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**OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** GOVERNOR  
**FROM:** RILEY  
**SUBJECT:** PETAL SCHOOL DISTRICT: HOOKING THEM UP WITH JOHN GRISHAM  
**DATE** 8/27/03  
**CC:** FILE

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Nadine Coleman with the Petal School District has contacted me requesting our help in a project they are trying to get off of the ground. (NOTE: She is serving on our financing early childhood education task force.) They are going to try to get the entire community of Petal to read the same book as a means of instilling the idea that parents' reading is the best way to get kids involved in reading. They are modeling this program after a similar project in Chicago a few years ago.

Nadine and the superintendent want the community to read John Grisham's *Skipping Christmas*. Nadine has asked me if we could help them hook up with Grisham with the hope that he might even visit Petal sometime this Fall for a book signing or an event to promote the reading of *Skipping Christmas*.

Nadine specifically wants contact info for Grisham. I've checked with Marilyn and she said he doesn't have contact info in Oxford anymore. Marilyn has a fax number for Grisham in Virginia, but she thinks it is to his office in his house. Is it okay if I give the fax number to Nadine for them to send a written request/invitation to Grisham via the fax? If you want me to provide some other contact info to them, please indicate so below.

Give fax number \_\_\_\_\_

Other (indicate) \_\_\_\_\_

Nadine also said any personal steps you could take to help them would be greatly appreciated, possibly a note or a phone call to Grisham on Petal's behalf after they submit their request to him. Please indicate if you would be willing to do either:

Phone call \_\_\_\_\_

Note/letter \_\_\_\_\_

If your calendar allowed and if you wanted to, we could also get you to the event since it will be promoting reading and its critical role in our students' learning.