

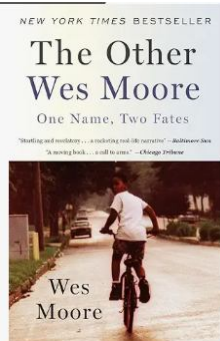
May 2026

Dear rising Honors Senior,

We are excited to meet you and begin this very important year with you. Our energy will be focused on preparing you, both in skills and in knowledge, for the next step in your educational journey after graduation. We are hopeful that you will find class to be not only academically challenging, but also personally enriching.

To give us a starting point, this year we will be reading *The Other Wes Moore* together over the summer.

We begin the year discussing how our identity is formed in our society, discussing the impacts of "classifications" of people by society. This nonfiction piece looks carefully at identity, the impact of choices, justice and consequences.



**Background of the book:**

*The Other Wes Moore* is a **nonfiction** book published in 2010. It tells the story of two boys who share the same name and are raised in similar backgrounds in the same city, yet they both end up with completely different lives. This book shares the story of a generation of boys trying to find their way in a challenging and, at times, hostile world.

Assignment for the summer:

*The Other Wes Moore*

BUY AND READ THE BOOK. As you read, annotate the book for the following:

(ANNOTATE means highlight/underline AND write notes on the side)

Style: the way it is written

Voice/Character: including differences between the 2 Wes Moores

you can refer to them as AW (author Wes who wrote the book) and OW (other Wes who is NOT the writer)

Perspective: how each Wes sees his life (values, beliefs, education, background, experiences)

Theme: the ideas that run throughout a piece of literature. The "main ideas" that the author is trying to get across. We will be focusing on IDENTITY in this novel, as this is a prevalent theme throughout the novel and a focus for us in the beginning of the semester.

There will be an in-class writing as a formal assessment of this novel as well as class activities. Be prepared with your annotated book to be checked as we begin the school year.

We look forward to meeting you in August.

Sincerely,

Ms. Diane Darst

Mrs. Karen Meyer

English IV Honors teachers