1	IN THE UNITE	ED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2	FOR THE MIDDLE	E DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA
3		
4	Tammy J. Kitzmiller, et	al., :
5		:
6	VS	: 4:04-CV-2688 :
7	Dover Area School Distri	
8	Dover Area School Distri Board of Directors	ct :
9		
10	BEFORE:	Honorable John E. Jones III
11	PLACE:	Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
12	PROCEEDINGS:	Non-Jury Trial
13	DATE:	Thursday, November 3, 2005;
14		9:15 a.m.
15	<u>M</u> 0	DRNING SESSION
16		
17	APPEARANCES:	
18	For the Plaintiffs:	ERIC J. ROTHSCHILD, ESQ.
19		WITOLD J. WALCZAK, ESQ. STEPHEN G. HARVEY, ESQ.
20		RICHARD B. KATSKEE, ESQ.
21	For the Defendants:	
22		RICHARD THOMPSON, ESQ. ROBERT J. MUISE, ESQ.
23		
24		
25		

1		INDEX T	O WITNE	SSES		
2	DEFENDANT:	DIRECT	CROSS	REDIRECT	RECROSS	COURT
3	Michael Baksa	(cont'd	.) 4	34,60	49	55
4	Robert Linker	65	74	99	102	
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						
21						
22						
23						
24						
25						

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

1		TNDEY TO) EXHIBITS		
2	PLAINTIFF:	INDEA I		IDENTIFIED	ADMITTED
3	Exhibit No.	31	-	5	
4	Exhibit No.			45	
5	Exhibit No.			89	
6	Exhibit No.			13	
7	Exhibit No.			96	
8	Exhibit No.			15	
9	Exhibit No.			7	
10	DEFENDANT:	210	,	DENTIFIED	ADMITTED
			,		ADMITTED
11	Exhibit No.	19		39	
12	Exhibit No.	20		41	
13	Exhibit No.	35		45	
14	Exhibit No.	65		18	
15	Exhibit No.	90		19	
16	Exhibit No.	91		21	
17	Exhibit No.	96		25	
18	Exhibit No.	97		26	
19	Exhibit No.	286		37	
20					
21					
22					
23					
24					
25					

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

1	(9:22 a.m., convene.)
2	THE COURT: All right, good morning to all. We
3	resume with continued cross examination of Mr. Baksa. And
4	Mr. Rothschild, whenever you're ready you may proceed.
5	MR. ROTHSCHILD: Thank you, Your Honor.
6	(Mr. Baksa resumes witness stand.)
7	CROSS EXAMINATION (Cont'd.)
8	BY MR. ROTHSCHILD:
9	Q Good morning, Mr. Baksa.
10	A Good morning.
11	Q When we left off yesterday we were discussing an
12	aspect of what was approved on October 18 th , which is the
13	note that origins of life is not taught. Do you remember
14	that?
15	A Yes.
16	Q And as we discussed, that means that in addition to
17	whatever effect it had on intelligent design, it also means
18	that teachers in Dover won't teach what we call macro
19	evolution and speciation, correct?
20	A They in the past they had not taught that.
21	Q Okay. And that was something that when the board
22	found out about that, that was something that satisfied some
23	of their concerns, correct?
24	A Yes.
25	MR. ROTHSCHILD: Your Honor, may I approach?

THE COURT: You may.

BY MR. ROTHSCHILD:

Q Mr. Baksa, what I ve just given to you is what we ve marked as plaintiff s exhibit 31, which is the Miller and Levine textbook for 2004 that is now being used in Dover High School. Could you turn to page 381 of that book?

If you look at the bottom of the page, there s a heading "Descent with Modification"?

A Okay.

Q And it says, "Darwin proposed that over long periods natural selection produces organisms that have different structures, established different niches, or occupy different habitats. As a result, species today look different from their ancestors. Each living species has descended with changes from other species over time. He referred to this principle as descent with modification."

Under the board s policy that origins of life is not taught, that aspect of evolution cannot be taught to the Dover High School students, correct?

A That I wouldn t know. The teachers make decisions on the content in the chapters and the material -- they choose the material they use to teach to the instructional goals that they we set for the course. Whether they would include this information, I wouldn t know that.

Q Okay, but it does say each living species has

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

BAKSA - CROSS

descended with changes from other species over time. Do
you -- you understand that to be speciation, right?

A Yes.

Q Okay. And as we ve discussed, under the board s policy stating that origins of life is not taught, speciation is out, right?

A Well, again, I would defer, I mean that s -- I m not a science teacher, and the manner in which they would use this content, I wouldn t know. I don t know if there s an appropriate manner they would be able to use with the curriculum change or not. I think they would be the best to determine that.

Q Certainly any science teacher faced with a policy from the board that says origins of life is not taught, and the understanding that, by that, the board means no speciation or macro evolution, a teacher would have reason to believe that he or she couldn t teach this aspect of the Miller-Levine textbook; would you agree?

A My understanding from what -- in my meeting with teachers is that the curriculum change would not affect any of the past instructional objectives they ve had, or the teaching that they ve done in the past. They would teach the same course, same materials, same instructional goals as they had in the past even with the new curriculum change.

Q But you would agree that whatever their practice

8

was in the past, that discretion has now been removed from 2 them and now it is policy, origins of life is not taught? 3 Yes. And if you could turn to page 404 of the textbook. 4 5 It s headed, The Process of Speciation. Based on your understanding of the note origins of life is not taught, 7 that subject matter is also off limits for the teachers, 8 isn t it? 9 A Again, I don t know how the teachers would use this 10 content and if it would be permissible or not. Again, that would be their -- their professional judgment on choosing 11 12 the materials and the content. 13 Including their judgment about what the board s 14 policy means, correct? 15 I would think they would have to make a judgment on 16 that. 17 MR. ROTHSCHILD: Matt, could you pull up exhibit P-210. 18 May I approach, Your Honor. 19 20 THE COURT: You may. BY MR. ROTHSCHILD: 2.1 Mr. Baksa, do you recognize P-210?

Α Okay. And you see that it s section 3.3, Biological Sciences? A Yes. And it has objectives for grade ten and grade 12? A Yes. And if you turn over to the next page, under subheading D, there are instructional goals for the theory of evolution? 10 Yes. 11 And for tenth grade, which is the second to the right column, it says, "Explain the mechanisms of the theory 12 13 of evolution," right? 14 Α Yes. And under that it says, "Analyze data from fossil 15 records, records, similarities in anatomy and physiology, 17 embryological studies and DNA studies that are relevant to 18 the theory of evolution." You understand that those are all types of evidence that are relevant to the issue of macro 19 evolution, don t you? Yes. And based on what we ve discussed, the note origins of life is not taught, these aspects of the standards would be outside the Dover High School curriculum, correct? 25 A No. My understanding is, I remember in one of the

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

Actually, if you could turn to page 12 first.

Could you turn to page 13 of that document.

23

24

Α

Yes.

9

BAKSA - CROSS

10

meetings with the board curriculum committee, I remember
Mr. Eshbach saying that when talking about common ancestry,
that the way they presented it is the evidence in DNA. And
I remember his explanation of how they present it, that
linkage was satisfactory to the board. So I do remember our
teachers talking about they do teach about the DNA.

Q You were here when Mr. Bonsell testified, right?

A Yes.

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

23

25

Q And what he said was his understanding of what the teachers do, and what was memorialized in the note origins of life is not taught, is that the teachers would only teach micro evolution, change within a species, correct?

A Yes.

Q And not the fact that different species had common ancestors, correct?

A Correct.

Q And if he had that understanding, it s reasonable to believe the teachers had that understanding, wouldn t you agree?

A Well, the teachers did say they were teaching DNA as to demonstrate common ancestry. And they did say that to the board curriculum committee.

Q You would agree at best there s a -- there s uncertainty about whether teachers can teach these various pieces of evidence for common ancestry?

A My understanding is that the -- even as we were drafting the language with the teachers, that the teachers did not feel that the new language would in any way inhibit them or prohibit them from teaching any of the content that they we taught in the past.

Q Could you go down to the third bullet point under D in the second to right column.

A Okay.

1

10

11

12

13

14

17

1 2

19

20

Q It says, "Compare modern day descendents of extinct species and propose possible scientific accounts for their present appearance." Would you agree that that is an analysis that relates to the issue of speciation?

A From that, I wouldn t know.

Q And then if you go over to the objectives for twelfth grade, under D, "Analyze the theory of evolution," it says, "Examine human history by describing the progression from early hominids to modern humans." Do you see that?

A Yes.

Q So that would require students to learn about common ancestry of humans with prior species, correct?

A Well, I don t know -- I don t know that -- I m not familiar with the term hominids, if that is a species that is different, in this standard, to modern humans. So I don t know how our staff does approach that and if that

would present a problem to them.

2

3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

22

23

24

25

policy established by the school board, whether teachers could teach, consistent with that policy, the objective -this objective in the Pennsylvania state standards?

A Right. I would have to rely on the teachers, whether they felt there was anything that prohibited them from teaching any of the standards.

make a judgment whether, in doing that, they would be violating the board s policy, correct?

observe Mrs. Yingling, Angie Yingling, being told that she would be an atheist or unChristian if she did not vote for

Q Mr. Baksa, could you turn to your March deposition, page 174. And, Mr. Baksa, you were under oath that day when you -- when you gave your testimony at that deposition?

Yes.

And you did your best to tell the truth?

Α Yes.

Could you look at the question on line ten of page

Sitting here today you don t know whether under the

And as we discussed, the teachers would have to

Correct.

Going back to the October 18th meeting. You did the intelligent design resolution?

A No.

174. I asked you, "In articles, after the resolution was

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

voted on, Angie Yingling has been quoted as saying that members of the board suggested that she would be atheist or unChristian if she didn t vote for the intelligent design resolution. Did you observe any remarks of that kind?" And you answered, "Yes."

12

Is that right?

Yes.

14

16

17

18

19

20

24

25

And that was your truthful testimony that day, correct?

10 A Yes. And what I m answering is you began the question -- this is my understanding -- you said, "In 11 articles after resolution." I did read about that in the 12 13 articles and that s how I answered the question.

Q Mr. Baksa, I asked you, did you observe any remarks of that kind?

A And I m telling you, I understood that guestion to be preceded within articles, because then you asked me about Casey Brown, whether I did anything, but you don t use the word "in articles" in there, and I said no, I did not hear any personal remarks to board members.

In any event, you re not aware of anybody trying to correct that allegation by Ms. Yingling in that newspaper, is that true?

A Yes.

MR. ROTHSCHILD: May I approach?

MR. ROTHSCHILD: Matt, could you pull up P-91.

3 BY MR. ROTHSCHILD:

Mr. Baksa, do you recognize P-91?

THE COURT: You may.

Yes.

2

4

5

6

11

14

15

16 17

21

25

What is it?

7 It s an e-mail to me from Brad Neal, one of our 8 Social Studies teachers.

9 And then also a response from you to Mr. Neal,

10 correct?

> Α Yes.

And what Mr. Neal -- and this e-mail was sent to 12 you in the morning of October 19th? 13

Yes.

And that was the morning after the resolution was passed, correct?

Α Yes.

18 What Mr. Neal wrote to you is, "In light of last night s apparent change from a, quote, standards-driven, 19 close quote, school district, to the quote, living 20 word-driven school district, Mr. Hoover and I would like some direction in how to adapt our judicial branch unit. It s apparent that the Supreme Court of the United States 23 has it all wrong. Is there some supplemental text that we 24

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

can use to set our students straight as to the, quote, real,

BAKSA - CROSS

14

close quote, law of the land? We will be entering this unit within the next month and are concerned that we would be polluting our students minds if we continue to use our curriculum as currently written in accordance with the PA standards."

That s what Mr. Neal wrote to you?

Yes.

And you responded to him, right?

9

10 0 And what you wrote is, "Brad, all kidding aside, be 11 careful what you ask for. I ve been given a copy of the Myth of Separation by David Barton to review from board 12 13 members. Social Studies curriculum is next year. Feel free 14 to borrow my copy to get an idea of where the board is coming from. Thanks." That s how you responded, right? 15

Yes.

16

17

18

19

20

24

25

You responded to the Social Studies teacher, I have some information, I ll let you know where the board is coming from.

Yes.

And when you talked about getting a copy of this book, Myth of Separation, by David Barton from board members, I think you told me at your deposition it was actually a particular board member.

A I believe Dr. Nilsen gave it to me and told me that

it came from Mr. Bonsell. 2 Right. And you did take a look at that book, 3 right? I didn t -- I glanced through it. 4 Α 5 And you understand that this book was an argument 6 against the principles of separation of church and state, 7 right? 8 A Yes. 9 MR. ROTHSCHILD: May I approach, Your Honor? 10 THE COURT: You may. BY MR. ROTHSCHILD: 11 Q Mr. Baksa, what I m going to hand you is exhibit 12 13 P-179, which is the Myth of Separation by David Barton. And 14 this was the book that you were passing on to Mr. Neal so he 15 would get an idea where the board is coming from on the issue of Social Studies curriculum, correct? 16 17 A Yes. 18 Can you turn to page 46 of the book. And if you look at that --19 20 Yes. Q -- last paragraph, could you read the first 21 sentence of that? The very last paragraph? 23 24 0 Yes.

absurd; it has been repeated often; and people have believed it. It is amazing what continually hearing about separation of church and state can do to a nation." Q And then if you go to the next page, page 47, the title of the chapter is, "We Are a Christian Nation," correct? A Yes. And then if you could turn to page 82 of the book. The last sentence of the chapter reads, "Our fathers intended that this nation should be a Christian nation, not 11 because all who lived in it were Christians, but because it was founded on and would be governed and guided by Christian 13 principles." Correct? 14 A Yes, sir. 15 And then if you could turn to page 260, this is a paragraph -- a chapter titled "The Solution." If you look 17 in the first full paragraph, what Mr. Barton writes in the 18 book that Mr. Bonsell is recommending is, "We must recall our foundation and former values and establish in our 19 thinking the conviction that this nation s institutions must return to their original foundation -- the principles expressed through the Bible." Is that correct? 23 A Yes. And one more passage. This is at page 264. 24 25 A Okay.

16

"The doctrine of separation of church and state is

3

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

23

24

25

BAKSA - CROSS

18

I m sorry, 265. And what Mr. Barton recommends is part of the solution is that -- if you could highlight that first sentence -- "Morality acquired only with emphasis from religious principles must again become an emphasis in education." This is where the board was coming from, right Mr. Baksa? A Mr. Bonsell -- my understanding is that when I received the book from Mr. Bonsell, and in my earlier conversations with him when I first came to Dover, I did have conversations and Mr. Bonsell expressed to me a desire to make sure that our students learned about the founding fathers in the constitution. I mean that s the extent of my knowledge of, you know, his emphasis on the founding fathers. And this book? Yes. And the emphasis on the founding fathers in this book is about this being a Christian nation and that morality in education should be acquired only from religious principles, right? A Well, I haven t read the whole book to agree with the emphasis. Certainly the passages you pointed out point to that. And so these are the two areas of curriculum that

the theory of evolution, and telling the students that this nation was founded as a Christian nation and must return to that condition. A Well, I don t remember Mr. Bonsell ever telling me that we need to -- this nation is a Christian nation and we need to return to that. I remember him talking about making sure that we devoted sufficient time to teaching about the founding fathers and the constitution. O And the one book that he gave you to explain what 10 he meant was this book, the Myth of Separation? That s correct. 11 After the October 18th meeting you prepared a 12 draft statement to be read to the students, correct? 13 14 Yes. MR. ROTHSCHILD: Matt, could you pull up D-65. 15 16 May I approach, Your Honor? 17 THE COURT: You may. MR. ROTHSCHILD: Could I approach and get the other 18 copy of the book? 19 THE COURT: Sure. 20 MR. ROTHSCHILD: Appreciate it. BY MR. ROTHSCHILD: Q D-65 is your first draft of the statement that 23 would be read to students.

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

Mr. Bonsell has devoted his attention to, alternatives to

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

A Can I read it?

2.0

Yeah, sure. 2 Yeah, that s my original draft. 3 And then as you said, Mrs. Miller -- you gave it to Mrs. Miller to review. 5 A Yeah. Well, I think I gave more than one -- I might have given it just to Mrs. Miller but I might have 6 7 given it to all of the biology teachers though Mrs. Miller. 8 Certainly Mrs. Miller, right? 9 10 And you directed her to review it, correct? 11 Α Yes. 12 And she made some suggestions about how to edit it, 0 13 correct? 14 A Yes. MR. ROTHSCHILD: May I approach, Your Honor? 15 16 THE COURT: You may. 17 MR. ROTHSCHILD: Matt, could you pull up exhibit, defendant s exhibit 90. 18 BY MR. ROTHSCHILD: 19 And exhibit D-90 has your handwritten notes on it, 20 correct? 2.1 Yes. Okay. And it says, "Teachers response to the 23 24 original draft by M. Baksa -- or Mr. Baksa"? 25 Α Yes.

And the bolded text is -- reflects the teachers 1 edits, correct? A Yes. And, for example, in the first paragraph it adds the words "eventually take a standardized test" and that s in there because actually they weren t going to take a standardized test for a few years, right? A That s right. 9 And then if you go to the next paragraph, Mrs. Miller, or the teachers added the language to your language, "Darwin s theory is a theory," by saying, "there 11 is a significant amount of evidence that supports the 12 theory, although" -- and then it continues with your 13 14 language -- "it is still being testing as new evidence is discovered." Right? 16 A Yes. 17 And then the teachers also added some text in terms of how intelligent design was going to be presented, 18 correct? 19 20 A Yes, and that the theory is not a fact.

Q Okay. And actually that is not entirely their language. If you go to your draft exhibit D-65.

A Okay.

23

You had the language, "the theory is not a fact, 24 nor the only one." And they just changed that to "the

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

2 A Yes, it s correct that they didn t delete it.

 ${\tt Q}$ Right. And they -- you had language in your draft about intelligent design being another theory of evolution.

And they changed that to be an explanation of the origin of

6 life that differs from Darwin s view, right?

theory is not a fact, " correct?

A Yes.

3

7

8

9

10

16

18

20

2.1

25

 $\ensuremath{\mathtt{Q}}$ $\ensuremath{\mathtt{Now}}$, the version that you drafted didn t become the

final version, correct?

A Right.

11 Q And the version that we see on defendant s exhibit

12 90, which incorporates some suggestions by the teachers,

13 also didn t become the final version, correct?

14 A That s correct.

MR. ROTHSCHILD: May I approach, Your Honor?

THE COURT: You may.

17 BY MR. ROTHSCHILD:

Q Mr. Baksa, I ve shown you defendant s exhibit 91.

19 A Yes.

O And that has your handwritten notes on it, correct?

A Yes.

Q And it indicates that there are edits by you and

23 the board?

24 A Correct.

Q And when we talk about the board here, who on the

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

BAKSA - CROSS

board is editing these drafts?

A The board, I believe we were in the executive session, and the board -- I distributed the initial draft to the board and asked for their feedback. And then I remember

5 suggestions from Mrs. Harkins and Mrs. Geesey.

6 Q So when we see lines striking some of the text
7 here, those reflect suggestions by Mrs. Harkins and

8 Mrs. Geesey?

A Correct.

Q And the rest -- and the rest of the board in executive session agreed with those changes?

12 A Yes.

Q And let s look --

14 A Well, my edit is the -- in the first paragraph, the

15 deleted first sentence is a board edit.

O Right.

17 A My edit -- I believe the second paragraph is my

edit.

13

16

18

25

19 Q All right. Let s discuss the first edit first.

You had actually suggested this language, "Darwin s theory

21 of evolution continues to be the dominant scientific

22 explanation of the origin of species." Right, that was in

23 your original draft?

24 A Yes, sir.

Q And when the teachers reviewed it, they didn t

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

24

1 excise that language.

A Yes.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

23

25

Q You had every reason to believe that s actually an accurate portrayal of Darwin s theory of evolution, right?

A Yes.

Q But the board required you to take that out.

A Yes.

Q If that language had been left in, students would have learned from their teachers, or whoever read the statement, that Darwin s theory of evolution is the dominant scientific explanation of the origin of species, right?

A Yes.

Q And you would agree that the message to the students -- and this language did not make it into the final version, correct?

A Correct.

 ${\tt Q}$ $\,$ And you would agree with me that the message to the students about the soundness of the theory of evolution is very different without this language than with it, wouldn t you?

A Well, this is a one-minute statement, and the teachers are teaching the content in Miller and Levine, which I think reading those chapters, the students would get that information.

Q Okay. But this is the first thing that students

are told when they start the subject of the theory of evolution, correct? A That s correct. You thought it was a good idea, and the teachers agreed with you, to communicate to the students this is the dominant scientific explanation, this is what the scientific community accepts, right? A That s correct. But the board didn t want that language in, 10 correct? 11 A That s correct. Okay. And then there s the strike of the language, 12 13 "There is a significant amount of evidence that supports the theory." And you said that was your own edit, right? 14 15 16 Now, that was something that Mrs. Miller or the 17 teachers added to your draft statement, correct? 18 Α Yes. And you recognized them to be the scientific 19 experts in the community, right? Yes. And you had no reason to doubt that this is actually an accurate portrayal of Darwin s theory, because

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

Darwin s theory is a theory, there is a significant amount

of evidence that supports the theory, although it is still

26

being tested as new evidence is discovered. You had no reason to believe that this wasn t an accurate statement of 3 Darwin s theory of evolution? 4 Α Correct. 5 But you removed this language, right?

Yes.

And you did that because that s -- because the board didn t want language like that, right?

A Well, the -- actually, the board only had my copy, and this was now the board s edit and the teachers edit that I m combining, so I don t think the board ever saw that language. But from my meeting with the board previously where they striked out "dominant scientific explanation," I didn t think they would be supportive of that language, so I took it upon myself to delete that language.

Because you thought that reflected the board s views?

18 A Yes.

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

23 24

25

MR. ROTHSCHILD: May I approach, Your Honor? 19 20 THE COURT: You may.

BY MR. ROTHSCHILD: 2.1

> Mr. Baksa, I ve shown you two exhibits, the first is defendant s exhibit 96. And do you recognize that as a handwritten note -- handwritten notes of a conversation you had with Mr. Buckingham?

And what he s doing there is suggesting language about the intelligent design aspect of the statement, correct? A Yes.

And it says, "In an effort to gain an understanding of what intelligent design actually involves" -- I think that s an addition to the previous sentence about Pandas, and then, "As is true with any theory, you are encouraged to

10 keep an open mind." Correct? Yes.

And then if you look at defendant s exhibit 97, 12

13 that language is in fact added to this draft version, right?

14 Α Yes.

A

15 And that language became a part of the final

version?

1

11

Α

Yes.

17 A Yes.

18 And then if you go above that in defendant s exhibit 97, you see there s a strike of the word "yet." 19

20 Correct?

25

A Yes.

Q Your draft, the one you prepared and that the teachers reviewed, said, "Gaps in the theory exist for which there is yet no evidence." Correct? 24

A Yes.

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

27 BAKSA - CROSS BAKSA - CROSS

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

16

17

18

19

20

21

23 24

25

9 10 11

12

13 14 there s certain things we don t know, there s yet no 15

A I agree that the board took out language that I think my understanding is that they felt, and one of their

But the final version just says, "Gaps in the theory exist for which there is no evidence." Correct? Yes. And when you struck that language, that was, again, doing the will of the board members, correct? Α Yes. Mr. Buckingham s will? Yes. And you would agree with me that, again, that change in the sentence conveys two very different things to students, right? Yes. Because your version actually says, hey, you know, evidence, it may come, right? Yes. But the language as it reads in the final version just says there s no evidence, right? Correct. So to summarize, the board took out language proposed by the administration and by the science faculty that would suggest that the theory of evolution is a sound theory; would you agree?

main concerns was they felt that the Darwin s theory was being overstated in the text. And my understanding is that language in this statement, they were again concerned about maybe the same issue, not overstating Darwin s theory. Q You didn t feel that way about the statement that you and Mrs. Miller developed? You didn t feel like it was overstating it? A No, I agreed with the original language that I proposed. 10 0 And also with Mrs. Miller s suggestion? 11 Α And obviously the teachers felt better about this 12 13 language, about the theory of evolution, than what they ended up with, right? 14 15 Well, I don t know that, but certainly some of their suggestions weren t included. 16 17 And what was left was the language that is pretty 18 negative about the theory of evolution. Well, I wouldn t characterize it as negative. 19 20 There s gaps, right? Theory not a fact? There s gaps in Miller and Levine s textbook. Right, but it s only -- and I m not suggesting there aren t gaps, but it s only the things in the draft statement that were negative about evolution, not positive about evolution. That s how it ended out, right?

2.8

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

1

10

11

12

13

14

17

18

19

20

23

24

2

3 4

5

7

8

9

10

11 12

13

14 15

16

17

18 19

20

2.1

23

24

25

that way. I see that the edits that were done by the board or the absence of some of the language that the teachers wanted included, that that language would have been stronger in support of Darwin s evolution, and the language that was ultimately adopted isn t as strong, but I don t see it as negative. Q In any event, from the teachers perspective, the end result was that language they had suggested and language you had suggested that they were comfortable with, was excluded from the final statement? Some, yes.

I don t see it that way -- I mean. I don t see it

ownership over this process? Well, if you re going back to, you know, their reaction to Dr. Nilsen s press release, again, I even thought that the press release was simply what was being reported in the papers was that teachers weren t involved, that we weren t answering any of their questions. It sounded like we weren t working with them, that they had nothing to do with the process. They certainly had something to do with the process. Did it result in language here in the statement exactly as they would have wanted it? No, it didn t, you know, there were edits to it.

You can understand why the teachers wouldn t want

the public, including their students, to believe they had

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

So there s involvement that way, and I don t -- Ididn t think the press release tried to make a point of saying that the teachers had signed on fully supportive of everything that happened, just that they -- they were aware of what was happening.

30

Q They were aware, they made suggestions, and many of their important suggestions were rejected, right?

A That some of their language was not included, that s correct.

Q And in fact, it s fair to say that from the perspective that they were operating from, the statement got worse from the time you gave it to them, until the final version?

A Well, again, some language that they wanted was not included. I don t ever remember having a conversation at the end of the day after the final language was drafted, with their opinion of what finally was done. So I don t --I can t answer, you know, how they felt at the end of the day with the final language.

O Now, you agree that students are not told that any other theory taught in science class in the Dover School District is a theory, not a fact, right?

A I m not aware of anv.

And students are not told that other theories have gaps, correct?

31

I m not aware; I don t know.

Or because they re theories, they re still being tested?

Α Again, I m not aware of that, right.

And no one has ever explained to you why evolution is being singled out from all of the scientific topics taught to Dover students in this way?

7

By?

2

3

4

5

6

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21 22

23

24

25

Why?

I said by, singled out by?

Singled out by the board and the administration, why evolution is being singled out for this treatment, different from all the other scientific concepts taught to Dover students.

Just -- I just know the concerns that were expressed to me from some board members that they felt that it was overstated in the textbook and they had that concern.

And nobody has explained why, you know, you know, a half dozen or dozen other scientific theories that are presented to Dover students aren t also -- the students aren t also told them about them; it s a theory, not a fact. You don t know why evolution gets that special treatment?

That s correct.

And obviously there s no language in the statement suggesting that there are any gaps in intelligent design,

BAKSA - CROSS

right?

10

11

12

13

14

16

17

18

19

23

24

Α

Now, further down the road, after this statement was in effect, you actually warned the science teachers that they could be putting themselves in a risky position by standing up to the board on the issue of what is being taught in biology class, correct?

32

A I had a conversation with -- a private conversation with Mrs. Miller at which the teachers had been on a couple forums for discussing the issue, and the implementation of the new curriculum change and talking about ID. And I felt that it was -- wasn t necessary for them to put themselves in the middle of this. The board had made a decision. Once a board makes a decision, whether you agree with that decision or not, it s our responsibility to implement that and not continue to publicly protest their decision.

And the reason you were telling them this is because you were looking out for them, right?

A Well, yeah, I didn t think they needed to put themselves in a risky position, correct.

And one of the things that you thought might put them at risk was the position they took about not reading the statement, correct?

A No, they were okay about that, because they had -they had requested from Dr. Nilsen that they not read the

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

34

statement, and Dr. Nilsen granted that request. What
happened after that is they had agreed to distribute the
opt-out forms to students, and never communicated to

Dr. Nilsen or myself that they weren t going to do that.

And I explained that a legal -- were there to be given a

6 legal opinion about their actions and whether that

7 constituted insubordination or not was iffy, and that they

put themselves at risk by doing something like that and not

communicating.

5

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16 17

18

19

20

21

23

24

25

Q But you also, I mean, you told me at your deposition they were putting themselves at risk by taking the position not to read the statement, right?

A I don t believe I said that.

Q Could you turn to page 98 of your March 9th deposition. At line ten I asked you, "Is one of the things that they had done that you thought might put them at risk, does that include the position they took that they did not want to read the statement?" And you answered, "Yes."

A But if you read further, I kind of clarify that and again I go back to saying, if you look at line 17, I say,
"Because I felt that they did not have -- it wasn t the statement so much as we had come to an agreement about the procedures for implementing the reading of the statement at a meeting with the teachers, we reviewed how we were going

to do that, and they were in agreement with that. After
that, they submitted a request not to have to do that, and
the superintendent responded that he would make that
accommodation in this particular instance. What they failed
to do was on Friday they were to distribute the forms for
students to be excused from classes without informing
anybody of that. I felt that that action was risky in that
there was an administrative understanding for them to do so,
and they didn t do so. And if examined by counsel, that
could be determined to be an act of insubordination which
would put them at risk." So I think I clarified it.

Q Sure. But in any event you felt that, as a general matter, that they needed to be careful in terms of standing up to the board on the biology curriculum, correct?

A Yes

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

23

25

Q And similarly, you felt that you would be putting yourself in a risky position if you stood up to the board about the biology curriculum, isn t that right?

A No.

MR. ROTHSCHILD: No further questions.

THE COURT: Redirect, Mr. Gillen?

MR. GILLEN: Thank you, Your Honor.

REDIRECT EXAMINATION

24 BY MR. GILLEN:

Q Good morning, Mike.

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

leading every question in this redirect.

	A Good morning.
2	Q Mr. Rothschild has asked you a number of questions
3	and I want to make sure the record is clear on some of your
	responses.
,	The first area I would like to ask you about is
,	your attendance at the seminar given at Messiah College in
,	2003. As a result of your attendance at that seminar, did
3	you learn anything about the legality of teaching
)	creationism?
)	A Just that teaching creationism would be illegal.
	Q And did that information received at that seminar
:	shape your actions at every stage in this process that we
	scrutinized in this litigation?
	A Yes.
	Q And at any point in that process did you entertain
5	an illegal objective?
,	A I m sorry?
	Q At any point in that process did you believe that
)	you were entertaining an illegal objective?
)	A No.
	Q Mr. Rothschild has questioned you about Allen
2	Bonsell s objections to evolutionary theory. When
3	Mr. Bonsell expressed his objections, did he accompany his
	objection with more specific information?

MR. GILLEN: All right, let me rephrase, I suppose. THE COURT: So you concede the point? MR. GILLEN: I guess. I m not sure it s leading. It s a preliminary. THE COURT: Saving me ruling on the objection. MR. GILLEN: I m eager to save you work, Judge. You ll have enough soon enough. BY MR. GILLEN: 10 Q Let me ask you this, Mike. In your conversations with Mr. Bonsell about his objection to evolutionary theory, 11 did he give you additional information? 12 13 A When Mr. Bonsell was expressing his concerns to me 14 about the treatment of evolution in the text, my understanding is that he also talked about having read an article about -- that cast out on carbon 14 dating. He did 17 talk about seeing a video that showed an earlier, a bear 18 changing through evolution into a whale, which he thought was improbable. And but just generally thought that the 19 treatment in the book portrayed it as a fact with no room for any doubt whatsoever on any aspect of the theory. O How about discussions of the statistical improbability of cellular life, biological life emerging? Did he ever provide you with information about that?

MR. ROTHSCHILD: Objection, Your Honor. He s been

25

25

A No.

38

Okay. Did Mr. Bonsell ever discuss with you how he describes evolutionary theory to his children?

14 exhibit 286.

17

23

3 No. Did he ever explain whether he taught his children 5 about the statistical improbability of life? 6 Α No. 7 Ever tell you how he explains to his children about 8 problems in evolutionary theory? 9 No. 10 Was there ever any discussion about what he tells his children about gaps in evolutionary theory? 11 12 No. 13 I would like to ask you to look at defendant s 15 Do I have that? 16 I believe Mr. Rothschild provided you with a copy. THE COURT: If you could ask Matt to put that up on 18 the screen. It s helpful to me, if you don t mind. THE WITNESS: I don t think I have that. 19 THE COURT: It should be on your screen if you can 20 see it. If not we can get you a hard copy. 21 MR. GILLEN: Thank you, Your Honor. BY MR. GILLEN: 24 Can you see it, Mike? 25 Α Yes.

You we been asked some questions about this. I 1 want to ask you a few more. What knowledge concerning creationism or the teaching of creationism did you have at the time that you drafted this document? A Well, I m -- at this point I had gone to Messiah, and there the presenters were -- you know, did put forth that thought, the discussion of other theories or other explanations other than Darwin, that those made for a good discussion in the classroom. And at this time I did know 10 that the teachers had been giving some explanation before 11 they started teaching evolution that they were mentioning 12 creationism. 13 Q When you drafted this document, did you believe that it would require a departure from existing practice in 14 the classroom? 16 No. 17 Mr. Rothschild has noted that the language of exhibit 286 includes "demonstrate awareness." Was there any particular reason that you used that language in this draft 19 20 document? A Well, I remember -- I remember when looking at the language of all of the other -- for instance, right above "students will be able to list," and what I tried to do is simply, when you write instructional objectives for students you put some type of action verb in there that students will

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

40

list or demonstrate or identify. So I was just trying to duplicate the language that you use, the verbiage you use when you create an instructional objective.

Q Well, there s been a great deal of discussion of the curriculum change that was adopted by the board on October 18th. Do you see a difference between the language you employed in this document and the language that s incorporated in the curriculum change that was actually approved by the board?

A Yes.

4 5

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16 17

18

19

20

2.1

23

25

O Tell us what that difference is.

A Well, the language simply says, "Students will be made aware of," and the language "to demonstrate anything" is removed.

Q Mr. -- now, let me ask you this, is that language choice on your part related to the distinction you ve addressed between teaching and making aware?

A Well, if you have language in there that says to demonstrate, then you don t -- that language could lead you to believe that students will be assessed in some way to be able to demonstrate that. So students -- we weren t teaching it. They weren t going to be assessed, so that language wasn t necessary.

 $\ensuremath{\mathtt{Q}}$ $\ensuremath{\mathtt{Let}}$ me ask you to look at defendant s exhibit 19, and --

Is that -- do I have that? THE COURT: Let s put that up too, please. BY MR. GILLEN: You should, Mike, it s this. Okay. I have it. MR. GILLEN: Thank you, Matt. BY MR. GILLEN: Q If you look down that page there, Mike, you ll see a handwritten notation, "intelligent design instead of creationism." 11 A Yes. Who put that notation there? 12 I believe I did. 13 14 And why did you do that? At this meeting we were trying to come to some 15 understanding of what would need to be done on a number of 17 our parts for Bill to move forward for approval of the books. And there had been talk of creationism, and we said, 18 well, teachers had been mentioning creationism, but we ll 19 simply replace that with intelligent design instead of creationism. Q And when you did that, did you think this change would have any impact on teacher instruction in the classroom?

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

A No, I didn t think they would do anything

42

differently than they did before.

Q Did you think it would have any impact on what they taught and assessed in the classroom?

A No.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

23

25

Q Speaking of intelligent design, did you ever -- did teachers ever communicate with you concerning whether they were trained to teach intelligent design?

A Well, I remember one of their concerns was that, when we were talking about the introduction of anything, is that their educational background and schooling is in the biological sciences and Darwin s theory of evolution, that they re not schooled in any other material and especially when it came down to the possibility of them having to answer questions, they didn t feel that they were able to answer questions about intelligent design.

Q At any point in this process did they give you a detailed scientific criticism of intelligent design theory?

A No.

Q I would ask you to look at defendant s exhibit 20. And if you direct your attention to the bottom most notation underneath the strike out. I d ask you to read that, Mike, since you it s your writing and you should be responsible for it.

A Which part do you want me to read? What is --

Q It looks like it s "mention" to me, but I don t

want to put words in your mouth. Underneath the strike out on defendant s exhibit 20.

A Oh, okay. "Mention other theories of evolution including but not limited to intelligent design, mentioned existence of," dot, dot, I didn t complete that.

Q Did you put that note there?

A Yes.

10

11

12

13

14

17

18

19

20

24

Q And why did you do that?

A It was my understanding at the end of this meeting that we were going to, that we agreed to put some language into the curriculum, and I thought I remembered reading this back — this was at the very end of the meeting, and I thought I remember reading this back and that everybody was in agreement with that.

15 Q Was there any particular reason that you chose the word "mention"?

A Because we weren t going to teach it, and teachers were mentioning creationism already, so we were just replacing that with intelligent design.

Q Let me ask you, there s been some discussion of the comparison between the 2002 and 2004 editions of the Miller and Levine, and at the time that review was conducted you had some complaints about the text from Mr. Buckingham.

 $\hbox{So I want to ask you, did the comparison of the} \\$ text influence the way you viewed Mr. Buckingham s

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

44

oh	ie	ct	i	οn	S	2

2

3

5

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

23

25

A Well, I guess what was interesting is, if you look at all of Mr. Buckingham s original list, and when you go to those pages and those sections in the new edition of Miller and Levine, they actually were addressed. So some of his concerns about common ancestry and gaps and problems in overstating the evidence, that there was actually changes made that he had identified earlier.

 $\,$ Q $\,$ You were questioned about some statements that $\,$ Mr. Buckingham made at public meetings, and I wasn t quite clear on this and wanted to make sure the record was clear.

Do you ever remember Mr. Buckingham making a statement to the effect that the country wasn t founded on evolution?

A No.

Q Do you ever remember Mr. Buckingham mentioning Muslim beliefs and evolution in the same sentence?

A No.

Q Mr. Rothschild has questioned you about the meetings that the teachers attended and some concessions they made. I want to ask you about those meetings. When the fall 2003 meeting with Mr. Bonsell broke up, how would you describe the parting of the parties? Was it collegial, cordial or hostile?

A It was very friendly.

Q How about the meeting in June of 2004, same
question, at the $\ensuremath{}$ after that meeting when the parties
broke up, how would you describe their attitude towards one
another?
A Well, we felt we had an agreement to move forward

for the text, so everybody was very satisfied with the results of that meeting.

Q Speaking of pressure, did there come a time when

the teachers were asked to implement the board s policy adopted on October 18th, 2004?

11 A Yes.

12

Q And do you know whether they did so?

13 A They didn t want to read the statement, so we ended
14 up reading that, and they didn t want to hand out the
15 excusal forms, so we also did that then too.

16 Q So they did not feel pressure to do that so far as
17 you know?

MR. ROTHSCHILD: Objection, calls for speculation,

Your Honor.

20 MR. GILLEN: So far as he knows. He s entitled to his opinion.

THE COURT: I ll overrule the objection, but I ll clarify, if you know. Do you know?

THE WITNESS: Can you restate the question?

MR. GILLEN: I ll take the question as clarified by

24 25

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

46

1	the	Judge
---	-----	-------

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16 17

18

19

20

23

24

25

BY MR. GILLEN:

So far as you know, if you know, did the teachers feel pressured to implement the statement?

No, I don t think so.

Mr. Rothschild asked you some questions about a document, defendant s exhibit 35. And your testimony I thought was somewhat confusing, Mike, no offense, but I want to ask you, did you ever read that document?

A I don t believe so.

That s what I thought. Did you collect that from your files for the purpose of complying with the discovery request?

Yes.

Mr. Rothschild asked you some questions, I believe, about plaintiff s exhibit 73. This document is your September 20, 2004 memo to the board curriculum committee.

Okay.

And he asked you some fair questions about the process whereby this document was produced. I just want to make sure the record is clear on this. If you look at the first page, Mike, with the Bate stamp number 28 on it, I d ask you to read the description you provided beneath the re.

"Attached is a recommended curriculum change for biology. The changes were reviewed by the science

department." Okay. A have proposed. Yes. 18 20 22 to go.

23

Q And then if you would look at the attached document, and I think we all agree that the proper attachment is Bate stamp 29.

Looking at that, Mike, is the description of the document contained in the memo true and accurate to the best of your recollection?

A Yes, this is the language that the teachers would

So based on that description do you believe that the teachers had reviewed this language in this document?

Mr. Rothschild has drawn attention to the concessions that the teachers made as the curriculum policy at issue was hashed out, and I want to ask you a few questions about that. From your perspective as the administrator, plainly someone who was in the middle, do you believe that the board made concessions in this process?

A Well, yeah, we ended up at a far different place than the board -- some board members originally intended us

Well, let me ask you this. You ve mentioned that the administration went on record in support of either of the two versions that the teachers were willing to work

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

48

with. Am I correct that those are the versions that are Roman 11-B and Roman 11-C?

Yes.

2

3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19 20

2.1 22

23

24

25

Was it a principled objection to intelligent design or something else? What was the basis for your position?

A Well, in -- especially in schools, in that culture, whenever you implement a change, if the change is going to be successful and effective, there has to be a demonstrated buy-in by those that are going to be most affected. So it s absolutely critical that if the teachers are going to have something that s affecting their curriculum, that they re supportive of that, otherwise the chances of it being implemented the way it s proposed and being successful are severely diminished.

Mr. Rothschild asked you some questions about the Social Studies curriculum and a book that Mr. Bonsell provided. Let me ask you, did he ever ask you to implement any change to the Social Studies curriculum?

No.

Are you familiar with the debate over the separation of church and state in legal cases?

Not really. A

Mr. Rothschild has questioned you about the various versions of this statement and the way they were drafted

And I want to ask you now, why did you do that?

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

out. At the time that process was playing itself out, did you have an understanding concerning whether the board saw the statement as related to the text in its presentation of evolutionary theory as designed to address some aspects of the text they thought should be addressed?

The statement --

Yes?

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

24

25

-- addressing aspects of the text?

Well, what I m asking you is, you talked about balance and so on in the presentation of evolutionary theory in the text. Did you see the statement as related to the board s view of the presentation of the evolutionary theory in the Miller-Levine text?

MR. ROTHSCHILD: Objection, Your Honor, leading.

THE COURT: Not only is it leading, but I think -and I understand, Mr. Gillen, you re trying to clarify points in his testimony, but I think we re starting to plow up areas that have pretty well been clarified.

Why don t you rephrase. I ll sustain the objection. If you want to stay on that point, you ll have to rephrase, but we ve been down this road.

MR. GILLEN: Well, if you believe we ve been down the road, Judge, I m not going to go down there again.

BY MR. GILLEN:

Q Let me ask you, Mike, one final question then, or a

50

few. You we forthrightly given your opinion that the teachers were acting to promote what they saw as the best 3 interests of the children in their judgment. And I would like to ask you for your same opinion with respect to the 5 conduct of the board. Do you think the board was proceeding 6 in a like manner? 7 Yes. 8 Based upon your education and experience as an 9 administrator, do you have an understanding concerning 10 whether the board or the teachers have the final say when they differ in judgment concerning whether a given 11 curriculum policy is in the best interest of the children? 12 13 Yes. 14 What is your understanding? The board has the final say when it comes to 15 16 curriculum. 17 MR. GILLEN: I have no further questions, Your 18 Honor. 19 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Gillen. Recross by Mr. Rothschild. 20 MR. ROTHSCHILD: Very brief, Your Honor. 21 RECROSS EXAMINATION BY MR. ROTHSCHILD: 23 24 Mr. Baksa, did you meet with counsel last night to

For how long did you meet? We met over dinner. And did you discuss the testimony you had rendered over the prior days? MR. GILLEN: Objection, Your Honor. I don t -- he can say whether we meet, he can t ask how long --9 THE COURT: That s a yes or no question. You may 10 answer the question. The objection is overruled to the 11 extent that the witness can answer yes or no. 12 The objection, so you understand, Mr. Baksa, went 13 to what was the substance of your discussion. But you may answer yes or no whether you discussed your testimony with 14 Mr. Gillen. 16 THE WITNESS: From yesterday? 17 MR. ROTHSCHILD: Yes. 18 THE WITNESS: Yes. BY MR. ROTHSCHILD: 19 O And did you discuss the questions he would ask you 20 today on --MR. GILLEN: Objection, Your Honor. He s not allowed to inquire into what we talked about. And what s more, it s my client, so whatever -- whatever I do to advise

discuss the testimony you would give today?

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

discuss the testimony you had given in prior days or to

25

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

him is legal advice.

MR. ROTHSCHILD: Your Honor, again, it is a yes/no
question. And furthermore, it is my view that it is what is
improper to meet with Mr. Baksa while he was on cross, just
as it was improper to meet with $\operatorname{Mr.}$ Bonsell after his cross
was concluded.

THE COURT: Well, you we made that point. I understand that point, and that s for me to do with what I need to do with. But setting that on the side burner for the moment, the issue of whether they discussed his questions today may traipse over into the privilege.

MR. ROTHSCHILD: I think a yes/no answer to that question does not, Your Honor. That would be my position.

THE COURT: No, I m going to sustain the objection, but I note your point.

BY MR. ROTHSCHILD:

Q Mr. Baksa, Mr. Gillen -- you testified under Mr. Gillen s redirect that the end result on what the policy would be was a far different place than some board members intended to go. What board members were you referring to when you made that statement?

A Well, when you look at what was originally proposed, Mr. Bonsell had mentioned, you know, a fifty-fifty split, side by side, time for time with evolution; that didn t happen. Our teachers taught evolution and nothing else at the end of the day.

Mr. Buckingham wanted the *Pandas*, side by side with Miller-Levine, and for teachers to be teaching out of both; that didn t happen, the book ended up in the library. So — and the board wanted initially a discussion, we would mention other theories and there would be a discussion and then we d get onto teaching. Well, at the end of the day we drafted a statement that did not allow for any discussion or any questions. So that looks very different than what some of the board members intended earlier on.

Q And Mr. Buckingham, in June, also mentioned having a textbook with creationism in it, correct?

A I remember him mentioning creationism at the board meeting in response to Mrs. Callahan s questioning why we don t have a textbook. I don t specifically remember that -- I mean, I don t remember the context other than him saying that.

Q Now, you have testified that it was your understanding that science teachers mention -- their prior practice had mentioned creationism, right?

A Yes.

Q Now, you never thought that they were mentioning or presenting creationism as a scientific proposition, did you?

A Well, I don t think I had any understanding other than they were mentioning that to accommodate possibly the beliefs of their students and to explain to them what they

54

would be teaching, what they wouldn t be teaching. 2 They would be teaching the scientific theory of 3 evolution. 4 A Correct. 5 They would not be teaching creationism. Correct. 6 7 And they were not presenting creationism as a 8 scientific theory, correct? 9 That I don t know. 10 Well, if you heard that they were presenting creationism as a scientific theory, you knew from attending 11 12 Messiah College that that would be illegal, right? A I knew that teaching creationism would be illegal, 13 14 but the -- you know, all the information that I ever got from teachers was that they did mention it. What they said 15 16 about it or $\ensuremath{\text{--}}$ I just don t have that information. 17 Q No reason to believe that they were presenting it as a scientific theory. 18 19 A Okay. Q Do you agree with that? 20 Well, again, I don t -- I don t have any other 21 information than that they said that they did mention it. 23 Q Fair enough. And it is clear to you that 24 intelligent design is being presented as a scientific theory

1	A I don t know how the students would you know,
2	the language talks about an explanation other than Darwin s.
3	I d have to go back and look at the statement language, but
4	I don t think the statement language goes as far as to say
5	intelligent design is another scientific theory. So what
6	the students understanding would be after the statement is
7	read, I wouldn t know that.
8	Q Now, the board sent a newsletter to the entire
9	community of Dover, correct?
0	A Yes.
1	Q And it communicates to the community of Dover,
2	including the parents of these school children, what s going
3	on at Dover regarding this the teaching of evolution and
4	the presentation of intelligent design, correct?
5	A Yes.
6	Q And in that document the board is very clear,
7	intelligent design is a scientific theory, correct?
8	A Just from the documents that have been displayed
9	during the trial here, I think I remember you pointing out
0	that it says intelligent design is a scientific theory in
1	that document.
2	Q You understand that to be correct?
3	A Yes.
4	MR. ROTHSCHILD: No further questions, Your Honor.

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

to the students of Dover, correct?

25

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

THE COURT: All right, Mr. Baksa, I just have a

BAKSA - THE COURT

56

couple questions before we have you step down and end this
interesting, but I m sure unwelcome, interlude in your life.
My questions are these Matt, if I could ask you
to put up 286 again, please, which is the curriculum
from 03. I think I assume that s D-286.
Thank you.
EXAMINATION
BY THE COURT:
Q I m a little unclear, and if you answered this,
Mr. Baksa, I m sorry, I just didn t get it, but I m a little
unclear as to your recollection as to when you and I know
you may not know precisely, but when did you develop that?
A I found the document, it was not dated, but when I
found it there were papers with this document dated August
of 2003.
Q All right. And tell me again what your best
recollection is of the development of that.
A Well, I didn t remember it, developing it.
Q No, I recognize that, and I recognize you found it
in your papers. But having found it, your recollection of
developing it, if any, is what?
A Well, if I would have developed this, as I ve said
before, I would have developed this thinking that I might
need to use language like this to address a concern of a

So your best guess is August of 03 --1 -- based on papers that surrounded this in the file? A Yes. THE COURT: All right. And if you could put up D-19, please. BY THE COURT: Q There is a notation on this that I don t think you 10 were asked about, and I presume it s your writing, but I want to ask you. If you would highlight for me what appears 11 to be, on the left side it says, "no mural ever again," if 12 I m reading that correctly. Is that your handwriting? 13 14 A Yes. What does that mean? 15 These were some of the concessions that we were 17 agreeing to, to move forward to purchase Miller-Levine. And Mr. Buckingham did not ever want to see a mural that 18 19 depicted -- that was in the science class and was removed, he didn t want to see a mural like that ever again in the classroom. Q So it was a concession that you were extracting from whom? 24 A That s Bill saying he didn t want to ever see a

board member.

mural like that again. And --

BAKSA - THE COURT

1 Q Saying that to who?

A The science teachers. And then as a result of that, Mrs. Brown was going to develop language -- language in our gift policy that made sure that anything displayed in the classroom aligned to the content.

Q So the quid pro quo or the exchange, if you will, or an exchange for using the Miller and Levine textbook was that there would never be a mural of the type that depicted evolution portrayed again?

10 A Yes.

2

5

6

7

8

9

11

14

18

19

20

2.1

23

24

25

Q And was that agreed to?

12 A Yes.

13 Q And, again, in exchange for the book?

A Yes.

15 Q If I understand your testimony --

16 THE COURT: You can take this down. Thank you.

17 BY THE COURT:

Q $\,$ If I understand your testimony correctly, around October 19 $^{\mbox{th}}$ of 2004, Mr. Bonsell gave to you and others

the book, the Myth of Separation, is that correct?

A October 19th when?

Q I picked up that date from something in the testimony, and I m not sure where I got it, but is that approximately the time that you received a copy of the Myth of Separation?

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

A I believe I received it my first year. So I started in 2002-2003, and sometime during that period, it might have been fall or spring.

O Of?

A 2002-2003.

6 Q From Mr. Bonsell?

7 A I received that book then.

8 Q Was it later distributed to a wider group of

9 people? I m not sure why I have the date of October 19,

10 2004. Was it given -- was it distributed more widely in

11 2004?

12 MR. ROTHSCHILD: Your Honor, if I could be a little

13 bit of help. That was the e-mail exchange between Mr.

14 Neal --

15 THE COURT: Thank you, I combined the two. That s

16 why I have that date. I apologize for that. So let me then

17 clarify, because obviously I was confused.

18 BY THE COURT:

19

23

24

Q Tell me when, again, because I m unclear, and I m sorry to have you repeat this, but tell me when you believe you got that book, the *Myth of Separation*?

21 You got that book, the Myth of Separation:

A I believe I probably got it in the fall of 2002.

O From Mr. Bonsell?

A Yes.

25 Q To repeat.

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

1	And if I understood your testimony correctly, you
2	were aware that it was distributed that copies or a copy
3	was distributed to someone else?
4	A What I know is that I had a copy. I don t believe
5	I gave my copy to anyone. But Mr. Hoover, Doug Hoover is
6	another Social Studies teacher, and I do know from talking
7	to him that he had read it. Whether
8	Q And that s what your note references in 04, if I
9	understand it correctly?
10	A Yes.
11	Q But were other board members, to your knowledge,
12	given a copy of that book?
13	A That I don t know.
14	Q You don t know that.
15	When you were given the book by Mr. Bonsell, do you
16	remember the circumstances?
17	A Well, I believe I got it from Dr. Nilsen.
18	Q Dr. Nilsen, I m sorry. And I do recall you now
19	saying that, who had been given it by Mr. Bonsell.
20	When Dr. Nilsen gave it to you, was it with any
21	instructions, if you can recall?
22	A I don t remember, just that this is an area
23	Mr. Bonsell is interested in, I might want to take a look at
24	it.
25	THE COURT: All right. Thank you, Mr. Baksa. I ll

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

1	give counsel the opportunity to ask brief follow-up based on
2	the Court s questions. Your witness, Mr. Gillen, you go
3	first.
4	MR. GILLEN: Thank you, Your Honor.
5	REDIRECT EXAMINATION
6	BY MR. GILLEN:
7	Q Just one question, Mike. That was 2002, we re in
8	2005, just want to make it clear. Has Mr. Bonsell ever
9	insisted that any faculty read that book for the purpose of
10	a curriculum change?
11	A Not that I know of.
12	MR. GILLEN: No further question.
13	MR. ROTHSCHILD: No questions.
14	THE COURT: All right. Thank you, you may step
15	down, sir.
16	We have a great number of exhibits. Let s take
17	those before we take a morning break. All right, I have
18	you both ready to go through this?
19	MR. GILLEN: Give me a minute, Your Honor.
20	MR. ROTHSCHILD: Your Honor, would it make sense to
21	confer over lunch about exhibits and maybe we can
22	THE COURT: That s fine. As I look at it, I m
23	thinking the same thing, because we re going to impede our
24	ability to continue to take testimony.

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

Why don t we take a 15 minute break at this point,

and then you we got your next witness ready to go after that. Do you think we can get that witness on and off by lunch?

MR. GILLEN: I do, Your Honor.

3

4 5

7

8

9

10

11 12

13

14

15

16

17

18 19

20

23

24

25

THE COURT: Why don t we try to do that, and then we can start with your expert hopefully right after lunch.

All right, we ll be in recess for 15 minutes.

THE DEPUTY CLERK: All rise.

(Whereupon, a recess was taken from 10:39 a.m. to 10:58 a.m.)

THE COURT: All right, we ll take the next witness by the defense.

MR. GILLEN: Thank you, Your Honor. The defense calls Robert Linker.

ROBERT LINKER,

called as a witness on behalf of the defendants, having been duly sworn or affirmed according to law, testified as follows:

THE DEPUTY CLERK: If you can state your name and spell your name for the record.

THE WITNESS: Robert Linker. R-O-B-E-R-T, middle initial S, L-I-N-K-E-R.

MR. GILLEN: Your Honor, I would request permission to lead the witness with respect to preliminary matters for the purpose of establishing that his interests are adverse

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

Τ	such that reading questions are appropriate.
2	MR. WALCZAK: We re going to object to him taking
3	Mr. Linger as adverse. We don t object to him doing some
4	preliminary inquiry on that.
5	MR. GILLEN: Perhaps more background, Your Honor?
6	THE COURT: Yeah, because I m inclined to allow
7	leading, given the time constraints we have. But your
8	objection goes to calling him as an adverse witness?
9	MR. WALCZAK: He under Rule 611(c), Your Honor,
10	I don t believe that he fits the definition of an adverse or
11	a hostile witness in this case. I mean he is actually
12	employed by the defendants in this case.
13	THE COURT: All right. Why don t you elaborate,
14	Mr. Gillen?
15	MR. GILLEN: Certainly, Your Honor. Mr. Linker is
16	a teacher. He is indeed employed by Dover Area School
17	District. As an employee of the school district he has a
18	contractual duty to implement the policies that are enacted
19	by the board.
20	In this case he and his colleagues in the science
21	department have failed to do so. They have refused to read
22	the statement called for by the curriculum policy. They
23	have refused to distribute letters and the opt-out form,
24	which they were required to distribute in connection with

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

the implementation of the policy by the administration.

They have retained counsel to represent them in their discussions with the administration due to threats or fear of liability both to third parties and from the district in connection with the implementation of this policy. Under those circumstances, Your Honor, I fail to see how he cannot be deemed adverse.

MR. WALCZAK: Your Honor, the hiring of counsel by the teachers is true. The same limitations that was put on the defense has been put on plaintiffs counsel. I have never met Mr. Linker. I ve never spoken to Mr. Linker before today. I was introduced shortly before the trial. Clearly not an adverse party as that term is used under 611(c).

MR. GILLEN: Not so.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16 17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

THE COURT: Well, wait, that s in the -- that s in the disjunctive. He doesn t have to be adverse. He can be hostile. He could be a witness identified with an adverse party.

MR. GILLEN: Precisely, Your Honor. And the teachers have cooperated with the plaintiffs in a number of matters. They we met with them.

THE COURT: Let me ask you, what s the harm?

MR. WALCZAK: Your Honor, I m not sure where he s
going with that, but part of the --

THE COURT: Well, here s what we re going to do.

19

23

24

I m going to let him lead for the apparently narrow purposes as it relates to the implementation of the policy, because we re going to move along here. I ll hear your objections, though, and -- but I will allow the leading questions -- let me ask you this. Are you indicating that the witness was not disclosed?

was not disclosed to us until this morning when we walked into court that they were going to call him as if on cross.

I mean I did not meet with Mr. Linker. Had I known that they were going to call him as if on cross we might have prepared this case differently. The other point I

MR. WALCZAK: No, the witness was disclosed. It

would just like to make in terms of -- I think it s clear that certainly that three part test under the last sentence of 611(c) is in the disjunctive. He -- and clearly it s not an adverse party or witness identified with an adverse

party. The question is whether he s a hostile. He was deposed, Your Honor, in this case.

THE COURT: The hostile witness is a judgment I ve got to make, and I don t know, and that s why I say, let s defer, and if it appears that he s not, I ll hear a renewed objection. But let s keep moving.

MR. WALCZAK: Just note my objection.

 $\hbox{ THE COURT:} \quad \hbox{I note your objection.} \quad \hbox{We ll overrule} \\$ your objection at this time. You may renew your objection

LINKER - DIRECT

1 connection with this matter?

66

1	if circumstances warrant during the examination. And
2	Mr. Gillen, you may proceed.
3	MR. GILLEN: Thank you, Your Honor.
4	DIRECT EXAMINATION
5	BY MR. GILLEN:
6	Q Mr. Linker, I just want to establish a few facts
7	here as we get started. You are an employee of Dover Area
8	School District?
9	A Correct.
10	Q As an employee you have a contractual duty to
11	implement the policies of the school district?
12	A Correct.
13	Q In this case you have refused to implement the
14	curriculum change enacted by the board on October 18, 2004,
15	correct?
16	A Correct.
17	Q You have refused to read the statement called for
18	by the curriculum policy, correct?
19	A Correct.
20	Q You have refused to distribute letters and opt-out
21	forms that the administration called for to be distributed
22	in connection with the implementation of the curriculum
23	policy, correct?
24	A Correct.
25	Q You have retained counsel to represent you in

Τ	connection with this matter?		
2	А	Correct.	
3	Q	You have retained that counsel to represent you,	
4	vis-a-vi	s the administration and school board?	
5	А	Correct.	
6	Q	And you have retained counsel to represent you here	
7	in connection with your testimony in this case, correct?		
8	A	Correct.	
9	Q	Mr. Linker, you attended a board meeting in the	
10	fall of	2003 with Alan Bonsell which pertained to the	
11	presenta	ation of evolutionary theory in schools at Dover?	
12	А	It wasn t a board meeting.	
13	Q	A board curriculum committee meeting?	
14	A	In in an actual room.	
15	Q	Yes.	
16	A	Correct.	
17	Q	And during that meeting you described how you	
18	presente	ed evolutionary theory to the students.	
19	А	Actually Jenn Miller was our spokesmen for that.	
20	Q	Jenn Jenn did do some description, but so did	
21	you, con	crect?	
22		MR. WALCZAK: Your Honor, I am going to renew my	
23	objectio	on to leading questions here.	
24		THE COURT: Overruled at this time.	

25 BY MR. GILLEN:

Mrs. Miller did do the bulk of the talking, but so

did you, Mr. Miller -- I mean Mr. Linker, correct?

3 A At that meeting I was asked if I taught it the same

way, and I said yes.

5 Q Okay. And you also provided some information about

how you present evolutionary theory, correct?

A Not at that particular meeting.

Q Well, did you indicate that you presented

9 evolutionary theory in a manner similar to Jenn Miller?

A Yes.

6

7

8

10

14

18

19

20

11 Q You described how you started out teaching

12 evolutionary theory, you took the chalkboard and you drew a

13 line down the middle, correct?

A Not at this meeting. The meeting that I drew the

15 line down, that was with Mr. Baksa. Mr. Bonsell was not

16 present at that one.

17 Q Okay.

MR. GILLEN: Your Honor, may I approach?

THE COURT: You may.

MR. GILLEN: Thank you.

21 MR. ROTHSCHILD: Your Honor, for the record,

Mr. Linker s counsel is going to join us at counsel table.

23 THE COURT: All right. I was going to mention

24 that, and I think that s a good idea. Why don t you enter

25 your appearance for the record.

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

LINKER - DIRECT

MS. PENNY: Thank you, Your Honor. My name is Jane

Penny. I m from the law firm of Killian and Gephart.

THE COURT: All right, nice to see you. We ll note

4 your appearance and allow you to interject any objections or

5 comments on the record that you want to.

6 MS. PENNY: Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Proceed.

MR. GILLEN: Thank you, Your Honor.

BY MR. GILLEN:

1

14

16

20

24

10 Q Mr. Linker, I would ask you to direct your

11 attention to page 17 of your deposition, line 21. As a

12 preliminary matter I d ask you, do you recall that I took

13 your deposition on June 10th, 2005?

A Page 17?

15 Q Yes, line 21.

A Okay.

17 Q Okay. And before we go further, Mr. Linker, I

would ask you, do you remember that I took your deposition

19 on June 10th, 2005?

A Yes.

21 Q And prior -- as the deposition began you were

22 placed under oath?

23 A Correct.

Q Do you recall that? And you had a duty to tell the

5 truth, correct?

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

LINKER - DIRECT

70

Correct. 2 And you understood that? 3 Yes. And you did so? 5 Yes. 6 Okay. I d ask you to look at line 21. And you ll 7 see there is a question there, "How about, let s look at the 8 fall of 2003; do you remember a meeting with Mr. Bonsell." 9 Do you remember your answer? 10 Yes. And there you indicate that the meeting did occur, 11 correct? 12 13 A Correct. And is that the meeting in which you described how 14 you taught evolutionary theory? 15 16 A That was the meeting with Mr. Bonsell. That was 17 the meeting that Jenn was our -- Jenn Miller was our spokesperson. And how I taught evolutionary theory, more 18 19 specifically was with Mr. Baksa. Q Okay. I d ask you to direct your attention to 20 line -- page 19, line 17. If you look at line 14 you ll see 21 I asked you this question. "I remember more so the meeting that Mr. Bonsell -- like the people sitting around and I can 23 24 believe." That was your answer, correct?

1	Q If you look beneath that I asked you a question,
2	"Tell me what you can, in brief, about what you told
3	Mr. Baksa, about the way you presented evolutionary theory."
4	And you continued to answer.
5	Isn t that with reference to the meeting with
6	Mr. Bonsell?
7	A $$
8	tell anything about dividing the chalkboard.
9	Q Okay, then let s talk about the meeting with
10	Mr. Baksa.
11	During that meeting you told Mr. Baksa that at the
12	beginning of your presentation of evolutionary theory you
13	drew a line down the middle of the board, correct?
14	A Correct.
15	Q And you wrote evolution on one side, correct?
16	A Correct.
17	Q On the other side you wrote creationism, correct?
18	A Correct.
19	Q And you started out saying that creationism was
20	based on religion and writings in the Bible, correct?
21	A Correct.
22	Q And you said you were not going to talk about
23	creationism because you were not an expert in it, correct?
24	A Correct.

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

25

A Correct.

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

You said your training was on the other side of the

1

25

LINKER - DIRECT

You felt that nothing would result from the

72

board, in science, correct? 2 Correct. 3 You said on this side were facts based on science, the fossil record, DNA and the like, correct? 4 5 Α Correct. The teachers at Dover never taught origins of life, 6 7 correct? 8 A Correct. 9 And Bert Spahr was at this meeting with 10 Mr. Bonsell, correct? Correct. 11 And she brought a stack of legal papers relating to 12 the discussion with Mr. Bonsell? 13 14 Correct. 15 And those related to the presentation of evolutionary theory, correct? 16 17 Α Yes. 18 And the presentation of creationism, correct? 19 Correct. A During the meeting with Mr. Bonsell he did not 20 criticize your teaching method? 21 No. When you left the meeting you felt that his 23 concerns had been addressed?

meeting? A Correct. From the end of 2003, from that meeting, in the fall, through the end of 2003, you had no discussions with anyone in the administration about the presentation of evolutionary theory, correct? A Correct. 9 Later on, around June of 2004, you remember being 10 asked to review a video, correct? 11 Α Yes. And you believe Mr. Baksa provided that video to 12 13 you? 14 Correct. Personally you wanted to watch the video because it 15 talked about gaps in the theory of evolution with many 17 prominent scientists, correct? 18 A Correct. 19 It went through all the gaps in evolutionary theory as you knew them, correct? A That was the, truthfully, it was the first time I saw a lot of gaps. Q Okay. Some of the gaps were gaps you actually 23 taught about, correct?

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

Correct.

Α

24

25

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

A I never taught gaps, but the gaps that they talked

LINKER - DIRECT

74

about were the topics that I taught in class.

Q Okay. And you thought it was neat to get the other side of the story when you viewed this video, correct?

A Correct.

2

3

4 5

6

7

8

9

10

11

16

17

18

19

20

24

25

Q You left -- you left speaking to your colleagues and indicating that the video was good?

A Correct.

Q With reference to the curriculum change, when we speak about the note that says origins of life are not taught, you knew that the teachers didn t teach origins of life, correct?

12 A Correct.

Q You recognize that intelligent design addressed the origins of life, such that the note would prohibit the teaching of intelligent design, correct?

A Correct.

Q When the curriculum change was being voted on, your thought was that you would spend zero days teaching intelligent design, correct?

A Correct.

Q You recognized you weren t an expert on intelligent design, so you believed you couldn t teach it, correct?

23 A Correct.

Q You had a concern about being sued by a parent, correct?

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

Correct. 1 Α You asked the administration, the teachers -including you, the teachers including you, asked the administration to tell them what they were supposed to do about implementation of the curriculum change, correct? Correct. When you drew that line down the middle of the board and put creationism, and you mentioned that to students, did you know that creationism, teaching 10 creationism, was against the law? 11 Correct. Did you believe that you were doing something 12 illegal? 13 14 A No. 15 MR. GILLEN: No further questions, Your Honor. 16 THE COURT: All right. Thank you, Mr. Gillen. 17 Mr. Walczak. 18 CROSS EXAMINATION BY MR. WALCZAK: 19 20 Good morning, Mr. Linker. Good morning. You we been teaching biology at Dover Area School District for a long time now? Correct. 24

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

How long have you been teaching?

76

This is my twelfth year. 2 And you we been teaching evolution as part of that 3 biology? Correct. 4 Α 5 And you have taught for many years now with Jenn 6 Miller? 7 Correct. 8 Rob Eshbach? 9 Yes. 10 Now, prior to the fall of 2003, had any administrator, any Dover Area School District administrator, 11 questioned you about how you teach evolution? 12 13 No. 14 Had any board member ever questioned you about how you teach or present evolution? 15 16 No. 17 Had any board member or administrator questioned you about how you teach anything in biology? 18 19 No. Α 20 Had you ever met with a board member prior to the fall of 2003? 2.1 No. Now, besides being a biology teacher, are you 23

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

A Yes, I m the head wrestling coach.

involved in other activities with the school district?

24

25

Are you involved in other athletic endeavors or 1 coaching endeavors in the township? Yeah, I volunteer for football for littler kids. So is it fair to say that you don t spend all of your time thinking about or teaching biology? Correct. Now, I want to turn to the fall of 2003, and I want to clarify just a little bit about the chronology of what happened at that time. Now, you had two meetings about evolution that fall? Correct. 11 A And one of them was with Mr. Baksa? 12 13 Correct. 14 And another one was with Mr. Baksa and Mr. Bonsell? 15 And a lot of other people. 16 Let s take the one with Mr. Baksa first. Do you 17 remember when that meeting occurred? 18 A No, I m not real good on dates. 19 Well -- and I can appreciate that, because I have exactly the same problem. Let s see if we can narrow it down. Was it while school was in session? Α Yes. So was it before wrestling started? 23 I m saying yes because I was available. 24 25 So September or October of 2003?

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

1 A Yes. 1 A He just wanted t

Q And how did you find out about this meeting, do you remember?

A Almost all meetings, it was either e-mailed to me or my department head would tell us we have to have a meeting, or -- I m not sure in this meeting, it could have been an in-service day.

Q So you don t remember how -- do you remember going into the meeting whether you knew what the purpose of the meeting was?

11 A I can t remember that.

Q And do you remember where the meeting took place?

A Probably one of our classrooms.

Q And do you remember who was at the meeting?

A I know Jenn Miller was there, and I m pretty sure my department head, Bert Spahr, was there.

Q And was anybody there from the administration?

18 A Just Mr. Baksa.

Q And there was no board members at this meeting?

A No.

21 Q And do you remember Mr. Baksa taking charge of the

22 meeting?

3

4

5

7

8

9

10

12

13

14

15

16

19

20

23 A Yes.

Q And do you remember what he was curious about or

25 him telling you why you were meeting?

He just wanted to know some information on how we taught the subject of evolution. Q Now, biology consists of a lot of different subjects, correct? A Correct. Q I mean, there s a lot of different theories that you teach as part of biology? A Correct. And the only one he was concerned about was evolution. 11 A And what kind of questions did he ask you? 12 He was -- just asked how we presented it. I had no 13 problem telling him. And so did you respond -- did you tell him how you 15 presented it? 17 A Yes. We ll come back in a little bit and talk about how 18 you presented it. 19 Did other teachers also explain how they presented 20 it? Yes. Q Now, you then had a second meeting that fall with 23 Mr. Bonsell. 25 A Correct.

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

Q Do you remember in relation to this first meeting, when that meeting with Mr. Bonsell was?

 $\ensuremath{\mathtt{Q}}$ $\ensuremath{\mathtt{A}}$ And do you remember how you found out about the meeting?

A I remember this one was during the school day, so that would have probably came from my department head. It was during second period.

Q And why is it that you remember it was during the school day?

A I have a prep period second period, and if I had duty time, I would have had to get somebody to cover. I remember one of the teachers, Leslie Prall, was actually in class during that -- they had to get somebody to cover for her.

Q So this meeting was so important that you were pulled out of class -- your regular classroom duties?

A Well, it was prep period for me so --

O But another teacher was actually pulled out --

A Yes.

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15 16

17

18

19

20

2.1

23

24

25

Q And Ms. Prall is a biology teacher?

A Correct.

Q And had you gotten warning of this meeting in advance?

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

LINKER - CROSS

A Warning for days, no. I think I got it pretty quick, maybe the day before, maybe the morning.

Q And where was this meeting, do you remember?

A It was in the office, the principal s -- one of the conference rooms of the principal s office.

O Do you remember who was at that meeting?

A I know Jenn Miller was present, she was beside me;
Mr. Bonsell, Mr. Baksa, Mr. Rehm, Bert Spahr, Mr. Miller,
which was our assistant principal, he s presently our
assistant principal; Leslie Prall, and the only one I m not
sure of is Mr. Eshbach.

12 O And who is Mr. Rehm?

13 A Mr. Rehm was a science teacher. He was the STS
14 teacher, science/technology, it was more environmental. It
15 was more on the environmental side. We still have that

16 class.

1

1.0

11

19

20

24

25

17 Q And this was the first time I think you said you
18 had ever met with a board member?

A Correct.

Q And did one individual take charge of running the meeting or moderating it?

A Mr. Baksa pretty much introduced us and introduced Mr. Bonsell. And I just remember him saying he s just interested in how you teach the subject of evolution.

Q Do you remember him saying those words?

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

81

Yes, pretty similar to that. Not exact words.

And did the teachers identify a spokesperson for them that day?

A For the biology department we identified Jenn Miller as our spokesperson.

And do you remember what kind of questions were asked of Ms. Miller?

Bv whom?

2

3

4 5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

23

24

25

By either Mr. Baksa or Mr. Bonsell.

A I think Mr. Baksa just said we re going to go around and you can express how you teach the subject of evolution. And I remember Jenn saying well, I m going to talk for the biology teachers, so it s not everybody.

Q And do you remember whether Mr. Bonsell asked any questions?

A I can t remember any specific questions, but I know Jenn Miller had to repeat some of what she told him, because it had to do with the origin of species compared to origin of life.

And can you tell us what the difference there is?

Origin of life is where life came from, came about, when it came about. Origin of species is how, how a species becomes another species, for lots of different reasons.

Q And do you recall what Ms. Miller explained to Mr. Bonsell?

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

LINKER - CROSS

Pretty much what I just said.

And --

1

In order --

And that was fine?

Yeah, that was fine.

And did you add anything to what Ms. Miller was

saying or what she had told Mr. Bonsell?

A No. If I remember correctly, he looked at me and

said, he said, is that how the biology teachers teach it.

10 And I remember him looking at me and I said yes.

Q Do you remember saying anything else at that 11

meeting? 12

13

16

19

A Huh-uh.

14 Do you remember intelligent design coming up at

15 that meeting?

A

17 Do you remember creationism coming up at that

18 meeting?

A No.

O Now I want to go over with you about how, if at 20

all, your presentation of evolution changed after these two

meetings, the one with Mr. Baksa, one with Mr. Bonsell.

So what I d first like to do is go over how you had 23

been teaching evolution at the time before these meetings.

Okay. Is that clear?

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

Clear.

2 And as Mr. Gillen discussed with you, you 3 apparently drew a line on the chalkboard?

> Α Yes.

4

5

6 7

8

9

10

11

14

15

16 17

18

19

20

21

23

24

25

And in this -- is this the first thing you did when you introduced the subject of evolution?

Correct.

A Correct.

And as I understood your testimony, on one side you wrote creationism, and on the other side you wrote evolution?

12 And then what did you say about the creationism side? 13

Creationism was based on Bibles, religion, Biblical writings. And I remember saying that we re not going to cover this side because I m not certified, and it s illegal for me to talk about that side in a public school.

And then I said, this is the side we re going to talk about, the evolution side. And then the facts on this side were things such as fossil records, DNA, and then I would go into what does everybody think evolution is.

And at any time did you either tell or suggest to students that creationism was a scientific theory?

No, I might have said it was a theory.

Not a scientific theory?

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

LINKER - CROSS

Α No.

1

And you certainly didn t teach creationism?

Correct.

And beyond what you just told us about what you said to the students, did you bring up creationism again in the classroom?

A No.

And did you ever get questions from students about creationism?

10 A They could have asked a question but I told them I couldn t talk about it. 11

12 Q And that was your practice before the meeting with 13 Mr. Baksa, and then the meeting with Mr. Baksa and

14 Mr. Bonsell?

16

24

15 Correct.

Now, after this meeting, did you stop doing this?

17 Yes. Well, I stopped dividing the board in half 18 and writing creationism on one side.

And now, they didn t tell you to do that, right? 19

20 Α No.

But you stopped anyway?

Um-hum.

Why did you do that? 23

I just felt there was some controversy, because I had to go to two meetings, and for like the first time, tell

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

86

how I taught a particular subject. I didn t know if I was 3 word on the board, so I just figured I would stick to the exact book pretty much. 4

but so you find students pay particular attention to videotapes?

20

5

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

2.1

24

23

25 showed?

really doing something wrong with writing that creationism Q And before your meetings, these two meetings in the fall of 2003, did you used to show a videotape as part of your discussion on evolution? A I ve showed a lot of tapes, actually. And do you find videotapes are an effective way to teach students? Yes. And, I mean, this is kind of the MTV generation, Yes, if they re good ones. And the tape that I believe you showed before the meetings in the fall of 2003 was a Discovery Channel tape? Yes, a lot of them were Discovery Channel. And have you found that to be a good and reliable source? Yes. And something that is accessible to the students? Correct. Α And do you remember the name of the tape you

One of them -- I show more than one. The exact titles I m not sure. Some were of common descent, fossil records, others were of evolution and DNA. Did you show one entitled Apes to Man? Probably, to some classes. I remember that title because it s always -- somebody says Apes to Man, and that s the controversial statement that kids think evolution is right away. And it s a good tape because it shows that apes are not from man. 10 Q So you did, prior to the fall of 2003, on occasion 11 show those tapes? A Yes. I m not sure if I showed that one every 12 13 semester or, you know, it all depended on timing too, how 14 much time. O And after these two meetings in the fall of 2003, 15 did you stop showing those tapes? 17 A Yes, I don t show any tapes on that subject 18 anymore. You still show tapes on other subjects? 19 20 Correct. But not on evolution? No. Now, are you aware of any other biology teachers 23 changing the way they teach evolution after these two 25 meetings?

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

88

A I know Jenn Miller used to do a time line, there

was a time line on, probably origin of species, and I don t think $-\!\!-\!\!$ she doesn t do that anymore because they used to do

it in the hallway.

3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

23

24

25

Q So she would go out in the hallway and -- do you

know what it is she had students do?

A Yeah, like going on a register tape, the thin tape, they would lay it all through the hallway, and because of how many millions of years things, origin of species and other origins, and they would actually get dates and draw and write in the actual name of the species.

Q And one of the things I would assume that this exercise did was to really emphasize how old the earth is and the huge period of time over which change has occurred?

A Correct.

Q But after these meetings she stopped doing that?

A I -- yes, because I don t see her -- I don t know if I ever asked her if she did, I just don t see her any more doing it.

Q Now, I want to talk a little bit about the curriculum change. And let me just, so I understand, you were not particularly involved or involved at all in discussion of the biology textbook change?

A Just to view some of the copies that we could get.

Q But at some point did you just tell Ms. Miller that

since you all taught the subject in a similar way, that she could just sort of speak for you? A Correct. So you didn t attend a lot of the meetings that -in early, mid 2004 about the biology textbook? A I don t think I attended any of those. So the -- the next time that you kind of get drawn into the saga here was around the curriculum change? Correct. 10 And were you involved in meetings around the 11 curriculum change? 12 A Yes. 13 And you met with other teachers to discuss it? 14 A Yes. 15 MR. WALCZAK: Matt, could you put up P-84, please. I think it s P-84-B. 17 May I approach, Your Honor? 18 THE COURT: You may. BY MR. WALCZAK: 19 I show you what s been marked as plaintiff s 20 exhibit P-84B. And if you could turn to the second page of this exhibit, Mr. Linker. Do you recognize this? 23 A Yes. Now, the State of Pennsylvania made some changes to 24 its standards on biology a few years ago, is that right?

A Correct.

2

3

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

24

25

Q And was it you and Ms. Miller who were asked to review this curriculum plan and make sure that it was in accord with the new state standards?

A Pretty much had to write the whole thing.

Q And so you had actually rewritten the standards or made some changes to them within the past few years?

A Yes.

Q Do you remember when that was?

A That was over a series -- maybe even more than one year, because we did a lot of it during our in-service time.

Q Now, as you look at what s been marked as plaintiff s exhibit 84B, the changes that you all had made or eventually approved, were in the second column, down to the second to last line, is that correct?

A Correct.

Q So that s what the science teachers had adopted, and what the -- and I guess what the board had eventually approved?

A Correct.

Q So the change we re talking about is that last one in the second column.

23 A Yes.

Q Now, it reads here, "Students will be made aware of gaps in Darwin s theory and of other theories of evolution."

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

LINKER - CROSS

90

Is that something that teachers wanted to add? A Not necessarily. We just wanted to keep it the same as it was prior to this. Q So you really didn t want to add anything to the curriculum here? A Correct. And so you were doing this because you were getting pressure from the school board? A I don t know if you want to call it pressure, but 10 they kept bringing in different papers and saying that they 11 wanted it this way. 12 So you were reacting to what either Mr. Baksa or 13 somebody was bringing to you? 14 A Correct. Now, in this draft, do you recall whether this is 15 in fact the compromise that the teachers had agreed to? If 17 you look at the last paragraph in column two, does that look 18 familiar? A Yes. 19 Q Now, it says, "Students will be made aware of gaps 20 in Darwin s theory." So you all had agreed to the word 22 "gaps"? Yes. 23 A Were you teaching gaps in Darwin s theory? 24

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

25

A

No.

But you weren t teaching evolution as a fact 2 anyway, right? 3 No, I mean, there are no -- I mean --Theories aren t facts, right? 5 I don t use the word "fact". 6 And were the teachers opposed to using the word 7 "problems" in that sentence? 8 A I don t remember with the "problems," I don t 9 remember that being a big issue. 10 Q Now, I don t see the word intelligent design there. Were the teachers opposed to using the word intelligent 11 12 design? 13 Yes. 14 Was there any disagreement among the biology teachers about that? 15 16 A No. 17 Q So there wasn t one biology teacher who said, you know, wait a minute, this is an alternative theory, maybe we 18 should be teaching this? 19 20 A No. I want to focus on what happened immediately after 2.1 October 18th, which was when the curriculum change was passed by the board. Did you and your colleagues have 23 concerns about what the curriculum change meant for the

Yes. Α And what was that concern? A If it s in the curriculum, me, personally, if it s in the curriculum, we should be teaching it. And there was something in there that we didn t want to teach. Q And at some point after October 18th, did you -did the science or biology teachers have a meeting with Mr. Baksa to talk about how you would address this curriculum change? 10 A We had several meetings after that. And at one of these meetings did you raise a 11 concern that you didn t know anything about ID and how you should teach this? 13 14 A Correct. And did Mr. Baksa, in fact, respond to you that 15 maybe we ll have to get you seminars or classes to learn 17 about ID? 18 A Yes. And this was after the curriculum was passed, 19 20 right? I would say yes. Q So -- so did it appear to you that the school district actually was going to give you instructions so that you could teach intelligent design in the classroom?

LINKER - CROSS

92

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

24

25

teachers?

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

A At least to know what it was.

And then at some point after that the notion of reading a statement came up?

A Correct.

3

6

9

10

11

13

14

18

19

20

But initially, right after the curriculum change was made, they were trying to figure out how you were going to present this in a classroom.

7 A I don t think it was ever -- we asked that 8 question, but it was never told directly to us.

Q I want to ask you about your understanding of intelligent design. Had you ever heard the term before this controversy in the fall of 2004?

12 No.

So it s not something you had ever taught?

A No.

Do you know whether any of your fellow biology 15 teachers had ever taught it? 16

17 A No.

> Q Do you know biology teachers in other school districts?

A Yes.

Q Do you know whether any of them have ever taught 2.1 intelligent design?

A Not the ones that I ve personally talked to. 23

24 When did you first learn about intelligent design, 25 do you remember?

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

I think mine, me personally, was when I saw these 1 curriculum changes come in front of me. Q Now, had you ever, prior to fall of 2004, had you ever heard of the textbook Of Pandas and People? A I think I saw that from these papers also. Q And at some point did you get a chance to look at Of Pandas and People? A Yes. And you didn t -- you weren t asked to review that 10 in the summer of 2004, were you? A No. 11 0 You weren t involved in that whole textbook 12 13 dispute? 14 That was summertime. And that was just fine with you. 15 16 And do you remember your --17 THE COURT: Good answer. 1.8 BY MR. WALCZAK: 19 Q Did you study Pandas when you finally got it or did you just kind of skim it? A I remember skimming it -- reading different parts of it, not too much.

94

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

design?

A Yes.

24

25

Q And was that your first exposure to intelligent

And do you remember what your reaction to the book 2 was? 3 I remember it was tough for me to read. I remember reading a section one or two more times to try to get a 5 picture in my mind. And then I remember going to another section of the book, and -- which I think it was the first 7 chapter, and I said well, maybe this will be a little 8 easier, and it said the origin of life. And I thought, 9 well, we don t teach that; and that s pretty much where it 10 ended. And did you see in the book where it talked about 11 an intelligent designer or a master intellect? 12 13 Yeah, that s in the first part. 14 And what was your reaction to that? Intelligent designer, higher power, I thought -- I 15 16 thought of God. 17 So that was your immediate reaction? 18 Α Yes. 19 Now, when you were still in school, not as a teacher but as a student, where did you get your degree at 20 21 college? York College undergrad. 23 And what was your major? 0

Yes. 1 Α Did you take a school law class? School law, yes. And did they teach about separation of church and state there? A I m sure it was some part of it. They were -school law was mostly court cases dealing with everything a teacher could get in trouble for. Q And did you think that teaching intelligent design 10 might get you in trouble? Yes. 11 A Why is that? 12 Because in my mind it had to do with God or 13 14 religion, and I knew you weren t allowed to do that in a public school. 16 MR. WALCZAK: Just a few more questions here, 17 Mr. Linker. Matt, if you could put up plaintiff s exhibit 121. 18 19 May I approach, Your Honor? THE COURT: You may. 20 BY MR. WALCZAK: Q Mr. Linker, I show you what s been marked as plaintiff s exhibit 121. Do you recognize this document?

A

24

25

Yes.

What is it?

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

Did you take science education classes?

Secondary Ed. Biology.

24

25

Α

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

98

It s the document that we signed opting out of reading the statement. 3 Q And is this a document that you reviewed before you signed onto it? 4 5 A Yes. It was explained to us. 6 And were you forced to sign this in any way? 7 8 And so did you agree with what was contained in 9 this letter? 10 Yes. MR. WALCZAK: Matt, if you could highlight in the 11 first paragraph starting with, "this request." 12 BY MR. WALCZAK: 13 14 In the middle of that first paragraph, and let me just make sure I understand, this -- this was the teachers 15 16 request to not read the four-paragraph statement that had 17 been developed by the board and the administration. 18 A Correct. 19 And in that sentence you say, "This request is based upon our considered opinion that reading the statement 20 violates our responsibilities as professional educators as 21 set forth in the Code of Professional Practice," et cetera. Did you believe that was true, that for you to read that 23

MR. WALCZAK: Matt, if you could highlight the next 1 paragraph there. BY MR. WALCZAK: Q Could you read that paragraph into the record, please, Mr. Linker? A "Central to teaching act and our ethical obligation is the solemn responsibility to teach the truth. Section 235.10; number two, guides our relationships with students and provides that, the public educator may not knowingly and 1.0 intentionally misrepresent subject matter and curriculum." Is that something that you were also taught in 11 science education classes? 12 13 A If I can remember that far back, yes. 14 MR. WALCZAK: And Matt, if you could then highlight the paragraph below that. And the first sentence there says, "Intelligent design is not science." Do you agree 17 with that? 18 A Correct. As you sit here today, you still believe that s 19 20 true? Α Yes. And then the next sentence says, "Intelligent design is not biology." Do you still feel that s true? A Yes. 24

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

statement would violate your Code of Professional Ethics?

24

25

Α

Yes.

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

"And intelligent design is not an accepted

LINKER - REDIRECT

scientific theory." Do you believe that s true?

A Yes.

2

5

6

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

2.1

23

25

3 MR. WALCZAK: And Matt, if you could turn to the 4 next page.

BY MR. WALCZAK:

Q And Mr. Linker, if I could just ask you to read that -- that first paragraph on the second page of plaintiff s exhibit 121, please?

A "I believe that if I, as the classroom teacher, read the required statement, my students will inevitably and understandably believe that intelligent design is a valid scientific theory, perhaps on par with the theory of evolution. That is not true. To refer the students to Of Pandas and People, as if it is a scientific resource, breaches my ethical obligation to provide them with scientific knowledge that is supported by recognized scientific proof or theory."

Q And you agreed with that in January of 2005?

A Correct.

O Do you agree with that today?

A Correct.

Q Do you believe that if you were required to teach students in your biology class the theory of intelligent design, that you would be bringing religion into the classroom?

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

A Yes.

1

MR. WALCZAK: No further questions.

3 THE COURT: All right. Thank you, Mr. Walczak.

4 MR. GILLEN: Thank you, Your Honor.

REDIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. GILLEN:

Q A few questions, Mr. Linker, by way of follow up.

We ve discussed the video that you saw in the June 2004

period and Mr. Walczak just asked you a little about gaps.

10 When you saw the video about gaps in evolutionary theory,

11 you knew there were gaps, correct?

MR. WALCZAK: Your Honor, objection. Outside the scope of the cross. I did not ask him about this video.

MR. GILLEN: He asked him about gaps.

15 THE COURT: Well, no, your question gets into
16 What s in the video. You ll have to rephrase. It is beyond

17 the scope, so I m going to sustain the objection.

18 BY MR. GILLEN:

19

24

Q Mr. Linker, you were teaching students at least something about gaps, correct?

A No.

 $\ensuremath{\mathtt{Q}}$ I would ask you to look at your deposition, page 46, line 22.

Do you see that I asked a question and you gave an answer. Let me read it for you, line 22. Speaking about

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

LINKER - REDIRECT

102

1	the video you say, "It went through all the gaps that we
2	actually even teach, some of it talked about."
3	Were there gaps you actually taught?
4	A $$
5	in class. The video showed gaps in the topics that I
6	taught. But I never taught gaps, and that was truthfully
7	the first time I seen someone present gaps. That s what I
8	meant by that sentence.
9	Q Well, and I accept your answer today.
10	But you thought it was neat to see those gaps,
11	correct?
12	A Yes.
13	Q Now, Mr. Walczak questioned you about the
14	statement, the truth of the matter is, you really don t know
15	when the statement first came up, do you?
16	A Which statement?
17	Q The statement that was read to implement the
18	biology change; you don t know when the idea of the
19	statement first came up?
20	A No.
21	Q You said that when you saw the term intelligent
22	designer, you thought it was God, correct?
23	A Correct.
24	Q That was your interpretation, correct?
25	A Yes.

1	Q You didn t read the whole book of Pandas to see
2	whether the book took that position, did you?
3	A No.
4	Q You we testified to your belief that intelligent
5	design is not science, correct?
6	A Correct.
7	Q But you didn t even read the whole book of Pandas,
8	correct?
9	A Correct.
10	Q And you don t have a Ph.D. in science?
1,1,	A No.
12	MR. GILLEN: No further questions, Your Honor.
13	RECROSS EXAMINATION
14	BY MR. WALCZAK:
15	Q Could you just tell us what your education
16	background is? I know you mentioned that you had, I guess
17	it was a biology education degree from York College?
18	A Yes, Secondary Ed. Biology from York College, and
19	then I have 36 graduate credits after that. It s called a
20	masters equivalency because it s not an actual program.
21	Q And what kind of courses did you take for that
22	masters equivalency?
23	A Probably three quarter of them three quarters of
24	them dealt with biology/environmental.

Q And were you taught intelligent design in any of

1	those classes?
2	A No.
3	MR. WALCZAK: No further questions.
4	THE COURT: All right, sir. That completes your
5	testimony. You may step down.
6	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
7	THE COURT: Liz, do we have any exhibits?
8	THE DEPUTY CLERK: No exhibits.
9	THE COURT: It s quarter of 12. I don t know what
10	your pleasure is. I suppose we could get started, but I m
11	not so sure we shouldn t start an early you re going to
12	take the expert, Mr. Muise?
13	MR. MUISE: Yes, Your Honor.
14	THE COURT: We could break now, I would suggest
15	until one o clock, and then pick the expert up at
16	one o clock.
17	MR. GILLEN: That makes sense because I have to do
18	some setup and check the electronics and so forth.
19	THE COURT: That will give us a nice long afternoon
20	of expert testimony.
21	MR. MUISE: You re going to love it, I guarantee.
22	THE COURT: Forwarned is forearmed, for all of
23	those who visit this courtroom today.
24	All right. We will recess at this point until
25	1 p.m., and we will pick up the witness the expert

witness at that time. We ll be in recess until one. THE DEPUTY CLERK: All rise. (11:48 a.m., court adjourned.)

1	
2	REPORTER S CERTIFICATE
3	
4	I, Joan D. Spearing, Official Court Reporter for
5	the United States District Court for the Middle District o
6	Pennsylvania, appointed pursuant to the provisions of Title
7	28, United States Code, Section 753, do hereby certify that
8	the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the
9	within-mentioned proceedings had in the above-mentioned and
10	numbered cause on the date or dates hereinbefore set forth
11	and I do further certify that the foregoing transcript has
12	been prepared by me or under my supervision.
13	
14	
15	s/Joan D. Spearing
16	Joan D. Spearing, RMR Official Court Reporter
17	
18	REPORTED BY:
19	JOAN D. SPEARING, RMR
20	Official Court Reporter United States District Court
21	Middle District of Pennsylvania 240 West Third Street, Suite 415
22	Williamsport, PA 17701-6438 (570)322-6501
23	(77)
24	(The foregoing certificate of this transcript do not apply to any reproduction of the same by any means
25	unless under the direct control and/or supervision of the certifying reporter.)

OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER