

Dear Parents,

Murder in Coweta County by Margaret Anne Barnes is a true (although biased, some contend) story based on the murder of Wilson Turner by John Wallace and Wallace's trial, and since the story does take place in both Meriwether County and Coweta County, the students have expressed an interest in reading it.

There's not many times students actually want to read a novel, so I asked Dr. Harley's permission. Due to the violence of the murder and disposal of the body in addition to racist language of the time and curse words, I do need your permission for students to select this novel.

Thank you,

Students may choose **one** of these two books to read over summer.

[\*Murder in Coweta County\*](#) by Margaret Anne Barnes. (Parent permission required) This is an award-winning true crime book about a 1948 murder and the subsequent investigation and trial. This book is set in Meriwether and Coweta counties and serves as a companion text for *To Kill a Mockingbird*, which students will read this year.

[\*A Separate Peace\*](#) by John Knowles. This coming-of-age novel is set in a boarding school in New England at the start of World War II. The protagonist is a quiet, intellectual introvert, who is changed through his friendship with an outgoing, athletic student. He returns to the school 15 years after the events in the novel and reflects on all that happened in that tumultuous year.

Students will take a multiple-choice test for the novel they select at the start of the school year.

**Parent Permission Slip:**

Students who have turned in a parent permission slip to read *Murder in Coweta County* to Ms. Chapman do not need to submit a new copy in to Mrs. England.

I give permission for \_\_\_\_\_ (student name) to read [\*Murder in Coweta County\*](#) by Margaret Anne Barnes.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_