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## Mockingbird uproar comes to close as conflict resolved

By **BRETT CLARKSON**, SUN MEDIA

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The Toronto District School Board isn't going to kill To Kill A

Mockingbird.

An east-end parent's complaint about the classic 1960 Harper Lee novel has been resolved between the concerned mom and Malvern Collegiate Institute and won't be escalating beyond that, according to the board.

"The parent didn't file a formal complaint," said TDSB spokesman Radmila Malobabic. A formal complaint could have led to the board reviewing the book to determine whether or not it merits removal from the entire TDSB curriculum, she said.

Malobabic said the parent wasn't interested in speaking publicly. But she did say the parent thought her meeting with Malvern school officials would remain private.

"She just wishes to convey that it was handled at the school level," Malobabic said.

Malobabic said nothing further will arise from the debate. But she said it would be "inappropriate" for a board official or trustee to leak information about a private meeting between a parent and principal to the media. "It was a private meeting," she said.

The story was first reported by the Sun on Monday.

Trustee Josh Matlow said yesterday that director of education Chris Spence sent an e-mail to trustees Oct. 2 informing them of the parent's request to have the book removed from the curriculum across the TDSB.

Matlow said if a parent is asking for a novel to be removed, that parent should expect public debate about the proposal.

The parent's child, a student at Malvern, wasn't even studying To Kill A Mockingbird, Malobabic confirmed.

