**Controversial Materials Notice**

Dear Parent or Guardian,

In accordance with the HB 1467 and a long-standing Pinellas County School District policy, we are notifying you that the following book assigned or suggested for **academic use** has been reviewed by a school committee and found to include material that could be considered controversial. Please review this information and reach out if you have any additional questions. Should you prefer the alternative for this assignment, please contact your student’s teacher.

**Book Title: *Gods of Jade and Shadow* by Silvia Moreno-Garcia**

**The book title listed above contains the following Controversial Material**: **Highlight ALL that apply.**

[ ]  Sensuality

[x]  Suggestive Dialogue

[ ]  Nudity

[ ]  Other:

[x]  Violence

[x]  Profanity

[ ]  Sexual situations, activity, or innuendo

[x]  Drug Use: Mild use of alcohol and smoking

**The following excerpt is an example of the Controversial Material found within this book:**

**Violence:** The book contains elements of violence and dark themes, particularly related to the Mayan god of death, Hun-Kamé. There are depictions of blood sacrifices and rituals devoted to the Mayan Gods. There are also summoning of ghosts, spirits, sorcerers and dark magic associated with Mayan myths and Mexican folklore.

**Profanity:** The novel includes instances of characters using strong language to express their emotions and frustrations.

**Suggestive Dialogue:** There are scenes where the dialogue between characters hint at romantic or sexual tension particularly between the main character, Casiopea, and the Mayan god of death, Hun-Kame.

**This book was chosen for classroom use in accordance with the following Educational Purpose:**

*Gods of Jade and Shadow* is chosen for English 2 students to be introduced to literary elements and concepts found in Classical literature. Students are also required to analyze how mythical, classical or religious texts have been adapted per the Grade 10 ELA10.R.3.3 Benchmark. The text will also be used to introduce elements of the Hero’s Journey that are discussed during the first semester of English 2 courses.

**The Alternative for this Assignment is to choose another text from the Summer Reading list that does include controversial material:**

* *Children of Blood and Bone* by Tomi Adeyemi
* *Summer of the Mariposas* by Guadalupe Garcia McCall
* *Wishtree* by Katherine Applegate

Sincerely,

Teacher Signature: Date:

[ ]  I permit my student to read the book.

[ ]  I do NOT permit my student to read the text and my student will complete the alternative assignment.

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_