



## OLENTANGY SCHOOLS LITERATURE SELECTION REVIEW FORM

### LOCATION

**Building(s):** OBKMS

**Classes/Grade Level(s):** grade 7

### ABOUT THE BOOK

**Selection Title/Author:** Facing the Enemy by Barbara Krasner

**Genre:** historical fiction

**Lexile Reading Level:** 820

**Total number of pages:** 368

<p><b>Book Summary</b> (abbreviated, bulleted list or link to a book summary)</p> <p>Growing up in Newark, NJ, in the 1930s, Tommy Anspach and Benjy Puterman have always done everything together. It never mattered that Benjy was Jewish and Tommy was of German descent. But as Adolph Hitler and his Nazi party comes to power in Germany and war brews in Europe, everything changes. Tommy is sent to Camp Nordland, a Nazi youth camp for German Americans, where he quickly learns that Jews are the enemy. Heartbroken by the loss of his friend, Benjy forms a teen version of the Newark Minutemen, an anti-Nazi vigilante group, all the while hoping that Tommy will abandon his extremist beliefs.</p>	<p><b>Potentially Objectionable Content</b> (list all categories and at least one example, referenced with a page or chapter number)</p> <p>Drinking/smoking: Mentions of parents drinking beer at the camp's mess hall</p> <p>Sex:</p> <p>Language: "Go home Jew boy" (pg 256)</p> <p>Violence: "When Jewish blood spurts from the knife" (page 68)</p> <p>Other trauma inducing content:</p>
<p><b>Book Reviews (1-2 link(s))</b> <i>Note: teacher is not responsible for broken links</i></p> <p><u>Kirkus Review</u></p>	

### ABOUT THE CLASS

**Rationale for the Literature Selection (in addition to standards):** (To be completed by the teacher or team)

This book is used for its high student engagement and the ability to make connections between the past and present in ways that facts and dates sometimes obscure. The author has completed



years of credible and reliable research to narrate the historical event in a respectful and honest manner. It presents historical facts mixed with a fictional story with protagonists in which middle schoolers can engage.

**The Ohio Department of Education ELA Standards (list priority standards *only and* abbreviations of the main ideas of the priority standards) [Link to Ohio's ELA Standards](#)**

**RL7.9:** Compare and contrast a fictional portrayal of a time, place, or character and historical account of the same period as a means of understanding how authors of fiction use or alter history.

**RL7.6:** Analyze how an author develops and contrasts the points of view of different characters or narrators in a text.


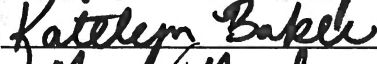


**W7.4:** Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

## ALTERNATIVE TEXTS

What alternative texts would allow students to meet the same objectives? (1-2 texts, title/author; Note: these texts must also have lit. reviews forms associated with their selection)

1. Prisoner B-3087 by Alan Gratz
2. Flygirl by Sherri Smith

**SIGNATURES** (embedded jpegs of authentic signatures are fine OR download/print form and obtain traditional signatures)

Teacher:  Date: 9/16/24  
Department Chair:  Date: 9/16/24  
Building Principal:  Date: 9/16/24  
District Curriculum Administrator:  Date: 10/2/24