**School Board Meeting Talking Points**

The excellent site [uniteagainstbookbans.org](https://www.webelieveineducation.org/book-not-bans/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=digitalads&utm_campaign=ra-believe-google-search-acquisition-ts-pn-1122&gclid=Cj0KCQiAm5ycBhCXARIsAPldzoXaDu_m-GlmuLndPxyXYHszNGg78ZzXBb6a0GfkDdCcYI4HMnfYpncaAoG5EALw_wcB) has excellent talking points for speaking at your local school board meeting or local media. A full list can be found here, but we want to highlight a few:

**Parents have the right to guide their children’s reading, but parents should not be making decisions for other parent’s children. Specifically, a small group of parents should not dictate books what other people are allowed to read.**

**Young people deserve to see themselves reflected in a library’s books.**

**Reading is a foundational skill critical to future learning and to exercising our democratic freedoms.**

When talking to public officials, it is important to share your personal story which may include examples from your religious tradition. Here are some resources specifically from our Jewish tradition:

**Listen to Rabbi Sharon Brous’ excellent sermon** [**Ban the Bible**](https://ikar.org/sermons/ban-the-bible-rabbi-sharon-brous/) **for inspiration**

**According to a** [**recent study,**](https://www.claimscon.org/study/) **41 percent of Americans and 66 percent of millennials cannot identify the historical significance of Auschwitz. Many banned books are historical accounts of the Holocaust. Learn more about 5 important holocaust titles including Elie Wisel’s Night, Styron’s Sophie’s Choice, and Anne Frank’s Diary of a young girl** [**here.**](https://www.oif.ala.org/oif/5-banned-books-that-will-help-you-learn-about-the-holocaust/)

 **Jews are the People of the Book.**

**Jewish tradition considers intellecual debate and free exchange of ideas essential. This blog post points out that** [**book banning is against Jewish and Democratic values**](https://jewishbooks.blogspot.com/2022/06/unite-against-book-bans.html)**.**