

DECLARATION OF ROSA ROMERO

I, Rosa Romero, declare as follows:

1. My child, Hanover Mares, is a student at Berendo Middle School in Los Angeles, California. I make this Declaration based upon my personal knowledge and, if called upon to do so, I could and would competently testify to the matters set forth in this declaration.

2. I have gone to Berendo on various occasions such as Open House and in order to have conferences with my son's teachers to see how he is doing in school during every report card period. The report cards come out quarterly.

3. I am writing this declaration to describe some of the unacceptable conditions which exist at Berendo. I am concerned that my son has not advanced as much as he should have due to these conditions and the unstable atmosphere at Berendo.

4. My son, Hanover has told me that there are lots of lockers which are broken into by other students at school. He has also complained of the gang problem which is rampant at Berendo. There are disruptions at school almost every day. He has told me about fires in the trashcans and about students throwing stink-bombs in the hallways. I do not believe that this environment is conducive to learning as there are so many disruptions and scary things happening during the school day.


5. My son has only brought home a couple of books from school. This seems very strange to me since he has more than two classes and ought to have a textbook for every subject. He only has a history book and a math book. He has not been provided with an English book or a science book. I go over his homework with him, but without textbooks to look at it is difficult to know if I am providing him with the appropriate guidance.

6. My son has also told me that one of his teachers has been absent a lot this year because she was out on maternity leave. He has had many different substitutes and there is no continuity in any of the lessons. If there are not competent teachers teaching our students, they will not advance as much as they should. I feel that this is happening to my son at Berendo due to the lack of competent teachers.

7. I do not believe that my child is receiving an adequate education at Berendo and I feel that he is not advancing in his studies as he should be. This stems from a lack of competent teachers and a lack of textbooks and school materials which are necessary tools of a proper education. My son is entitled to receive at least the same education as other students in other public schools are receiving.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.


Executed this 15 day of May, 2000 at Los Angeles, California.

  
Rosa Romero

I, Christina L. Checél am an associate with Morrison & Foerster LLP. I read, write and speak Spanish fluently. In May, 2000, I orally translated the declaration of Rosa Romero from English into Spanish to Mrs. Romero, and the written English version of her declaration is an accurate reflection of the oral Spanish translation I did.

I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed this 24 day of August, 2001, in Los Angeles, California.

  
Christina L. Checél