

Concerned Citizens of Columbia County

"FOR" Committee

Statement for Ballot Measure No. 2

Presented to the Auditor for the General Election 2023

Please vote yes to dissolve the Columbia County Rural Library District (CCRLD). The CCRLD established a program of procurement and display of age-inappropriate sexual material in the children's section of the library. We reject this policy for our library. These books have been displayed on the same shelving unit with popular periodicals such as Ranger Rick and Highlights. Little progress was made to move the books to the adult area as requested; in fact, there was an expansion of these books. Challenging books proved fruitless. The Library policy doesn't allow questions to be asked nor answered at board meetings, only comments are allowed. Efforts by concerned citizens for mediation aimed at resolving differences were rejected. The American Library Association (ALA) has sought to replace historic community standards with a misinterpretation of the First Amendment and with new standards such as 'there is no right nor wrong just my right and your right' and 'equity over equality.' Community trust in the local library leadership has declined even though developing trust is the stated mission of the library board. Our taxpayer funded library (\$472,600 in taxpayer funding in 2023) is no longer the library we choose to support. Whether there can be short term appeasement on this issue is immaterial, because in the process of dealing with it, a greater truth has been revealed that this public library is an irretrievably compromised entity, and it needs to be removed from our midst. Vote yes to dissolve the CCRLD.

RECEIVED
AUG 08 2023
COLUMBIA COUNTY AUDITOR



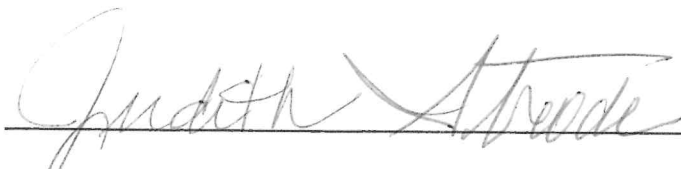
Seth Murdock

8/2/23
Date



Marcene Hendrickson

8/2/23
Date



Judith Strode

8/2/23
Date