

DECLARATION OF CLEMENTINA RIOS

I, Clementina Rios, declare as follows:

1. My child, Oscar Ruiz, is in kindergarten at Cahuenga School located at 220 South Hobart Boulevard, Los Angeles, California 90004.

2. The purpose of this declaration is to describe some of the unacceptable conditions at Cahuenga. I am concerned that these conditions are having a negative impact on my son's education and that they are preventing him from obtaining an education equal to that of other students in other public schools.

3. My child has not been assigned books during this school year and does not have any books to bring home either. I take Oscar to the library to check books out so that he has some educational materials, but it is not the same for a child to have his own text books from school as it is to check a book out from the library. I believe that it is important for my son to have books to take home from school so that he can study at home and review things which he has been taught in class.

4. The toilet facilities at Cahuenga School are filthy. There is no toilet paper and no soap in the bathrooms. This worries me because the filth in the bathrooms is likely to cause infections. Also, there is almost always water on the floor making it slippery and unsafe. In fact, my son fell in the school bathroom because the floor was so wet and slippery. He hit his head and required medical attention. Luckily, he was not seriously injured. There is no excuse for the school bathrooms to be so dirty that I have to worry about infection and so unsafe that I have to worry about Oscar slipping and getting hurt.

5. I believe that my child is receiving an education that is inferior to the education received by students in neighboring school districts. The lack of books is inexcusable. Books are basic materials which should be provided to all students at all levels. The filth in the bathrooms is disgusting and unsanitary. I do not want my son to grow up thinking that this is all he deserves. At a minimum, he deserves the same quality education, including materials and good conditions that other students in other schools enjoy.

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

3 Executed this 3 day of May, 2000 at Los Angeles, California.

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