



Gilford High School

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Accredited Member

Ken Wiswell, Principal
Peter Sawyer, Assistant Principal

Lori Jewett, Guidance Director
Dave Pinkham, Athletic Director

October 16, 2007

Dear Parent/Guardian;

As part of our study of literary genre and in connection to our school initiative of teaching tolerance, we are going to read the current best-seller *Nineteen Minutes* by Jodi Picoult as an outside reading book in English 9 H. This very popular and contemporary piece of fiction deals with a school shooting and the aftermath of this violence on a small New Hampshire town.

Because of the nature of the subject of the book as well as some of the content, I am asking all parents and guardians to look over the novel and to determine whether or not their student is allowed to participate in the reading of this book. Some of the characters in the novel are high school students dealing with realistic problems and issues. The content that is realistically dealt with includes adult language, sexual scenes and violence. The book will be read primarily outside of class, but we will be doing a culminating activity about the themes and issues presented in the novel, and discussion of the novel will take place in class.

If you have an objection to your student reading this novel and participating in the activities, please sign this letter and have your student return the letter tomorrow, October 17th. If you decide against the book, we would be happy to provide an alternative assignment.

If you have any other concerns or questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your help!

Gail Hutchison

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