* by Anchee Min

School: Calhoun High School

Reason Cited: Sexual content; politically, racially, or socially offensive

Action Taken: Use restricted

Chapel Hill ISD, Titus County

Book: *The Book of Bunny Suicides* by Andy Riley

School: Chapel Hill Junior High

Reason Cited: Violence/Horror

Action Taken: Banned (removed from library)

Community ISD

Book: *Drive-By* by Lynn Ewing

School: McClendon Elementary

Reason Cited: Violence/horror

Action Taken: Alternate book allowed

Conroe ISD

Book: *Thirteen* by Lauren Myracle
School: Wilson Intermediate
Reason Cited: Profanity, sexual content, drugs or alcohol
Action Taken: Use restricted

Book: *Santa Clause Around the World* by Lisl Weil
School: Powell Elementary
Reason Cited: Violence or horror; “There was a description of a horned figure taking children”
Action Taken: Retained

Highland Park ISD, Dallas County

Book: *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein
School: Highland Park High School
Reason Cited: Profanity, sexual content
Action Taken: Retained

Irving ISD

Book: *Beyond Magenta: Transgender Teens Speak Out* by Susan Kuklin
School: MacArthur High School
Reason Cited: “Subject matter not appropriately presented”
Action Taken: Retained

Meridian World School

Book: *The Natural* by Bernard Malamud
School: Meridian School – High School
Reason Cited: Sexual content
Action Taken: Alternate book allowed

New Braunfels ISD

Book: *Drama* by Raina Telgemeier
School: Seele Elementary
Reason Cited: Parent felt subject matter too advanced for elementary students
Action Taken: Use Restricted

Red Lick ISD

Book: *The Host* by Stephenie Meyer

School: Red Lick Middle School

Reason Cited: Offensive to religious sensibilities

Action Taken: Use restricted

Book: *I Hate My Bow* by Han Wilhelm

School: Red Lick Elementary

Reason Cited: Parent didn't like the word "hate"

Action Taken: Banned (removed from library)

Round Rock ISD

Book: *The Berlin Boxing Club* by Robert Sharenow

School: Deerpark Middle School

Reason Cited: Sexual content

Action Taken: Retained