



Office of the Superintendent

DATE: May 4, 2023

AGENDA TOPICS: Supplementary Novel for MES

PRESENTER: Scott J. Booth

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

“Hatchet”

In accordance with all relevant Education Code and current Board Administrative Regulation 6161.1 and Board Policy 6161.11; following a review and selection process that included approval by the CIA Advisory Committee; I am pleased to present our recommendation to the Board of the WUSD, the adoption of:

Grade Level: 4-5 (Murdock Elementary School)

Publisher: Simon & Schuster, 1987

Text/Novel: *Hatchet*; by Gary Paulsen

Hatchet, a Newbery Award-winning novel published in 1987 by author Gary Paulsen, is an esteemed story about a young boy’s struggle to survive after his airplane crashes in the Canadian wilderness. This work of young adult fiction appeals to readers of all ages for its descriptive prose and exciting plot. At age 13, the principal character Brian Robeson is struggling with his parents’ divorce. What lies ahead is a much deeper struggle. Brian is the only survivor of a plane crashes in the Canadian wilderness. With only the clothes on his back and a hatchet his mother had given him, Brian perseveres through a fifty-four day ordeal. ¹

Dates of Review

- Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Advisory (March 20th, 2023)

RECOMMENDATION:

Adoption of supplemental novel *Hatchet, 1987*; by Gary Paulsen

Thank you!