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Page 1
         IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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             IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
 3
                             ---000---
     ELIEZER WILLIAMS, a minor, by
 4
     Sweetie Williams, his guardian ad litem,
     et al., each individually and on behalf
 5
    of all others similarly situated,
 6
                    Plaintiffs,
                                                  No. 312236
                VS.
    STATE OF CALIFORNIA, DELAINE EASTIN,
 7
    State Superintendent of Public
     Instruction, STATE DEPARTMENT OF
 8
    EDUCATION, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION,
                    Defendants.
 9
10
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12
13
                           Deposition of
14
                            SUSIE LANGE
15
                     Thursday, May 31, 2001
16
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2.0
21
22 Reported by:
23 TRACY LEE MOORELAND
24 CSR No. 10397
25
    Job No. 25773
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- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Your current position is deputy superintendent
- 3 of finance technology and -- of finance technology and
- 4 administration; is that correct?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Do you have a shorthand name for that branch?
- 7 A. FTAB.
- 8 Q. How long have you been in that spot?
- 9 A. For two years in this configuration.
- 10 Q. Did the department reorganize?
- 11 A. At that time, yes.
- 12 Q. What was the shift in responsibilities?
- 13 A. I acquired a branch. We call them branches.
- 14 That's what I'm the deputy over. I acquired a branch of
- 15 a departing person.
- 16 Q. And what was that branch?
- 17 A. He had the finance and technology part of that
- 18 title, and I was the admin deputy.
- 19 Q. So these two branches were consolidated into
- 20 one at that time?
- 21 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 22 Q. So for some time were you the deputy
- 23 superintendent of an administration branch?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. How long was that?

- 1 Q. And ended in?
- 2 A. '92, maybe.
- 3 Q. The departing deputy superintendent had the
- 4 finance and technology areas; is that correct?
- 5 A. Yes
- 6 (Ms. Welch entered the room.)
- 7 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And his or her name was?
- 8 A. His name is Pat Keegan.
- 9 Q. The functions of the management services
- 10 branch, do they align with what is currently called the
- 11 administrative part of your branch?
- 12 A. Yes.
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 14 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And what are those? What are
- 15 the functions of what was management services and is now
- 16 administration?
- 17 A. The personnel division, the fiscal and
- 18 administrative services division, the school facilities
- 19 division, and the publications division.
- 20 Q. The personnel function, is that an internally
- 21 focused job; that is, is it the personnel of the State
- 22 Department of Education?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. And fiscal and administration, that is not just
- 25 the fiscal side of the Department of Education's

Page 7

- 1 A. Two additional years.
- 2 Q. Before that, what was your position?
- 3 A. Before I was deputy --
- 4 Q. Of administration.
- 5 A. -- of administration? It was actually deputy
- 6 of management services was the title. I was the
- 7 director of the executive office for the State
- 8 Department of Education.
- 9 Q. How long did you have that spot?
- 10 A. About four years.
- 11 Q. What was your core area of responsibility as
- 12 that -- in that job?
- 13 A. Communications, public relations and oversight
- 14 of the superintendent's executive office,
- 15 correspondence, and that kind of thing.
- 16 Q. Before that job, what was your --
- 17 A. I was the public relations director for the
- 18 State Department of Corrections.
- MR. HERRON: I'll caution you to let him finish
- 20 his question before you start to answer.
- THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 22 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Just so I have the years lined
- 23 up, do you recall the start and ending year in which you
- 24 were the public relations director?
- 25 A. It started in 1983.

- 1 internal operations, correct, it's much broader than
- 2 that?
- 3 A. That's not correct.
- 4 Q. Okay. So --
- 5 A. It's primarily the department's fiscal.
- 6 O. Okav. And by that we mean the ongoing
- 7 operating budget of the department in terms of its own
- 8 buildings and its own personnel and related systems?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And school facilities, that is not an
- 11 internally-focused job, correct?
- 12 A. That's correct.
- 13 Q. What are the functions of the school's
- 14 facilities division of your branch?
- 15 A. School facilities planning division is the
- 16 formal title.
- 17 Q. Is that Duwayne Brooks' division?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. That was Duwayne Brooks' division, correct?
- 20 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 21 Q. And the publications division, that is
- 22 publications of the Department of Education; is that
- 23 correct?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. So to sum up the four functions in

Page 10

- 1 administration, three of them are primarily focused on
- 2 the department's own operations, and one of them, the
- 3 school facilities planning division, is an externally
- 4 focused assignment; is that correct?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Okay. Now, let's talk then about technology.
- 7 What are the divisions under technology?
- 8 A. The technology services division includes the
- 9 department's technology and also the education
- 10 technology.
- 11 Q. By education technology you mean the
- 12 dissemination of technology to schools in the State?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Any other functions under the technology
- 15 service division?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. And then finance, what falls under finance?
- 18 A. That's school fiscal services division. That's
- 19 the dissemination of the funds that go to schools, to
- 20 school districts, county offices and school districts.
- 21 (Mr. Jordan entered the room.)
- 22 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: By "dissemination," do you
- 23 actually mean the fiscal disbursement function?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And other functions as well?

- 1 through a county office and then comes to the State
- 2 Department of Education.
- 3 Q. Are there any other functions under the school

Page 12

Page 13

- 4 fiscal services division?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. What are they?
- 7 A. We handle oversight of the charter schools.
- 8 Q. Oversight of fiscal matters, or beyond fiscal
- 9 matters?
- 10 A. It is their fiscal matters and also general
- 11 information about charters.
- 12 Q. Are there aspects of the charter school
- 13 oversight that are managed by other divisions in the
- 14 department outside of FTAB?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. So charter schools, to put it colloquially,
- 17 falls under FTAB; is that correct?
- 18 A. That's correct.
- 19 Q. What else is in the finance part of your
- 20 branch?

22

24

- MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
 - You mean functions?
- 23 MR. JACOBS: Yes.
 - THE WITNESS: That's it.
- 25 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: So then going back to school

Page 11

- 1 A. Yes. Actually, technically, the controller is
- 2 who disburses the funds. We do all of the work to
- 3 certify the disbursement of the funds, and it is the
- 4 controller's office that sends the money out.
- 5 Q. This is the controller of the state of
- 6 California?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. So by certifying in your last answer, what did
- 9 you mean?
- 10 A. It is our responsibility to review the budgets
- 11 of all of the school districts and the county offices,
- 12 and to determine the appropriate amount of money that
- 13 should go to all of them.
- 14 O. So, in other words, when a school district
- 15 reports to you its ADA, for example, you would make --
- 16 you in that office would make calculations based on that
- 17 ADA as it relates to budget allocations?
- 18 MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 19 Assumes facts not in evidence.
- 20 You may respond if you understand.
- 21 THE WITNESS: We certify that those
- 22 calculations are correct. We don't do the calculations.
- 23 O. BY MR. JACOBS: And who actually does the
- 24 calculations in the general case?
- 25 A. It begins with the school district and goes

- 1 fiscal services, we talked about the certification
- 2 function. Are there other areas of responsibility for
- 3 school fiscal services than certification?
- 4 A. They do the apportionment. They certify the
- 5 apportionment.
- 6 MR. JACOBS: If I could ask you not to counsel
- 7 your witness by whispering if there's something that
- 8 should be said. It should either not be said because
- 9 it's inappropriate, or it should be said on the record.
- 10 Q. Are there areas that since -- let's take the
- 11 last two years when the branch was consolidated under
- 12 your supervision.
- Are there areas that you have paid special
- 14 attention to as a matter of your own special interest or
- 15 special projects?

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19

- MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 17 Vague as to time.
 - MR. JACOBS: Go ahead.
 - MR. HERRON: You may answer if you understand.
- 20 If you don't, you can ask him to clarify.
- 21 THE WITNESS: Do clarify. I sort of missed the
- 22 beginning of your question.
- 23 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: We're taking the last two years
- 24 as the period of time, and my question is, are there
- 25 special projects that you have paid personal attention

Page 14 Page 16

- 1 to as opposed to, say, the projects that you've
- 2 delegated out to your division chiefs or their direct
- 3 reports?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 6 THE WITNESS: No.
- 7 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: So you've handled this job in
- 8 the last two years as a -- let me come at it in another
- 9 direction.
- We've seen your name, for example, on a lot of
- 11 technology-related documents. Is technology an area
- 12 you've paid special attention to in the last two years?
- 13 MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 14 THE WITNESS: I guess I wonder, do you mean
- 15 more than other things?
- 16 MR. JACOBS: Yes.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Then the answer is no.
- 18 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Okay. Have you become familiar
- 19 with the allegations in the Williams lawsuit against the
- 20 State and certain of its agencies?
- 21 A. Vaguely.
- 22 Q. Have you participated in any discussions about
- 23 the lawsuit?
- For the moment, let's just answer yes or no so
- 25 we give your lawyer a chance to do his attorney/client

- 1 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: What do you mean by that?
- 2 A. Where exactly responsibility resides in the law
- 3 for oversight of schools facilities.
- 4 Q. What did you find out?
- 5 A. That no one is quite sure.
- 6 Q. More precisely, were you trying to find out who
- 7 was responsible for oversight of conditions of
- 8 facilities, or facilities more generally?
- 9 MR. HERRON: I'm going to object as
- 10 attorney/client privilege. You should not disclose any
- 11 conversations or directions received by counsel. He's
- 12 not asking you that. He's asking you, aside from
- 13 communications with counsel, communications outside
- 14 counsel's presence or outside their direction, that's
- 15 what he's asking you for.
- THE WITNESS: My clarification was with my
- 17 staff, to make sure that I understood what they believed
- 18 their responsibility was.
- 19 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And their responsibility in
- 20 terms of what?
- 21 A. School facilities.
- 22 Q. And what aspect of school facilities?
- 23 A. That was my question.
- 24 Q. So your question was, let's break down the
- 25 various aspects of school facilities, who is responsible

Page 15

- 1 privilege thing.
- 2 A. What was the question?
- 3 Q. Have you participated in any discussions
- 4 concerning the lawsuit?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Have any of those discussions been in a context
- 7 in which lawyers were not present?
- 8 A. That's a double negative. Have any of them
- 9 been -- repeat the question.
- 10 Q. Have you had any of those discussions without
- 11 lawyers present?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. And what have those discussions been?
- 14 A. Information gathering.
- 15 Q. What kind of information gathering?
- MR. HERRON: I object as attorney/client
- 17 privilege. To the extent that she was asked to do
- 18 something by attorneys or directed to do something by
- 19 attorneys, she shouldn't respond and doesn't need to.
- 20 And you're instructed not to respond to the extent that
- 21 you were acting at the behest of counsel. Otherwise you
- 22 may respond.
- 23 THE WITNESS: I would have -- I have asked
- 24 clarification on responsibility over -- technically the
- 25 responsibility over facilities.

- 1 for what?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. What was your question?
- 4 A. My question was, what are we responsible for,
- 5 I, as the overseer of the school facilities planning
- 6 division.
- 7 Q. And the answer that came back was, it's not
- 8 really clear what you are or are not responsible for?
- 9 A. No
- 10 Q. What was the answer?
- 11 A. It's clear that the Department of Education is
- 12 responsible for reviewing school site plans.
- 13 Q. As distinct from what?
- 14 A. Existing buildings.
- 15 Q. And as to existing buildings, what was the
- 16 answer?
- 17 A. That that's not our responsibility.
- 18 Q. Did you learn in the course of that interaction
- 19 whose responsibility it was?
- 20 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for a legal 21 opinion.
- THE WITNESS: No.
- 23 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: You stopped with it's not our
- 24 responsibility because that was your principal focus,
- 25 was finding out what you were responsible for?

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- 1 A. That's correct.
- 2 Q. So to clarify that, you did not learn in the
- 3 course of that interaction that it was the
- 4 responsibility of another branch in the Department of
- 5 Education to have oversight over existing facilities; is
- 6 that correct?
- 7 A. No.
- 8 O. No, it's not correct?
- 9 A. Repeat your question.
- 10 Q. Sure. Just replay. The answer that came back
- 11 to you was there's a distinction between new school
- 12 sites and existing facilities, correct?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And the distinction is that as to new school
- 15 sites, the Department of Education has statutory
- 16 responsibility to approve the selection of those sites,
- 17 correct?
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Misconstrues prior testimony.
- 20 You may respond if you understand what he's 21 asking you.
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 23 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: As to existing facilities, you
- 24 learned that the department -- that the -- that your
- 25 branch had no responsible -- no oversight

- 1 THE WITNESS: No.
- 2 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Have you discussed in the
- 3 department -- you, have you participated, you personally
- 4 participated in discussions about whether such an effort
- 5 would be advisable?
- 6 MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 7 Calls for speculation.

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- 8 THE WITNESS: About -- I don't understand the 9 question.
- MR. JACOBS: About a systematic effort to collect information about the state of existing school facilities.
 - MR. HERRON: Same objections.
- 14 THE WITNESS: No, I've not participated in a
- 15 discussion about whether that would be a good idea.
- 16 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Are you aware of any such
- 17 discussions having taken place separate, whether or not
- 18 you participated in them?
- 19 A. No, I'm not aware of that.
- 20 Q. And if I change the question to nonsystematic
- 21 efforts -- let me be even more precise. Suppose that
- 22 through an informal mechanism, like a letter to the
- 23 Department of Education or a news account, information
- 24 surfaces about the state of facilities in a particular
- 25 school district. Is there any -- are you aware of any

Page 19

- 1 responsibilities set out in law; is that correct?
- 2 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for a legal
- 3 conclusion. Vague and ambiguous.
- 4 THE WITNESS: Could you rephrase that?
- 5 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: What part is confusing?
- 6 A. What is it that you're asking me, about what I
- 7 learned about our responsibility?
- 8 Q. That you did not have -- you learned that you
- 9 did not have oversight responsibility with respect to
- 10 existing facilities?
- 11 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 12 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 13 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And by the "you" there, was the
- 14 "you" that you learned about limited to your branch, or
- 15 was it an answer that came back to you that was an
- 16 answer with respect to the Department of Education as a
- 17 whole?
- 18 A. With respect to the Department of Education as
- 19 a whole.
- 20 Q. With respect to existing facilities, are you
- 21 aware of any systematic effort on the part of the
- 22 department to collect information about the state of
- 23 those facilities?
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 25 Calls for speculation.

- 1 effort to assemble that information in the department?
- 2 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Hypothetical
- 3 question. It's vague and ambiguous.
- 4 THE WITNESS: If anyone ever asks us for
- 5 information, we do what we can to get information,
- 6 whether it's about facilities or anything else about a
- 7 circumstance, just to be helpful to the public.
- 8 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And give me -- is there an
- 9 example that's coming to mind as you're answering that
- 10 question?
- 11 A. A million examples.
- 12 O. So start with one.
- 13 A. My teacher is being mean to my kid.
- 14 Q. And you deal with that in some way?
- 15 A. Right.
- 16 Q. All right. Let's focus on facilities though.
- 17 You become aware through a complaint from a parent --
- 18 back up.

23

- 19 Have you ever, you now meaning your branch,
- 20 ever become aware of a -- through a complaint from a
- 21 parent about what the parent regards as inadequate
- 22 existing school facilities?
 - MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- 24 Vague and ambiguous as phrased and as to time.
- 25 THE WITNESS: Yes, I have received -- been made

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- 1 aware of a parent with a complaint about their child.
- 2 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And about their child's school
- 3 facilities, I take it?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And is that something that's happened -- let's
- 6 take the last two years. Is that something that's
- 7 happened you would say occasionally, frequently? How
- 8 would you characterize the frequency of those sorts of
- 9 instances?
- 10 A. Occasional.
- 11 Q. What is the -- do you have a general practice
- 12 with respect to the treatment of those sorts of
- 13 complaints?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. What is your general practice?
- 16 A. Correspondence or calls like that are logged
- in, assigned to the school facilities division to
- 18 analyze, and they recommend a response.
- 19 Q. A response that would go out under your
- 20 signature?
- 21 A. Sometimes.
- 22 Q. Who else?
- 23 A. The superintendent. Either the superintendent
- 24 or I would sign correspondence.
- 25 Q. And by "the superintendent," you mean the

1 can't he?

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- 2 MR. JACOBS: The question doesn't raise a
- 3 privilege issue so -- but I'll take your representation
- 4 that it's to discuss a privilege issue.
 - (Recess taken from 10:26 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.)
- 6 MR. JACOBS: Could you note the time that we
- 7 are back on the record, please.
 - Do you want to read back the answer so far.
 - (Record read.)
- 10 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Do you have in mind the pending
- 11 question?
- MR. JACOBS: Let's read back the question as
- 13 well, please.
- 14 (Record read.)
- 15 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: I think to refresh your
- 16 recollection as to where we are, you described a common
- 17 format about parental complaints about existing school
- 18 facilities. So what is that common format?
- 19 A. It is to contact the local officials where the
- 20 incident was -- where the complaint was being made
- 21 about.
- 22 Q. What kind of contact would you make?
- 23 A. Normally a phone call.
- 24 Q. Is it a fact-finding phone call? What's the
- 25 nature of the call?

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- 1 superintendent to which you report?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. What is the -- let's just take the last case
- 4 that you can recall. What was the nature of the
- 5 complaint and the response?
- 6 MR. HERRON: Objection. Compound. Calls for a
- 7 narrative.
- 8 But you may respond.
- 9 THE WITNESS: I actually can't recall an exact
- 10 example.
- 11 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Can you recall the substance of
- 12 any responses in the last two years to those sorts of
- 13 complaints?
- 14 A. Yes, because the format is generally the same.
- 15 Q. Okay. What is that format?
- 16 A. It is that we -- if the complaint seems to have
- 17 merit, we contact the local officials.
- MR. SEFERIAN: Could we go off the record for a
- 19 minute?
- 20 MR. JACOBS: For what purpose?
- MR. SEFERIAN: I'd like to speak to my client.
- MR. JACOBS: About a privilege issue?
- 23 MR. SEFERIAN: Yes.
- MR. HERRON: Michael, no question is pending.
- 25 I mean, if he wants to talk to her, he can talk to her,

- 1 MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- 2 Assumes facts not in evidence.
- 3 You may respond.
- 4 THE WITNESS: We normally initially just try to
- 5 gather -- yeah. Yes.
- 6 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: It's a fact-finding call?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. What do you do with the facts that you find?
 - MR. HERRON: Same objections.
- THE WITNESS: That would vary based upon what
- 11 was found.

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- 12 O. BY MR. JACOBS: Have there been instances in
- 13 which you have found that the parental complaint was
- 14 factually accurate?
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- 16 THE WITNESS: I can't recall.
- 17 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Who actually handles these
- 18 complaints?
- 19 A. The staff in the school facilities planning
- 20 division.
- 21 Q. Under Duwayne Brooks?
- 22 A. Yes
- 23 Q. To your knowledge, is there someone who is
- 24 specifically responsible for handling those
- 25 interactions?

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- 1 Let's start with the interactions with the
- 2 school districts. In response to the complaint, is
- 3 there somebody who is assigned that responsibility?
- 4 A.
- 5 Q. It's dispersed among his staff?
- 6 Yes. A.
- 7 Is that because he has a -- in that staff there
- 8 are representatives assigned to particular districts?
- 9 A. To geographic areas, yes.
- 10 Q. So to the best of your knowledge, the way those
- are handled is they're routed to the individual with the 11
- geographic responsibility for the district in which the
- complaint arose? 13
- 14 MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- 15 THE WITNESS: Generally, yes.
- 16 O. BY MR. JACOBS: Are there categories in which
- 17 that doesn't happen, or is it a case of someone being
- 18 out and unavailable?
- 19 Under what circumstances would it not be
- 20 assigned to the person with geographic responsibility
- 21 for the school district in question?
- 22 That would depend on the nature of the
- 23 complaint.

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- 24 Q. Is there a category of complaint that is
- handled differently from the normal case? 25

- that happens in the interaction with the school district
- 2 is you learn whether the parent has previously
- 3 complained to the district?
- 4 MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- Q. 6 BY MR. JACOBS: Do you do anything else to
- 7 discern whether the parent has exhausted local 8
 - resources?

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- MR. HERRON: Same objection.
- 10 THE WITNESS: That would generally be asked of the parent, where else have they complained. We would 11
- 12 try to determine that.
- 13 O. BY MR. JACOBS: And what's the range of
- 14 responses, then, depending on what you learn about
- whether the parent has exhausted local resources? 15
- 16 MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
 - THE WITNESS: The range of whose responses?
- 18 MR. JACOBS: The department's responses.
- 19 MR. HERRON: Also object on the basis that it's
- 20 an incomplete and improper hypothetical. It's vague and 21 ambiguous.
- 22 You may respond if you understand what he's
- 23 asking.
- 24 THE WITNESS: Could you ask it again.
- 25 BY MR. JACOBS: I think we were in agreement Q.

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- A. No.
- 2 O. So what do you have in mind?
- 3 What are you thinking of in indicating that
- some complaints are not handled by the geographic 4
- 5 representative?
- 6 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 7 speculation.
- 8 THE WITNESS: The judgment of Duwayne. Duwayne
- 9 would have to be the judge of how it was assigned out.
- 10 BY MR. JACOBS: What's the -- what are the
- formats for responses to parents from the department? 11
- 12 A. Formats?
- Let's assume -- you said there is a common 13
- format, but then you clarified that actually it depends
- 15 on what happens in the interaction with the school
- 16 district.
- 17 So I take it that there's a range of responses
- 18 that the department can give to parents; is that
- 19 correct?
- 20 A. That is correct.
- 21 Q. And what's that range of responses?
- Our priority generally is to determine whether 22 A.
- 23 the parent has exhausted any local recourse, because we
- respect the authority given to local officials. 24
- And so I take it, then, that one of the things 25 O.

- that there's a range of responses that comes from the
- department, and then you said -- when I asked what's the 2
- range of responses, you said our priority is to
- 4 determine whether the parent has exhausted local
- 5 resources.
- 6 So I take it that that is an important
- 7 component in the department's determination of what
- response to send to the parent at the end of that
- 9 inquiry; is that correct?
- 10 A. That is correct.
- 11 Q. And to move this along, I'm going to propose to
- you that if the parent has not exhausted local
- 13 resources, one of your responses is to suggest to the
- 14 parent that the parent take the matter up with the local
- 15 school offices; is that correct?
 - MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Call for
- 17 speculation. Misstates witness' testimony.
- THE WITNESS: We try to establish that the 18
- parent understands that there is local recourse, that 19
- 20 some issues can be taken care of on the spot, and that
- 21 there are officials within their area that they could
- 22 contact.

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- BY MR. JACOBS: Are those officials exclusively 23
- 24 school district employees?
- 25 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for

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- 1 speculation.
- 2 THE WITNESS: Not always.
- 3 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Who else might you propose that
- 4 the parent contact?
- 5 A. Local health officials.
- 6 Q. Anybody else?
- 7 A. No.
- 8 MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- 9 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: If the -- in the case where the
- 10 parent has, in the department's judgment, exhausted
- 11 local resources, what is the range of responses that the
- 12 department gives to parents complaining about conditions
- 13 in existing school facilities?
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- 15 Vague and ambiguous. Incomplete and improper
- 16 hypothetical.
- 17 THE WITNESS: That is something that Duwayne
- 18 Brooks could answer. I'm not -- I don't deal with that
- 19 level of detail on correspondence.
- 20 O. BY MR. JACOBS: Do you sign some of those
- 21 letters?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. As to the ones that you've signed, what is the
- 24 range of responses in that circumstance?
- 25 A. It would vary with the circumstance.

- 1 correct?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 O. And then there are state level entities that
- 4 are not LEAs, correct?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. One of those is the Department of Education,
- 7 correct?

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- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 O. And what are the other state level entities
- 10 that you think of in that category that aren't -- in
- 11 other words, entities that are not LEAs that are
- parallel to the Department of Education in the hierarchy
- 13 of school governance in California?
- MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for a legal opinion.
- MR. HERRON: Do you want a list?
 - MR. JACOBS: I want to be clear. If I say
- 18 state level, it's a shorthand. I want to make sure
- 19 we're on the same page as to what the shorthand means.
- THE WITNESS: So you're not asking in relation
- 21 to school facilities in general, you're asking if I'm
- 22 aware of the hierarchy of other agencies?
- 23 MR. JACOBS: Exactly.
 - THE WITNESS: Yes, I'm aware of the distinction
- 25 between agencies.

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- Q. Let's take a -- I take it that some of these
- 2 complaints have been about what the department concludes
- 3 are health and safety issues; is that correct?
- 4 A. That's correct.
- 5 Q. What kind of responses have you signed with
- 6 respect to parental complaints about health and safety
- 7 issues in existing schools?
- 8 MR. HERRON: If you recall.
- 9 THE WITNESS: I don't recall specifics, but
- 10 generally our response is to direct them as closely as
- 11 possible to an official that can solve their problem.
- 12 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Is that official -- in the
- 13 cases that you can recall, has that official ever been
- 4 an official in the Department of Education?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. Has it ever been an official in -- if I propose
- 17 to you that there are state level education officials
- 18 and then there are local educational agencies, does that
- 19 distinction reflect your understanding of the structure
- 20 of the state education governance system?
- 21 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 22 Calls for a legal opinion.
- 23 THE WITNESS: I actually don't understand the
- 24 question.
- 25 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: You understand what an LEA is,

- Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And the distinction between
- 2 agencies at the state level as opposed to the local
- 3 educational agencies?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. So has the response to parental complaints
- 6 about health and safety conditions at existing school
- 7 facilities ever included a direction to an official at a
- 8 state level agency who would solve their problem?
 - MR. HERRON: Objection.
- 10 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 11 speculation. Vague and ambiguous.
- MR. JACOBS: I'm asking for the ones that you
- 13 recall based on your having reviewed or signed such a
- 14 letter.
- 15 THE WITNESS: I don't recall that.
- 16 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: To sum up, the parent is
- 17 directed to an official who you believe, you and the
- 18 people in your branch believe could solve their problem,
- 19 and that official is, to the best of your recollection,
- 20 an official at a local educational agency or an arm of
- 21 local government?
- 22 A. That is correct.
- 23 Q. If we broaden it beyond health and safety
- 24 issues to other issues concerning existing school
- 25 facilities, is the general case one in which you direct

Page 34 Page 36

- 1 the parent again to an official who can solve their
- 2 problem?
- MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Assumes facts not in evidence. Calls for speculation.
- 5 MR. JORDAN: Join the assumes facts not in 6 evidence.
- 7 MR. JACOBS: That's just lawyer stuff.
- 8 MR. HERRON: The problem is she will forget the
- 9 question. Do you want it reread?
- THE WITNESS: Yes. Can I know who these people are?
- MR. JORDAN: I'm Judd Jordan. I represent Los
- 13 Angeles Unified School District and Pajaro Valley
- 14 Unified School District.
- MR. JACOBS: Do you know this gentlemen?
- 16 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- MR. JACOBS: And this is Leecia Welch, who is
- 18 my associate. Let's start again.
- 19 Q. A parent complains about a non health and
- 20 safety related issue, and let's take the period for the
- 21 last two years. First question is, have there been such
- 22 complaints about existing school facilities that are non
- 23 health and safety related?
- 24 MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- 25 THE WITNESS: I can't recall.

1 You may respond.

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- THE WITNESS: We try to refer the parent to the closest person to them that could help them.
- 4 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Just to review, what is the
- 5 response if the parent, you conclude, has already
- 6 resorted to those officials?
 - MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- 8 Incomplete and improper hypothetical.
- 9 If you have a basis for answering, you may.
 - THE WITNESS: Part of our analysis is to
- 11 determine who they have already talked to, and that's
- 12 how we decide who we would recommend that they talk to.
- 13 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And has there been a case in
- 14 the last two years in which you concluded that the
- 15 parent had, in fact, exhausted local resources before
- 16 complaining to you?
- 17 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 18 speculation.
- 19 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I can't recall.
- 20 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Is there a format for a
- 21 response to a parent who has exhausted local resources?
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Asked and answered.
- 23 Vague and ambiguous.
- THE WITNESS: If the parent indicates they have
- 25 exhausted local remedies, we would check that ourselves.

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- 1 O. BY MR. JACOBS: Maybe just to try and tickle
- 2 your memory a little bit. Have there been any
- 3 complaints in the last two years about overcrowding in
- 4 existing school facilities that have come to the
- 5 department of which you are aware?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And what is the -- is there a practice with
- 8 respect to parental complaints about overcrowding in
- 9 terms of how those complaints are handled?
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- 11 THE WITNESS: Do you mean different than other 12 complaints?
- MR. JACOBS: Not complicate it for the moment.

 Let's take overcrowding related complaints.
- 15 Ext stake overcrowding related complaints.
- 15 THE WITNESS: There's not a separate practice 16 for dealing with overcrowding related complaints.
- 17 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: What is the practice, then, for
- 18 dealing with those complaints?
- 19 A. It is the same as I described before.
- 20 Q. That is to refer the parent to a local
- 21 educational agency official or other official of local
- 22 government who could, in the department's judgment,
- 23 solve their problem?
- MR. JORDAN: Assumes facts not in evidence.
- MR. HERRON: Calls for speculation as well.

- Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Right. And so my question is,
- 2 what if you check that and confirm that the parent's
- 3 indication was correct?
- 4 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Hypothetical
- 5 question. Calls for speculation.
- 6 THE WITNESS: What we would do would depend on
- 7 the circumstances.
- 8 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: What's the range of responses
- 9 that are available to you?
- 10 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for a legal
- 11 opinion. Calls for speculation.
- 12 THE WITNESS: It would depend on the
- 13 circumstances.
- 14 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And what circumstances do you
- 15 have in mind in suggesting that it is circumstance
- 16 dependent?

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- 17 MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 18 Calls for speculation.
 - You can respond if you understand the question.
- 20 THE WITNESS: Can you repeat the question?
- 21 MR. JACOBS: Let's settle the context of this
- 22 because we'll ask a couple of lines of questions and
- 23 maybe I can deal with some of the objections and clarify
- 24 it for you as well.
- 25 My questions relate to the practices and

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- 1 procedures of the -- of FTAB as they relate to the
- 2 practices and procedures in dealing with parental
- 3 complaints about existing school facilities. And to the
- 4 extent you have information about those practices and
- 5 procedures, that is all I'm asking for.
- 6 Q. So with that as background, my question is,
- 7 what is the practice and procedure for dealing with a
- 8 parental complaint where you conclude that the parent
- has exhausted local resources and the complaint relates
- to existing school facilities and it is an overcrowding 10 11 complaint?

MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Assumes facts not in evidence. Calls for speculation.

14 THE WITNESS: Our response is to make clear 15 that the parent understands what the chain of command 16 is.

The Department of Education has no responsibility over anything to do with facilities other

- 19 than what I described earlier. And we try to make sure
- 20 that a parent understands who the people are that are
- 21 responsible so they can pursue remedies through the
- 22 appropriate routes.

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- 23 O. BY MR. JACOBS: And the people who are
- 24 responsible that you have in mind in describing the
- practices and procedures of the department are local

- had exhausted local resources and the local resources
- had informed the parent that they could not solve the
- 3 parent's problem because of a lack of assistance from

4 state level agencies?

MR. HERRON: Do you understand the question?

6 THE WITNESS: I understand the question, and

the answer is no.

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8 BY MR. JACOBS: Are you aware of a format for a 9 response to a parent in such circumstances, a format for

10 a response to a parent in such circumstances?

MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous. 11 12 Calls for speculation.

13 THE WITNESS: The format for our response is to clarify for them what the remedies are if they are -- if 14 15 there are any.

16 MR. SEFERIAN: You've answered the question.

17 BY MR. JACOBS: And if there are any parts -- I O. 18 guess what's interesting, what if you determine that the

parent has exhausted the local remedies and there are no

remedies available at the local level, do you have a

21 response for that case?

MR. HERRON: Objection. Asked and answered.

23 Incomplete and improper hypothetical. Calls for

24 speculation. Vague and ambiguous.

You may respond if you understand.

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- officials: is that correct? 1
- 2 That's correct. A.
- 3 Q. So do you have a practice and procedure for the
- 4 case where the parent says in his complaint, and you
- 5 confirm that the indication to you is correct, that the
- 6 parent has exhausted local resources and local resources
- 7 have informed the parent that with the resources
- 8 available to them the problem cannot be solved, so in
- 9 other words, the local official has said, we've done
- 10 everything we can to address your problem, but we are
- 11 not getting the assistance we need from the State of
- California to solve this problem, do you have a response 12

13 for that case?

14 MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation. 15 Incomplete and improper hypothetical. Vague and 16 ambiguous. Assumes facts not in evidence. What else can I think of? 17

18 You may respond if you possibly can.

19 THE WITNESS: I can't. That's too -- too

20 vague.

- 21 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Do you recall an instance in
- 22 the last two years in which you have had to review or
- sign a response to a parent, a parental complaint in
- 24 which the complaint related to existing school
- facilities, it was overcrowding related, and the parent

1 THE WITNESS: It would be to confirm that there 2 are none.

3 O. BY MR. JACOBS: Aside from handling the

4 complaint in the way that you've described, do you have

5 a mechanism for -- do you do anything else with the

6 complaint by way of data gathering?

Let me expand on the question. Suppose you 7

were to get a bunch of complaints from a particular

school district. Aside from processing the complaints

10 in the way that you've described, is there any data

11 assembly that you would do with those complaints?

12 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Hypothetical

question. Calls for speculation. 13

14 THE WITNESS: That -- there is -- that would 15 depend on the circumstances.

16 BY MR. JACOBS: Under what circumstance would 17 there be such a data gathering?

MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.

19 Incomplete and improper hypothetical. Vague and 20 ambiguous.

21 THE WITNESS: In any circumstance in the

22 department that we get correspondence, if we get a lot

23 of correspondence about the same thing, note is taken of

24 that.

18

25 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And with respect to school

Page 42 Page 44

- 1 facilities, have there been instances while you've
- 2 been -- let's just take the last two years. Have there
- 3 been instances in which note has been taken in the way
 4 you've described?

5 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. No foundation.

6 Calls for speculation.

7

THE WITNESS: Not that I can recall, no.

8 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Let me try out an example that

9 we've seen in your printed materials. There's an

10 advisory that's gone out about school bathrooms where

11 the advisory begins by saying, we've received a lot of

12 complaints and questions about bathroom facilities.

13 Are you a -- first of all, are you aware of 14 that advisory?

MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.

16 THE WITNESS: I don't recall that advisory.

17 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Might you recall it if we

18 showed it to you?

19 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for

20 speculation.

24

2

14

21 O. BY MR. JACOBS: You don't know?

22 A. I don't know.

23 MR. JACOBS: Off the record for a second.

(Discussion held off the record.)

25 MR. JACOBS: Let's mark as SAD-33 SFP advisory

1 object.

THE WITNESS: What was your question?

3 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Do you recall the issuance of

4 this advisory?

5 A. I do not recall it.

6 Q. Have you had any participation in any

7 discussions about the number and conditions of toilets

8 at California public schools in the last four years?

9 A. No.

10 Q. Are you aware that the California Department of

11 Education frequently receives questions from the public

12 concerning the number and conditions of toilets and

13 other health and safety issues in California public

14 schools?

15 A. Not personally. I'm not personally aware.

16 Q. By the "personally aware," I take it you're

17 not -- you said that because you don't dispute that the

18 department has issued this advisory and is therefore

19 aware of it.

This issue has not personally surfaced to your

21 attention, is that what you meant?

22 A. That is exactly what I meant.

23 Q. Do you see down at the bottom of this advisory

24 it says on the first page, CDE reviews and approves

5 school sites and facility plans for educational adequacy

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1 99-02 printed from --

MR. HAMILTON: Are there copies?

MR. JACOBS: There are. -- printed from the CDE website.

5 (Exhibit SAD-33 was marked.)

6 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Does this refresh your

7 recollection as to the issuance of an advisory

8 concerning the number and conditions of toilets at

9 California public schools?

MR. HERRON: Can she have an opportunity to review it, please.

Has this been produced in discovery, Michael, if you know?

MR. JACOBS: I don't know.

MR. HERRON: To the extent it's not, we object to its use in the deposition since all documents

17 relevant to the case have been requested, and I don't

18 believe this has been produced, and so to that extent I

19 object to its use in deposition.

MR. JACOBS: To be clear, David, I believe you produced this document to us.

MR. HERRON: I don't see any ID on it, so it

23 may be possible. And I don't know either, Michael, I'm

just saying to the extent that it hasn't been produced

and it's being used for the first time in deposition, we

1 and child safety? Do you see that?

2 A. Yes

3 Q. Is that consistent with your understanding that

4 the Department of Education reviews and approves plans

5 for new school facilities?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And then it goes on to say, however,

8 enforcement of the building code requirements and other

9 regulations that deal with these topics is the

10 responsibility of the local school board.

11 Do you see that?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And then it says, CDE has no regulatory

14 responsibility in the maintenance of facilities,

15 maintenance also is the responsibility of the local

16 school board. Do you see that?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Is that consistent with -- as you read that

19 information, is that consistent with the answer that you

20 received concerning -- when you inquired as to the

21 Department of Education's responsibility for existing

22 school facilities?

23

MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.

24 THE WITNESS: If you're referring to your

25 earlier question of my conversation with Duwayne Brooks

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- about my responsibility with the Department of
- 2 Education, yes, this is as I understand it to be.
- 3 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Have you ever participated in
- 4 discussions at any time in your position in State -- in
- 5 the Department of Education in which it was proposed
- 6 that the CDE assume greater responsibility with respect
- 7 to maintenance of facilities?
- 8 MR. SEFERIAN: I'll object to the extent that
- 9 that calls for privileged communications.
- 10 THE WITNESS: I actually don't recall having
- 11 that kind of conversation.
- 12 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Let me ask you about policy
- 13 development and how the different divisions engage in
- 14 policy development.
- MR. HERRON: You mean within her branch?
- 16 MR. JACOBS: Yes.
- 17 Q. Is it part of the branch's responsibility, as
- 18 you understand those responsibilities, to examine issues
- 19 and engage in policy initiatives?
- MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 21 THE WITNESS: The branch means me. Duwayne is
- 22 the division.
- 23 MR. JACOBS: Okay.
- 24 THE WITNESS: The answer to your question is,
- 25 yes, I consider that part of my responsibility in

1 information available to your branch or divisions in

Page 48

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- 2 your branch about the conditions of existing school
- 3 facilities?
- 4 A. You know, I got confused at the beginning of
- 5 your question because you really didn't ask me if we
- 6 engaged in gathering information about existing school
- 7 facilities.
- 8 Q. What did you understand me to be asking you
- 9 about?
- 10 A. Why don't you repeat what you're asking me.
- 11 Q. What I have in my notes is that you answered
- 12 there is no systematic eff -- there has been no
- 13 systematic effort to collect information regarding
- 14 existing school facilities.
- 15 A. And I understand that to be complaints about
- 16 existing school facilities. We have data about existing
- 17 school facilities.
- 18 Q. What data do you have?
- 19 A. We have basic information about where they are
- 0 and how many there are.
- 21 Q. Do you have information about the age of those
- 22 facilities?
- 23 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 24 speculation.
- 25 THE WITNESS: You would have to ask Duwayne

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- 1 general in the division I oversee, to examine policy
- 2 related to them.
- 3 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And it is not -- let me say it
- 4 in the negative. It's not outside your area of
- 5 responsibility to examine issues and then engage in
- 6 policy initiatives with respect to those issues?
- 7 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for a legal 8 opinion.
- 9 MR. HERRON: Vague and ambiguous.
- THE WITNESS: I'm not sure I know what you
- 11 mean, so I can't answer that.
- 12 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Have you led any policy
- 13 initiatives in the last two years?
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 15 THE WITNESS: Yes, I have.
- 16 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Give me a for instance.
- 17 A. In education technology we have been involved
- 18 in recommending policies for schools.
- 19 Q. Are you aware of any information about -- let
- 20 me see if I can refine this.
- We've talked about whether you've engaged in a
- 22 systematic effort to collect information about existing
- 23 school facilities, and we talked about complaints from
- 24 parents about existing school facilities.
- 25 Are you aware of any other sources of

1 Brooks.

- 2 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Have you ever asked, in your
- 3 role as branch deputy superintendent, what information
- 4 do we have about existing school facilities?
- 5 A. I don't recall.
- 6 Q. Are you aware of any other information that you
- 7 do have about existing school facilities other than the
- 8 data elements you just mentioned?
- 9 A. I'm not aware of what else is in the data that
- 10 we have.
- MR. HERRON: When you get to a convenient
- 12 stopping point --
- 13 MR. JACOBS: This is probably a good time.
- 14 (Recess taken 11:05 a.m. to 11:10 a.m.)
- 15 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Let's stay with facilities for
- 16 a little while longer. What is the role of your branch
- 17 in the development of State policy with respect to
- 18 facilities?
- 19 A. Duwayne Brooks represents the State
- 20 superintendent on the State allocation board. She's a
- 21 statutory member. So to the extent that the work of the
- 22 State allocation board is -- their work is influenced
- 23 somewhat by our involvement.
- Q. What other roles does the -- does your branch
- 25 play?

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- 1 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 2 speculation.
- 3 THE WITNESS: We are asked to respond to
- 4 legislative requests regarding legislative proposals. A
- 5 portion of our work is to analyze proposed legislation.
- 6 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: While you have been in your
- 7 FTAB role, have you analyzed legislation with respect
- 8 to -- proposed legislation with respect to existing
- 9 school facilities?
- 10 MR. HERRON: She personally?
- 11 MR. JACOBS: Your branch, that you're aware of.
- 12 THE WITNESS: My branch, yes.
- 13 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: What comes to mind in terms of
- 14 proposals you've analyzed?
- 15 A. There are hundreds of bills every year that go
- 16 through the legislature that relate to school
- 17 facilities, and we would be asked to respond to most of
- 18 them. I don't personally have a recollection of a
- 19 particular issue.
- 20 O. In the course of your analysis of legislative
- 21 proposals with respect to existing school facilities,
- 22 has your branch been called upon to assess the degree to
- 23 which those proposals would resolve any unmet needs on
- 24 the part of local educational agencies with respect to
- 25 school facilities?

- 1 existing facilities?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. And so how about with respect to existing
- 4 facilities, have you --
- 5 A. I don't know the extent to which the data is
- 6 able to capture that level of data.
- 7 Q. And have you -- to your knowledge, has your
- 8 branch been asked to assess whether -- start with bond
- 9 initiatives -- whether proposed bond initiatives would,
- 10 in fact, meet unmet needs for existing school
- 11 facilities?
- 12 A. Could you repeat the first part of the
- 13 question.
- 14 Q. Let's just do it again. Has your branch been
- 15 asked to assess whether proposed bonds would meet unmet
- 16 needs for existing school facilities?
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 18 Calls for speculation.
- 19 THE WITNESS: I don't know.
- 20 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Aside from proposed bonds, have
- 21 there been other instances in which your branch has been
- 22 asked to assess whether a legislative proposal would
- 23 meet unmet needs with respect to existing school
- 24 facilities?
- 25 MR. HERRON: Same objections.

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- 1 MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 2 Calls for speculation.
- THE WITNESS: So repeat the question, please.
 - (Record read.)
- 5 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 6 O. BY MR. JACOBS: What are the circumstances in
- 7 which that is -- in which you've been asked to do that?
- 8 A. The common one is bond legislation, proposing
- 9 bonds.

4

- 10 Q. And in that connection, I take it, you have
- 11 answered the question will this bond be sufficient to
- 12 meet so far unmet needs?
- 13 MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 14 Calls for speculation.
- 15 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 16 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: How have you gone about
- 17 assessing that question?
- 18 MR. HERRON: Objection. Assumes facts not in
- 19 evidence. Calls for speculation. Vague and ambiguous.
- 20 You may respond.
- 21 THE WITNESS: Wayne Brooks's division keeps --
- 22 has data that supports estimates on projected need for
- 23 school facilities.
- 24 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: By "projected needs," are you
- 25 focusing on new school construction as opposed to

- THE WITNESS: Yes, that's a common thread
- 2 through legislation, dealing -- addressing school
- 3 facilities.
- 4 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: That common thread being the
- 5 existing?
- 6 A. The justification for the legislation would be
- 7 the need, and we would be asked to comment on that.
- 8 Q. And what information do you have as to the
- 9 analytical methods your branch uses to address those
- 10 questions?

11

23

24

- MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- MR. SEFERIAN: Calls for speculation.
- 13 THE WITNESS: Duwayne Brooks would be the best
- 14 person to respond to that. I don't have good firsthand
- 15 information about that.
- 16 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Have you ever been involved in
- 17 discussions in which you have -- in which the topic of
- 18 discussion has been whether the branch's analytical
- 19 capabilities with respect to questions that are posed to
- 20 the branch about existing school facilities need to be
- 21 strengthened?
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
 - THE WITNESS: Could you repeat the question.
 - (Record read.)
- MR. HERRON: I'll stand by that objection.

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- 1 You may respond if you understand.
- 2 THE WITNESS: No, I don't recall that kind of 3 conversation.
- 4 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Are you aware of any
- 5 recommendations from outside the department that the
- department strengthen its ability to analyze questions 6
- 7 about proposed initiatives related to existing school
- facilities? 8
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. Have you expressed any views about whether the
- existing mechanisms by which the State supports local 11
- educational agencies with respect to existing school
- facilities are sufficient to meet the needs of those 13
- 14 LEAs?
- 15 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 16 Overbroad.
- THE WITNESS: Could you repeat the question. 17 (Record read.)
- 18
- 19 THE WITNESS: No, I have not.
- 20 O. BY MR. JACOBS: So to just ask it a couple
- different ways to make sure we're not misunderstanding 21
- each other. You have never said in words or substance,
- we at the state level are not doing enough to support
- 24 school districts in maintaining existing school
- 25 facilities?

- the branch. And I'm going to an even higher level of
- 2 abstraction, I suppose, and I'm asking you whether
- 3 you've participated in any discussions in which the
- 4 topic of discussion has been whether the State does
- 5 enough to support local educational agencies with
- 6 respect to the maintenance of existing school
- 7 facilities?
- 8 MR. HERRON: Is that a question?
- 9 MR. JACOBS: Yes.
 - MR. HERRON: Objection. Asked and answered.
- You've already asked that question a couple of different 11
- 12 ways.

10

- 13 You may answer again.
- 14 THE WITNESS: And the question started with,
- 15 have I participated in a discussion?
- 16 O. BY MR. JACOBS: Yeah. To reset, I previously
- 17 asked you whether you personally articulated a view
- 18 on --
- 19 A. Now you're asking if I participated in the
- 20 conversation?
- 21 Yes. Q.
- Yes, I have participated. 22 A.
- 23 Q. What has been the forum for those
- 24 conversations?
- Most recently there was a study by the 25 A.

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- MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- Misstates the witness' testimony. 2
- 3 THE WITNESS: I have -- you're asking me if I
- 4 personally have said that the State doesn't do enough to
- 5 meet -- that the State does not do enough to meet school
- 6 facilities?

7

- MR. JACOBS: That's my question, correct.
- 8 THE WITNESS: No, I haven't said that.
- 9 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Have you engaged in any
- 10 discussions on that topic internally to the branch?
- 11 MR. HERRON: Objection. Asked and answered.
- I'll object to the extent that you're asking for
- communications that may have been made to an attorney, 13
- 14 but I don't think that's what you're asking.
- 15 MR. JACOBS: Correct.
- 16 MR. HERRON: Do you want the question reread?
- 17 THE WITNESS: Yeah.
- 18 MR. HERRON: Sorry.
- 19 THE WITNESS: That's okay. I'm trying to
- 20 figure out what you're asking me.
- 21 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Okay. So we've covered --
- 22 we've approached this question of what the State does
- from a couple of different perspectives. We've talked
- about data gathering, and I've asked you questions about 24
- that. We've talked about the analytical capabilities of

- legislative analyst suggesting some solutions for
- 2 funding of school facilities.
- 3 Q. Did that study prompt internal discussion in
- 4 your branch?
- 5 A. Yes, it did.
- 6 0. What was the result of that discussion?
 - MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 8 0. BY MR. JACOBS: Was there a result of that
- 9 discussion?

7

- 10 A. There was.
- 11 Q. Was there a conclusion?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. What was the conclusion?
- 14 A. We provided a written response to the
- legislative analyst with an analysis of some of their 15
- 16 recommendations, not one conclusion.
- Q. Did that go out under your signature? 17
- 18 A. No.
- 19 0. Duwayne's?
- 20 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 21 speculation.
- 22 THE WITNESS: No, it didn't.
- 23 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Under whose auspices --
- 24 A. It went out under Delaine's signature.
- 25 Q. Aside from the legislative analyst proposal

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- prompting such a discussion, have there been other
- discussions on the topic of whether the State does 2
- 3 enough to support LEAs with respect to existing school
- 4 facilities?
- 5 MR. HERRON: In which she participated?
- 6 MR. JACOBS: In which she participated, yes.
- 7 MR. HERRON: If you recall.
- 8 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 9 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: What discussions do you recall?
- 10 A. Those are the kinds of discussions that go on
- normally related to legislative proposals. 11
- 12 O. The output of those discussions is a formal
- comment on the proposal? 13
- 14 A.
- 15 Q. And that's conveyed by the department to the
- 16 legislature?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 O. Is there someone in your branch who is
- 19 interested with coordinating comments on legislative
- proposal -- legislative proposals?
- There -- yes. 21 A.
- 22 Q. Who is that?
- 23 A. Each division has someone that coordinates
- 24 responses that they do for legislation related to their
- 25 work.

- last year, let's say, aside from discussions with
- 2 attorneys on this case?
- 3 MR. HERRON: You kind of need to define the
- 4 topic of the discussion.

5

8

- MR. JACOBS: I think she just did.
- 6 MR. HERRON: I don't understand it. Objection.
- 7 Vague and ambiguous.
 - If you understand, you may respond.
- 9 THE WITNESS: In the past year we have
- 10 supported -- each year each branch is asked to suggest
- 11 proposed legislation, and as long as I have been in the
- Department of Education, every year we have proposed 12
- 13 additional funding for school facilities.
- 14 BY MR. JACOBS: And in particular with respect
- 15 to existing school facilities?
- 16 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 17 speculation.
- 18 THE WITNESS: I don't know.
- 19 BY MR. JACOBS: Your answer related to both,
- that is future -- new facilities and possibly existing
- 21 facilities in the same context; is that right?
- 22 That is correct.
- 23 0. So take the most recent year. Did the -- did
- 24 your branch propose that the legislature appropriated
- additional funding for school facilities?

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- And in the case of Duwayne's division, do you 1
- 2 happen to know who that is?
- 3 A. Duwayne would ultimately coordinate that.
- 4 Aside from commenting on proposed legislation, O.
- 5 have you had discussions about legislation -- let me 6 start again.
- 7
 - I take it that the answer you just gave relates
- 8 to the case where something comes out of the legislature
- 9 as a piece of proposed legislation, and then you're
- 10 asked to comment on it, correct?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 O. Are there cases in which you've had discussions
- about support for LEAs with respect to existing school 13
- facilities in which the focus has been legislation you
- 15 would like to see come out of the legislature but has
- 16 not yet been proposed?
- MR. HERRON: "You" being her branch? 17
- 18 MR. JACOBS: Correct.
- 19 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 20 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: What kind of discussions have
- 21 you had along those lines?
- 22 Exactly what you said, the discussion would be A.
- 23 should the department take any kind of proactive role in
- 24 causing there to be legislation.
- 25 And what such discussions have you had in the

- MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 2 speculation.
- 3 THE WITNESS: Yes. Yes.
- 4 BY MR. JACOBS: And what was the proposal that Q.
- 5 vour branch recommended?
- 6 A. What I recommended was that Duwayne check and
- make sure that if the pro -- whether or not there was 7
- already a proposal on the table. 8
- Meaning something that had been developed in Q.
- 10 the legislature?
- 11 That was already being formulated by other
- groups that are also involved in advocating for more
- school facilities, to determine whether we needed to do 13
- 14 a new different one or just support what was going to be
- 15 there.
- 16 Q. What did you learn?
- A. I think there already was one in the hopper 17
- this year, but I'm not exactly sure. Duwayne would be 18
- the best source of information on that. 19
- And do you have an operating understanding, you 20
- 21 personally have an operating understanding when you
- 22 approach these policy questions about funding for school
- 23 facilities about whether there are serious unmet needs
- with respect to school facilities? 24
- 25 MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous as

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- phrased. Vague as to time.
- 2 THE WITNESS: I don't understand what
- 3 "operating understanding" would be.
- 4 BY MR. JACOBS: Well, by an operating
- 5 understanding I mean a -- kind of a consistent viewpoint
- 6 that doesn't necessarily have to get revisited each time
- 7 you look at a legislative proposal, but it's just
- 8 something that you share, that you have to yourself and
- that you share with your colleagues, and then that
- 10 becomes the framework for evaluating these proposals.
- 11 That's what I mean by an operating
- 12 understanding.
- A. 13 We have data that tells us there are not enough
- school buildings for the children we have in this state,
- and I know that, and that's the basis of most of the
- 16 legislation that we would advocate, is to fill that gap.
- 17 Do you have a current understanding as to
- 18 whether, given current funding levels and legislation,
- 19 that gap will be closed?
- 20 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 21 MR. HERRON: Calls for speculation as well.
- 22 Object on that ground.
- 23 THE WITNESS: I know that current legislation
- 24 does not solve the problem.
- 25 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And do you have a -- can you

- Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Have you personally discussed
- 2 that sheet with people outside the branch, have you
- 3 explained what's on that sheet?
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous. 4
 - THE WITNESS: Ever?
- MR. JACOBS: Yes. 6
 - THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 8 O. BY MR. JACOBS: Is school facilities fingertip
- 9 facts, January 2001, is this the -- first of all, is
- 10 school facilities fingertip facts the sheet you have in
- mind? 11

5

7

17

- 12 A. Yes, it is.
- 13 Q. And is January 2001 the latest version of that
- 14 sheet, to the best of your knowledge?
- 15 To the best of my knowledge.
- 16 MR. JACOBS: So let's mark this as SAD-34.
 - (Exhibit SAD-34 was marked.)
- 18 O. BY MR. JACOBS: Please take a minute to review
- 19 this document. I'm going to ask you to explain its
- contents to us.
- 21 MR. HERRON: Michael, do you know whether this
- 22 document has been produced in discovery?
- 23 MR. JACOBS: I only know from the print date
- 24 that we just found it, so I don't know whether it was
- produced.

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- expand on that answer, in what way it doesn't solve the I would submit that it is a document responsive 2
- 2 problem?
- 3 MR. HERRON: She can if you ask a question.
- 4 MR. JACOBS: Go ahead.
- 5 MR. HERRON: You can wait until he asks you a
- 6 question that you can understand. If you understand
- 7 what he's asking -- I don't think it's a question, but
- 8 if you understand, you can respond. Otherwise you can
- 9 ask him to be more specific.
- 10 THE WITNESS: Ask a question because now I sort 11 of lost the train of thought.
- 12 O. BY MR. JACOBS: Why will the gap not be closed?
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation. 13
- 14 Vague and ambiguous.
- 15 THE WITNESS: Our projection of need surpasses
- 16 the dollar amounts that are in current proposed
- 17 legislation.
- 18 O. BY MR. JACOBS: Is that viewpoint summarized in
- 19 any reports that have come out of your branch?
- 20 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 21 speculation.
- 22 THE WITNESS: Yes, we have basic data about
- school facilities, sheet, that is done every year, and
- it consistently substantiates that there are not enough
- facilities for current and projected student population.

- - to requests we have framed to your clients for document
- 3 production, however --
 - MR. HERRON: I would submit that it's
- responsive to requests that we propounded on you, and
- since it's being used in deposition, and I don't believe
- it's been produced by you yet, we object to its use for 7
- 8 the reasons I've noted in writing several times.
 - MR. JACOBS: Noted.
- 10 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Can you explain this document
- 11 to us?
- 12 MR. HERRON: You can take as much time as you'd
- 13 like to review the document. If he's going to ask you
- about the contents, feel comfortable with it and then he
- 15 can ask you questions.
- 16 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. No foundation.
- 17 Calls for speculation.
- 18 THE WITNESS: This is a typical annual fact
- 19 sheet that we put out about school facilities.
- 20 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Does this document go to the
- 21 State Board of Education?
- 22 A. I don't know.
- 23 O. Do you know to whom it is distributed?
- 24 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Assumes facts not in
- 25 evidence.

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- THE WITNESS: Its purpose is for whoever asks
- 2 for it.
- 3 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Have you -- are you aware of
- 4 this particular version, the January 2001 version,
- 5 having been asked for by anyone?
- 6 A. I'm not aware of any specific requests for it.
- 7 Q. Can you explain the various entries on here and
- 8 how the document relates to the conclusion that you
- 9 reported a few questions and answers ago about that the
- 10 projection of the need surpasses the dollar amounts that 11 are currently available?
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Compound. Vague and ambiguous.
- 14 MR. SEFERIAN: No foundation.
- MR. HERRON: Are you asking whether she's able
- 16 to?
- 17 MR. JACOBS: Yes.
- 18 THE WITNESS: I could probably explain it.
- 19 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Would you please do so.
- 20 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for a
- 21 narrative.
- MR. HERRON: I'm going to object as vague and
- 23 ambiguous. I'm not sure I understand what the question
- 24 is, although my understanding doesn't matter.
- So if you understand, feel free to respond.

- 1 VIII -- maybe I'll prompt you a little bit and we'll
- 2 expedite this.
- Roman VIII recites the State's general bond obligation, bond history, correct?
- 5 A. Yes
- 6 Q. And these general obligation bonds are set
- 7 forth here because they are general obligations as to
- 8 school construction as opposed to highways?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Looking at the 1998 entry, for example, general
- 11 obligation bonds for school constructions of \$6.7
- 12 billion for four years were approved; is that correct?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And I may be wrong on this, but to move this
- 15 along, I take it that what you are suggesting one would
- 16 do is look at 6.7 billion over four years, divide it by
- 17 four, come up with an annual amount, and compare that
- 18 annual amount with the identification of new
- 19 construction needs, is that how you work this?
- 20 A. Would that be --
- 21 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Misstates the
- 22 witness' testimony. Vague and ambiguous.
- 23 THE WITNESS: The premise isn't correct, that
- 24 you divide it by four, so you -- I probably -- I'm
- 25 probably reading into this chart because I know that the

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- THE WITNESS: The document pretty clearly lays
- out the need per year, and the bond history would tell
 you that there's not enough money to pay for that.
- 4 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: So let's take the bond history
- 5 category first. How does one read this chart? I take
- 6 it you're looking at the Roman numeral VIII; is that
- 7 correct?
- 8 A. Uh-huh.
- 9 Q. How does one read this chart to discern how
- 10 much money is available for school construction?
- 11 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. No foundation.
- 12 Calls for speculation.
- 13 THE WITNESS: So what was your question again?
- MR. JACOBS: Could you read it back, please.
- 15 (Record read.)
- 16 THE WITNESS: The question is how would
- 17 somebody discern how much money is available for school
- 18 construction?
- 19 MR. JACOBS: Based on this chart.
- THE WITNESS: This chart doesn't tell you that.
- 21 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: It tells you what?
- 22 A. It tells you what the last bond was. It
- 23 doesn't tell you the correlation between the need -- the
- 24 number of classrooms and the cost per classroom.
- 25 Q. No, my question was, with respect to Roman

- bond money is pretty much gone now, so that wouldn't be
- 2 clear from this chart.
- 3 O. BY MR. JACOBS: So let's focus on the chart
- 4 first, and then we'll go to what other information you
- 5 have.
- 6 How do you read this chart to determine whether
- 7 there are sufficient funds available for school
- 8 facilities on a projected basis?
- 9 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 10 speculation.

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- THE WITNESS: I'm not sure.
- 12 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: I thought you had indicated you
- 13 had explained at least a form of this chart in the past
- 14 to others?
- 15 A. Yeah, I have. And, actually, there is
- 16 another -- we have a fact book for the department that's
- 17 in narrative, not in chart form, and it actually
- 18 narratively explains that.
- 19 Q. Do you know the title of that document?
- 20 A. It's called The Fact Book.
- 21 Q. State Department of Education Fact Book?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. Whether or not aided by this chart, I take it
- 24 it is your view that there is insufficient funding
- 25 currently appropriated to meet projected school

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- 1 construction needs; is that correct?
- 2 MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 3 Calls for speculation.
- 4 THE WITNESS: Well, and also to correct my
- 5 previous statement, the extrapolation here, if it
- 6 exists, if you look at Roman numeral II that says new
- 7 construction needs being almost 2 billion a year and not
- 8 seeing another bond after 1998, you could get -- you
- 9 could make that -- that is clear, then, that the money
- 10 doesn't exist on this sheet of paper.
- 11 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Now maybe you can help me,
- 12 though, with how Roman numeral II, new construction
- 13 needs relates to Roman III, modernization and deferred
- 14 maintenance need.
- 15 A. What is the question?
- 16 Q. How do they relate to each other?
- 17 A. They don't.
- 18 Q. So to determine total needs do you add Roman II
- 19 and III?
- 20 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 21 speculation. Vague and ambiguous. Lacks foundation.
- 22 THE WITNESS: By adding II and III, you would
- 23 get a partial picture of the need.
- 24 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: What would you be leaving out?
- 25 MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.

- 1 The reason I'm asking is it says under Roman
- 2 III total need for both state and local funds, 2 and 3
- 3 rounded. I guess now I'm seeing this. That 3.81
- 4 billion represents the sum of 2 plus 3A and B; is that
- 5 your understanding of this chart?
- 6 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. No foundation.
- 7 THE WITNESS: What was your question?
 - MR. HERRON: I think he's saying you add 2 plus
- 9 3A and 3B to get that. I think that's the question.
- THE WITNESS: It appears that that's what's happened there.
- 12 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Have you -- do you have a -- if
- 13 someone asks you in the course of a meeting, Ms. Lange,
- 14 what do we need on an annual basis for facilities, do
- 15 you have a kind of a quick answer to that question?
- 16 MR. HERRON: Now?
 - MR. JACOBS: Currently, yes.
- THE WITNESS: A school a day for several years.
- 19 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Do you have any other quick
- 20 answers to that question?
- 21 A. No.

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- 22 Q. You don't say something like we need \$4 billion
- 23 a year or we need \$3 billion a year, something like that
- 24 in answer to that question?
- 25 A. Right now, no.

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- 1 THE WITNESS: I'm not sure what we'd be leaving
- 2 out.
- 3 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: You said you'd get a partial
- 4 picture?
- 5 A. I'm not sure this is the total. So the
- 6 question is, I don't know -- I mean, the answer is, I
- 7 don't know.
- 8 Q. But you're not sure that --
- 9 MR. HERRON: That may be the question.
- 10 MR. JACOBS: I think I've proven that.
- 11 Q. Just to be clear, are you questioning whether
- 12 the entry on Roman II or Roman III is correct, or are
- 13 you questioning whether they are all of the components
- 14 of projected needs?
- 15 A. The latter.
- 16 Q. And so in addition to new construction needs
- 17 and modernization and deferred maintenance needs, you're
- 18 unsure whether there may be additional facilities
- 19 related needs?
- 20 A. That is correct.
- 21 Q. And do you have anything in mind as you're --
- 22 A. No, I just don't know.
- 23 Q. But by adding the 1.94 in Roman II and the 3.81
- 24 in Roman III, you would be -- let me ask that a little
- 25 differently.

- Q. Have you had such a number as a basis for
- 2 giving a quick answer to that question in the past?
- 3 A. In the past, more when I did public relations,
- 4 we generally had for that year. Any given year that
- 5 number will change, and so we usually had the numbers of
- 6 the year.

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- 7 Q. Can you explain to me the process -- let's take
- 8 it for the last year -- if there was one, in which the
- 9 department's assessments of unmet needs were fed into
- the appropriations mechanism? I guess I'm asking twoquestions.
- Was there such a feeding? Was there such a process, and if so, what was it?
- MR. HERRON: Objection to the extent it's
- 15 already been asked and answered.
 - You may respond.
- 17 Also object as vague and ambiguous.
 - THE WITNESS: I assume the information was fed
- 19 in. I don't know the process.
- 20 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: So to ask that a little
- 21 differently, are you aware of a process by which the
- 22 Department of Education formally states to another
- 23 entity of state government, this is our assessment of
- 24 how much we need for school facilities on a this-year or
- 25 next-year basis, this is our recommendation as to how --

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- 1 as to what you should do with that dollar figure?
- 2 A. I don't know the answer to that.
- 3 Q. Is there -- do you know of an obstacle, of a
- 4 barrier to that information being conveyed to the
- 5 legislature?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. So you're not aware of a case in which you
- 8 have, let's take you, yourself, where you've said, we've
- 9 got to get this money, I'm going to do what I can to get
- 10 it done, and you reached some sort of a barrier in the
- 11 executive branch in which you are told, no, you cannot
- 12 convey that to the legislature?
- 13 MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 14 Incomplete, improper hypothetical.
- 15 THE WITNESS: No, I'm not aware of that ever
- 16 happening.
- 17 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Roman VIII with the general
- 18 obligation bond history, is this -- what is your
- 19 understanding of the financing mechanism for new school
- 20 construction?
- 21 Let me focus that question a little bit. Are
- 22 the general state obligation bonds the exclusive source
- 23 of funding for new construction?
- 24 A. No.
- 25 Q. What are the other sources?

- 1 school a day, how many schools are we building a week, a
- 2 month, this year?
- 3 A. No, I've never asked that.
- 4 MR. HERRON: If you're done with this document,
- 5 is this a good breaking point?
- 6 MR. JACOBS: It's fine to break now. What was
- 7 our understanding of Ms. Lange's availability? What's
- 8 our previous understanding of Ms. Lange's availability
- 9 today?
 - MR. HERRON: We're certainly here for today. I
- 11 don't know what your needs are. You probably don't know
- 12 either at this point. I have to -- if we're going to
- 13 stay over, I have to leave no later than noon tomorrow,
- 14 so if it's going to go, you know, beyond a day, that's
- 15 my limitation.

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- MR. JACOBS: Was it your -- and it was your
- 17 plan to go day to day and continue?
- 18 MR. HERRON: I mean, if we need to. I
- 19 thought -- this can be off the record.
 - MR. JACOBS: Yeah.
- 21 (Lunch recess taken 12:38 p.m. to 1:04 p.m.)
 - (Exhibit SAD-35 was marked.)
- 23 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Ms. Lange, I've marked as
- 24 SAD-35 a memo dated June 8th, 2000, produced by the
- Department of Education under Bates No. 899 to 921.

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- 1 A. I don't know enough about those to speak about
- 2 them.
- 3 Q. Are you personally knowledgeable about -- let's
- 4 take 1 for example -- estimated public K-12 growth, it
- 5 says, based on California Department of Finance
- 6 estimates?
- 7 Do you have any information about -- any
- 8 additional information about the source of that data?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. How about Roman IV, new classrooms needed, do
- 11 you have any additional information about the source of
- 12 that data?
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 14 THE WITNESS: I don't have any other
- 15 information about it.
- 16 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And do you know who actually
- 17 prepares this facts sheet?
- 18 A. Duwayne Brooks and his staff.
- 19 Q. Come back to your school-a-day answer. Do you
- 20 happen to know how many new schools are currently being
- 21 constructed in this state?
- 22 A. No, I don't know the answer to that.
- 23 Q. In general terms?
- 24 A. No.
- 25 Q. Have you ever asked -- my view is we need a

- 1 MR. SEFERIAN: Can I have a copy of that?
- 2 MR. JACOBS: I'm sorry. Sure.
- 3 MR. SEFERIAN: Thank you.
- 4 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: This document is identified as
- 5 coming from you to members of the State Board of
- 6 Education, and it refers in the opening paragraph to a
- 7 request at a recent meeting for updated information on
- 8 school facilities. Do you see that?
- 9 A. Uh-huh. Yes.
- 10 Q. Do you recall the request that was made?
- 11 A. Yes
- 12 O. What was the request?
- 13 A. We, at this time, had new Board members on the
- 14 State Board of Education, and they just wanted to
- 15 understand the State Department of Education's role in
- 16 school facilities and have some general information.
- 17 Q. Did the -- once this memo was delivered --
- 18 strike that.
- 19 Do you attend State Board of Education meetings
- 20 routinely?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. Do you have any information as to whether there
- 23 was a discussion of this memo at the State Board of
- 24 Education?
- 25 A. Yes.

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- 1 Q. What information do you have?
- 2 A. There was no discussion.
- 3 O. Does this format for the document at Bates --
- 4 do you see this number down here, the Bates number that
- 5 I'm referring to? Do you see No. 901?
- 6 A. Uh-huh.
- 7 Q. Does this format -- do you have more
- familiarity with this format of the document than the 8
- 9 fingertip facts that we looked at before?
- 10 MR. HERRON: You're at 901?
- MR. JACOBS: Yes. 11
- THE WITNESS: Yes. 12
- 13 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: What does this document convey?
- 14 This was generally intended to give the
- magnitude of the need at that time. 15
- 16 O. And looking at the second category there it
- 17 says, local portion of need.
- 18 A. Yes.
- Q. 19 What is your understanding of that information?
- 20 That's to express what it would take to match
- the State needs, since in the school funding that comes 21
- from -- this is all Proposition 1A as it's categorized 22
- 23 at the top. That funding needed a match in order to be
- 24 received.
- 25 O. So, in other words, if a school district was

for speculation.

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- 2 Are you referring only to page 901?
 - MR. JACOBS: Well, that's a fair question.
- 4 Q. This is the way we got the document from -- as
- 5 it was produced to us. Do you recall the document and
- what actually went to the -- what went to the Board of 6
- 7 Education under vour memo?
- 8 A. I don't know that it was different than this.
- 9 Q. At the time did you form an understanding of
- 10 the rest of the document?
- The rest of the document is something that was 11 A.
- 12 not prepared separately for them, it was something
- already in existence that we keep on hand and try -- the 13
- 14 general information in it is commonly asked for
- 15 information.
- 16 Q. So let's come back to the rest of it then.
- 17 A. But we usually try to put it rightside up.
- 18 O. What is the -- let's start with the
- 19 intermediate bottom line. It says total annual State
- need, \$1.9 billion.
- 21 A. Are you back on 901?
- 22 Q. Yes. I'm sorry. And what's your understanding
- 23 of what's conveyed in that box?
- 24 What box was it? What was your question? A.
- The total annual State need minus total annual 25 Q.

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- going to draw on Prop 1A funds for, let's start with new
- construction, it was going to have to match the Prop 1A 2
- 3 funds with money from its budget at a 50/50 level?
- 4 A. That's correct.
- 5 Q. And do you have an understanding of what
- 6 sources a school district can draw on for that
- 7 50-percent match?
- 8 I don't have a good enough understanding of
- 9 that to discuss it.
- 10 And then do you understand the 20/80 O.
- 11 distinction -- do you understand the distinction between
- modernization and new construction?
- I generally understand the distinction, yes. 13 A.
- 14 O. And the distinction is what?
- 15 A. That new construction could be for brand-new
- 16 buildings, and modernization would be for upgrading
- current facilities. 17
- Is it your understanding that it was a feature 18
- 19 of Proposition 1A that modernization would be funded on
- 20 an 80-percent state, 20-percent local basis?
- 21 A. That's my understanding.
- 22 Q. What is the, as they say, bottom line of this
- document in terms of needs versus funds provided? 23
- 24 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 25 MR. HERRON: Document speaks for itself. Calls

- Prop 1A funds equals total annual State shortfall.
 - MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- THE WITNESS: Yeah, I'm not -- I don't know 3
- 4 enough about the generation of these numbers to know
- 5 what else it was trying to say other than what it says.
- 6 BY MR. JACOBS: And what you understand it to
- say is that there's a \$.4 billion projected annual 7 8
- shortfall in State -- in the State portion of the total
- annual need for new construction and modernization? 10
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 11 Document speaks for itself. Calls for speculation.
- 12 Vague as to time.
- 13 THE WITNESS: I only know what it says there.
- 14 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: On the cover memo it refers to
- 15 the SAB currently having in excess of \$1.3 billion in
- 16 approved projects.
- 17 MR. HERRON: I'm sorry, where are you at?
- 18 THE WITNESS: On the front.
 - MR. HERRON: Oh.
- 20 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And then it says -- there's the
- 21 next sentence and the sentence after that, the SAB then
- 22 will create an approved but unfunded list of
- 23 modernization projects which will be funded at a future
- 24 date when additional state funds for modernization have
- been identified. Do you see that?

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- 1 A. Uh-huh.
- 2 Q. Did the SAB, to your knowledge, create such a
- list? 3
- 4 A. I don't know.
- 5 Q. So as you sit here today, you don't know
- 6 whether there is a list of unfunded projects over at the
- 7 SAB?
- 8 Α. I don't know that for sure.
- 9 O. It says the Prop 1A funds were intended to last
- 10 four years from the date that the proposition passed.
- Do you see that? 11
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 O. And you earlier testified, I think, that it was
- your understanding that that funding had already been 14
- exhausted; is that correct? 15
- 16 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Misstates witness'
- 17 testimony.
- 18 THE WITNESS: It's my understanding that the
- 19 funds are already committed.
- 20 BY MR. JACOBS: Looking at page 902, do you
- 21 understand the components of this chart labeled
- apportionments? 22
- 23 No. I'm not sure I do understand this. And A.
- 24 it's hard to read.
- 25 Yes. Is it Ms. or Mr. Brooks? O.

- 1 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 2 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: What discussions come to mind?
- 3 It is not uncommon to be asked whether --A.
- 4 especially in relation to class size reduction, if there
- 5 is value in continuing to reduce class sizes when we
- know there aren't adequate facilities.
- And have you expressed an opinion on that? 7 Q.
- 8 A.
- 9 O. Is there someone in your branch who is partly
- charged with monitoring the relationship between class 10
- size reduction and facilities funding issues? 11
- MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous. 12
- 13 THE WITNESS: The school facilities planning
- division is responsible for the -- for appropriating the 14
- class size reduction funds. 15
- 16 BY MR. JACOBS: And I take it -- let me back up
- 17 a second. Your answer suggested that there's kind of a
- net assessment being made, right, about whether given
- facilities funding issues, class size reduction should
- be pursued; is that right?
- 21 Yes. Yes. A.
- 22 O. And one input into that discussion is the
- 23 impact of facilities funding issues on the actual
- 24 ability to house smaller classes; is that correct?
- 25 MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.

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- Mr. It's a guy. 1 Α.
- 2 I thought so. Is it your understanding that O.
- 3 Mr. Brooks' office prepared these charts?
- 4 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for 5 speculation.
- 6 THE WITNESS: I know that Duwayne's office
- 7 prepared most of this. I'm not sure that this chart
- 8 came from his office originally, but he is who prepared
- 9 the packet.
- 10 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Have you participated in any
- 11 discussions about the impact -- strike that.
- 12 To sum up, is it your view that there is a
- 13 funding shortfall with respect to school construction
- 14 and modernization at the present time in the State of
- California for public schools? 15
- 16 MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- 17 Vague as to time. Vague and ambiguous as phrased.
- THE WITNESS: It's my general understanding 18
- that there are insufficient funds for school 19
- 20 construction.
- 21 O. BY MR. JACOBS: Have you participated in any
- discussions about the educational impact of that 22
- 23 insufficiency?
- 24 MR. HERRON: Objection. Asked and answered.
- 25 Calls for speculation. Vague and ambiguous.

- THE WITNESS: Actually, I didn't understand the question.
- 3 O. BY MR. JACOBS: One input into that discussion
- 4 is given facilities funding issues, can we and to what
- 5 extent can we house smaller classes in California public
- school facilities, right?
 - MR. HERRON: Same objection. Argumentative.
- 8 Vague as to time.
- 9 THE WITNESS: There's a tension between where 10 is the best place to put limited dollars.
- 11 BY MR. JACOBS: And what has been the -- has
- 12
- your branch had a viewpoint on -- in discussing that 13 tension?
 - MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague.
- 15 MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation
- 16 to the extent you're asking her to speak for other people that actually deal with these issues. 17
 - You may respond.
- 19 THE WITNESS: My branch is generally not as
- 20 involved in policy related to the effect on the
- 21 classroom. There are other places in the department
- 22 that talk about delivery of the education program.
- 23 BY MR. JACOBS: So what has been the
- 24 involvement of your branch in these discussions?
- 25 Providing the data.

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- 1 Q. And, in particular, data about class size
- 2 reduction as it relates to the availability of
- 3 facilities?
- 4 A. Particularly related to how many kids are out
- 5 there now in what size classrooms at what grade levels.
- 6 Q. Do you have an understanding about the current
- 7 resolution of that tension, the tension you described?
- 8 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 9 THE WITNESS: There is no resolution of that
- 10 tension.
- 11 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Meaning what?
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Asked and answered the
- 13 question before. She just answered that, Michael.
- 14 THE WITNESS: There is -- that's an ongoing
- 15 debate.
- 16 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: For the moment class size
- 17 reduction continues to be a program promoted by the
- 18 State; is that correct?
- 19 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 20 Calls for an opinion.
- 21 THE WITNESS: It currently exists in
- 22 kindergarten through 3rd grade.
- 23 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: The one issue in terms of
- 24 attention is whether it should be expanded to other
- 25 grades?

1 facilities issues, facilities funding issues, and you

2 pointed to class size reduction as one area in which

3 you've participated in discussions about that impact.

4 Are there other areas -- other impacts of the 5 funding issues with respect to facilities that you've

6 participated in in terms of educational impact?

MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.

THE WITNESS: That I have participated in?

9 MR. JACOBS: Uh-huh.

THE WITNESS: No.

11 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Are you aware of any data

12 available to your branch about whether the impact of the

13 funding shortfall is concentrated in particular school

14 districts in the state, that is, the funding shortfall

15 for facilities?

MR. HERRON: Objection. Assumes facts not in

17 evidence.

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18 THE WITNESS: I don't know for sure how

19 their -- what data they have regarding the impact

o falling on certain districts.

21 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Have you participated in any

22 discussions about whether the funding shortfall with

23 respect to facilities is affecting certain districts

24 more than others?

MR. HERRON: Objection. Assumes facts not in

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- 1 A. That's correct.
- 2 Q. And so far there is no decision by the State as
- 3 to whether it will be expanded to other grades?

4 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.

- 5 Calls for an opinion.
- 6 MR. HERRON: Calls for speculation as well.
- 7 THE WITNESS: There is currently no mandate for
- 8 it and no funding for it.
- 9 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: By "mandate" you mean
- 10 legislation that would endorse expansion of class size
- 11 reduction to other grades?
- 12 A. That's correct. And I should actually clarify.
- 13 There isn't a mandate for K-3 either, it is a voluntary
- 14 program, but there does not exist a mandate for any
- 15 other grade levels either.
- 16 Q. Or a voluntary program of the sort that exists
- 17 for K-3?
- 18 A. Of the sort that exists for K-3, that's
- 19 correct.
- 20 Q. Obviously a school district on its own could
- 21 reduce class size if it thought it was something that it
- 22 wanted to do in 4th through 6th, right?
- 23 A. That's correct.
- 24 Q. I asked you earlier about your branch's
- 25 involvement in discussions about educational impact,

evidence.

2

THE WITNESS: No, I'm not aware of that.

3 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Do you have a -- are you aware

4 of any anecdotal data about the funding shortfall

5 affecting some districts more than others?

6 MR. HERRON: Same objection. Also object as 7 yague and ambiguous.

8 THE WITNESS: No, and that's not in our realm

9 of responsibility. That data may be available, but our

10 role in it isn't to decide who is being affected more

11 than others. We review plans.

12 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: You -- so let me try this out

13 on you. If you had information that the funding

14 shortfall was affecting a particular school district

15 with particular acuteness, that's not something --

16 that's not a piece of information that your branch would

17 regard as within its purview to gather and process?

MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.

19 Incomplete improper hypothetical. Calls for

20 speculation.

21

You may respond if you can.

THE WITNESS: We probably have the data. Our

23 responsibility is to collect data, and we have that. So

24 it's not a matter of our not feeling responsible for

25 having it.

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- 1 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: What is it a matter of? If you
- 2 were to go back to your previous question and answer,
- 3 you said you --
- 4 Our role isn't to advocate for -- we have no
- 5 authority to go through and decide who needs it more
- than anyone else. That process -- there is a process in
- 7 place for determining how money gets disseminated for
- 8 facilities.
- 9 O. And that process is not part of your branch's 10 responsibility?
- 11 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for a legal 12 opinion.
- 13 THE WITNESS: Our role is pretty clear in where 14 we fit in the whole process of school facilities.
- BY MR. JACOBS: And that role is laid out in 15
- 16 the memo SAD-35 that you sent to the State Board,
- 17 correct?
- 18 A. Generally, yes.
- 19 As you look at this memo, is there anything O.
- 20 that strikes you as maybe having changed since then, or
- 21 something that you think should have been -- as you sit
- 22 here today would be included in a description of the --
- 23 of your branch's role with respect to facilities?
- 24 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Overly broad. I
- 25 don't think she should have to go through the whole

- A. Only generally. That's something that Duwayne
- knows, and we do have documents in the department that 2
- 3 speak to this issue.
- 4 Do you view it as a role of your branch to in
- 5 any way prompt school districts to plan for school
- facilities construction to meet expanding population
- 7 needs?
- 8 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 9 Overly broad.
- 10 THE WITNESS: To prompt them to meet school
- 11 facilities needs?
 - MR. JACOBS: Uh-huh.
- 13 THE WITNESS: No. Can I ask you a question
- 14 about that?

12

- 15 MR. JACOBS: Sure.
- 16 THE WITNESS: Do you mean -- when you say
- 17 school facilities needs, do you mean the need for a new
- 18 building versus the quality of it?
- 19 MR. JACOBS: The need for a new building is
- 20 what I had in mind.
- 21 THE WITNESS: Okay. Then, no, I don't think we
- need to prompt them to address the need for -- their 22
- 23 need for school facilities.
- BY MR. JACOBS: And it's not part of your 24
- responsibility to do that?

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- document and try to find other things that should have 1
- 2 been included in the memo. Calls for a narrative.
- 3 MR. JACOBS: Actually, I can reframe it.
- 4 When you said "generally," was that because you Q.
- 5 had something in mind about the role of the -- of your
- 6 branch that's not in this memo?
- 7 Α. Well, it's actually the next page that
- describes it, so the front page doesn't. There is stuff 8
- 9 missing on the front page, but the second page covers
- 10 it.
- 11 Q. So -- okay.
- Yes, I am satisfied that this page does 12 Α.
- 13 describe what -- at a high level what they do.
- 14 Q. Do you see there on the middle paragraph that
- 15 starts out SFPD staff, the last fragment is
- relationships of educational programs to facility 16
- 17 design?
- Yes. 18 A.
- 19 O. And it says, we provide information on, and
- 20 then that's the last entry in that sentence. Do you see
- 21 that?
- 22 A. Yes. Uh-huh.
- 23 Do you have an understanding of what kind of O.
- 24 information is intended to be referred to by that
- 25 fragment?

- 2 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for a legal
- 3 opinion.
- 4 THE WITNESS: I would generally think we
- 5 don't -- that's not our responsibility.
- 6 BY MR. JACOBS: I think I asked this before,
- but I want to be sure I got it right. Have you 7
- participated in any discussions about whether particular
- facilities issues are especially acute in any school
- 10 districts in the state?
- 11 MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous as
- 12 phrased.
- 13 THE WITNESS: What was the first part of your
- question? 14
- 15 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Have you participated in any
- 16 discussions?
- 17 A.

23

- O. 18 Are you aware of any analyses of that question
- 19 from within or without the department?
- 20 A. I'm not personally aware of any, no.
- 21 Q. Is it your belief that there is no differential
- 22 impact of school facilities funding issues on particular school districts, or do you just have no belief one way
- 24 or the other on that topic?
- 25 MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.

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- 1 Respond if you understand. You can ask him to
- 2 clarify if you'd like.
- 3 THE WITNESS: Well, I know that different
- 4 school districts have different quality of facilities.
- 5 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And "different quality" in what
- 6 sense?
- 7 A. Their age, their appearance, their sufficiency.
- 8 As a citizen of California, I'm aware of that, as a
- 9 parent with a kid in school.
- 10 Q. One becomes aware of these things in an
- informal way through that vehicle; is that right? 11
- 12 A.
- 13 Q. But in your official capacity, do you have an
- 14 awareness of that?
- 15 A. Well, our statistics would tell me, that we
- 16 generate.
- O. The statistics would tell you at the aggregate 17
- 18 that there is a gap in funding, correct?
- 19 A.
- 20 O. But in your official capacity, are you aware of
- 21 a differential impact of that gap on school districts?
 - MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 23 Overly broad.

22

- 24 THE WITNESS: I'm aware of it, yeah, in my
- official capacity.

please.

5

10

- 2 (Record read.)
- 3 MR. HERRON: Vague and ambiguous, "that 4 differential impact."
 - You may respond if you understand it.
- THE WITNESS: The question was do I have any 6
- information about it?
- 8 MR. JACOBS: Have you formed any opinions or 9 iudgments.
 - THE WITNESS: No.
- 11 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: So to test that. You haven't
- 12 concluded that some districts are differentially
- 13 affected by the funding -- by funding issues with
- respect to facilities because of population growth in
- that district? 15
- 16 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 17 THE WITNESS: The first part of your question
- 18 was have I done any analysis of it?
- 19 MR. JACOBS: Have you formed a judgment.
- 20 If somebody asked you in a State Board of
- 21 Education meeting, Ms. Lange, why are facilities issues
- 22 so acute in district -- in some districts in the state
- 23 of California, would you be able to answer that
- 24 question?
- 25 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Hypothetical

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- O. BY MR. JACOBS: What are you thinking of when 1
- 2 you say --
- 3 I have a demographics division in my branch.
- 4 When I did press before, the issue of highly-impacted
- 5 school districts is fairly common knowledge, so I am
- 6 aware of it, yes.
- 7 Have you formed any judgments about what the O.
- 8 causal factors are of that differential impact?
- 9 MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous as
- to the term differential impact. If you'd like to 10
- 11 define that for us, that would be certainly helpful, I
- 12 think, so we'll all know what her answer refers to.
- 13 MR. JACOBS: I'll take your previous answer as 14 defining differential.
- 15 MR. HERRON: Let's read it back for my benefit,
- 16 because I don't think she defined differential impact,
- 17 and I don't know what you're talking about.
- MR. JACOBS: Let's just move on. 18
- 19 MR. HERRON: No.
- 20 MR. JACOBS: The witness understands the
- 22 MR. HERRON: If you understand the question,
- 23 vou can answer.
- 24 THE WITNESS: I forgot the question now.
- 25 MR. JACOBS: Could you read back my question,

- question. Calls for speculation.
- THE WITNESS: I could offer opinion. I in my 2
- role have no ability to say with authority that these
- are reasons that I would stand behind and be able to
- 5 prove.
- 6 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Would the opinion be based on
- your knowledge and experience in working in the
- education system for as long as you have?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. What would your opinion be in answer to that
- 11 question?
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous. 12
- Calls for speculation. Incomplete, improper 13
- hypothetical. Vastly overbroad and unfair.
- 15 But if you understand it, you can certainly 16 respond.
- THE WITNESS: Very generally I could say that 17
- population growth has had a huge impact on every part of 18
- the education system, including facilities and lack of
- 20 funding, not just for facilities, but in the whole
- 21 education system.
- 22 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And would that be the end of
- 23 vour answer?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Let me come at it from another standpoint.

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Have you analyzed whether -- let me rewind a little bit.

- I have seen analyses of educational performance in which outliers are analyzed, those schools that are
- 4 doing better than might be expected based on a certain
- 5 set of information versus those that are doing worse
- 6 with the same set of underlying data.
- 7 Is that a kind of analysis that you're familiar 8 with that?
- 9 A. I'm familiar with that kind of analysis, yes.
- 10 Q. Are you aware of any analysis of that sort with
- 11 respect to school districts dealing with facilities
- 12 issues, that is, analysis that would show how some
- 13 school districts might be managing their facilities
- 14 issues more successfully than other school districts
- 15 given a common set of underlying factors?
- 16 A. No, but it would be real interesting if someone
- 17 had.
- 18 Q. It would be an interesting study, wouldn't it?
- But you're not aware of anyone having done
- 20 that?
- 21 A. I'm not aware of that.
- 22 Q. Are you aware of anyone doing that anywhere in
- 23 the country?
- 24 A. I'm not.
- 25 Q. Have you ever had a discussion about whether

- 1 Q. And that's because the federal funding is
- 2 categorical?
- 3 A. That is correct.
- 4 Q. And you don't get much general funding, then,
- 5 from the -- through legislative appropriations?
- 6 MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- Assumes facts not in evidence.
 - THE WITNESS: It is true that we don't get much
- 9 general fund, which would be our only discretionary
- 10 funding.

8

15

- 11 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Let's talk about technology.
- 12 Your branch has taken a leadership role in promoting the
- 13 dissemination of computers and related technology to
- 14 California public schools, correct?
 - MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 16 THE WITNESS: We have attempted to provide some
- 17 leadership in educational technology.
- 18 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Can you describe for me the
- 19 process by which the branch decided that that was an
- area in which it would play that role?
- 21 MR. HERRON: Objection. Assumes facts not in
- 22 evidence. Calls for speculation.
- 23 THE WITNESS: Repeat the question.
- MR. JACOBS: That's actually one of the few
- objections that I think may be meritorious.

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- 1 that is a study that the department should conduct?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 4 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Would that be a study that the
- 5 department could initiate without legislative -- without
- 6 a legislative mandate for such a study?
- 7 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for a legal
- 8 opinion. Calls for speculation.
- 9 MR. JACOBS: In your judgment.
- 10 THE WITNESS: It also calls for funding, and
- 11 so, no, we probably wouldn't do it.
- MR. JACOBS: Let the record reflect smiles and
- 13 laughter.
- 14 Q. Let me ask you about that. Do you have a fund
- 15 that you can draw on for studies that the department
- 16 decides would be worthy of undertaking?
- 17 A. We have a very small amount of general funds.
- 18 The State department of California -- of Education in
- 19 California is very underfunded by the state, the bulk of
- 20 our funds are federal, and so we have discretionary
- 21 money.
- 22 Q. Let me understand that. The discretionary
- 23 money you have that might, for example, be used for a
- 24 study like that would largely be federal funding?
- 25 A. No. The answer is, we don't have much funding.

- 1 MR. HERRON: Keep listening, there are lots of 2 them.
- 3 O. BY MR. JACOBS: Did the branch decide on its
- 4 own that it wished to play -- strike that.
- 5 Did the branch take the initiative in the
- 6 process by which the branch ended up playing --
- 7 exercising some leadership in this area as opposed to a
- 8 mandate coming from the superintendent saying I want the
- 9 branch to do this, for example?
- 10 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague.
- 11 THE WITNESS: It didn't come from within.
- 12 O. BY MR. JACOBS: Where did it come from?
- 13 A. It came from the superintendent.
- 14 Q. And do you know the process by which that
- 15 direction was developed?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. What was that process?
- 18 A. She, shortly after taking office, assembled a
- 19 task force on technology, and based on the findings, we
- 20 began to take more of an active role in education
- 21 technology.
- 22 Q. The task force was called what?
- 23 A. Probably the task force on education
- 24 technology. I actually don't remember exactly. There
- 25 is a report.

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- 1 Q. Were you in your -- did you have responsibility
- 2 for technology at the time that direction was given from
- the superintendent? 3
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. So your predecessor was the first to implement
- that direction? 6
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 O. We found on the website a technology survey, so
- 9 let me show you a document called California Department
- of Education, education technology office, California's
- education technology survey, and mark that as SAD-36. 11
- 12 (Exhibit SAD-36 was marked.)
- 13 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Are you familiar with this
- 14 survey?
- 15 MR. HERRON: Please don't ask her questions
- 16 about the document until she's had an opportunity to
- review it and I've been given a copy so I can review it 17
- 18 too, since we've never seen this in discovery.
- 19 MR. JACOBS: I think, just to be clear,
- 20 Mr. Herron, we even refer to this document in our letter
- 21 to you about topics we were going --
- 22 MR. HERRON: I don't believe so. I'd be glad
- 23 for you to point it out to me in your letter.
- 24 You're referring to the letter of May 25th. I
- think I have it in front of me. And maybe I'm mistaken,

- 1 is.
- 2 O. And the task that you're referring to, the
- 3 request for that information, where did that come from?
- 4 Most recently from the governor's office
- 5 through legislation that came about in the current year
- 6 budget.
- 7 When you refer to the governor's office and
- 8 then legislation, I take it you're referring to the
- 9 governor's office having initiated the legislative
- 10 process to then give a legislative mandate for the
- gathering of this kind of information? 11
- 12 A. Partially, yes. They gave the mandate to give
- out money based on need, and we had to determine the 13
- 14 need.
- 15 Q. "They" being the legislature prompted by the
- governor? 16
- 17 A. As part of the statute, yes.
- 18 What is your understanding of need in that O.
- 19 context?
- 20 Generally, need has to do with establishing A.
- 21 what the availability of computers and computer
- 22 technology-related materials are in districts and
- 23 schools.

24

25

- MR. HERRON: Can you read that back?
- (Record read.)

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- but I don't see this particular document referred to.
- 2 MR. JORDAN: I think it's item 5 on page 2.
- 3 MR. HERRON: Is it? I don't think so. Item 5
- 4 on page 2 of the May 25 letter that you sent us -- and I
- 5 do appreciate you sending this letter because this was
- 6 most helpful -- says March 30, 2001, education
- 7 technology survey memoranda.
- all together on the website, and there are memos

MR. JACOBS: It is the same document. They're

- 9
- 10 underneath the survey.

8

- 11 MR. HERRON: So it was intended to mean a bunch
- of documents. This obviously is in the March 30th, 2001
- 13 memoranda -- or memorandum.
- 14 MR. JACOBS: On the theory that no good deed
- 15 goes unpunished, I think we made it very clear here.
- 16 MR. HERRON: I think not, but I do appreciate
- 17 your trying to identify them. That was kind of you.
- 18 O. BY MR. JACOBS: Ms. Lange, are you familiar
- 19 with this survey?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Can you tell me how it came to be launched?
- 22 A. We have, in the past year or two, as there has
- been increasing interest in education technology, been
- asked to provide baseline information about what exists
- so that the new money can be targeted to where the need

- BY MR. JACOBS: Did you draw on any preexisting
- 2 surveys, whether or not with respect to technology, in
- deciding on this method of assessing the baseline
- 4 information that you refer to?
- 5 MR. HERRON: When you say "you," you mean her
- 6 branch?

7

- MR. JACOBS: Yes.
- 8 THE WITNESS: Yes, we actually have done
- previous surveys, and this was a refinement of -- and
- 10 other outside entities have done surveys and the
- 11 districts were getting surveyed to death, so we tried to
- 12 come up with one instrument that would meet the needs.
- 13 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And the surveys that you're
- 14 referring to are surveys with respect to technology?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 O. And aside from technology surveys, did you --
- did your branch, to the best of your knowledge, have in 17
- 18 mind any other surveys that had been conducted of school
- 19 districts that aim at establishing a baseline?
- 20 A. Not my branch.
- 21 Q. How about other branches?
- 22 A. The department does a lot of surveys for
- 23
- 24 O. Did those preexisting surveys inform the choice
- 25 of a survey instrument to assess the baseline level

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- of -- the baseline availability of technology?
- 2 MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 3 Calls for speculation.
- 4 THE WITNESS: I'm not sure I understand the
- 5 question.
- 6 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: When your branch was deciding
- 7 to send out this particular survey, did you have in mind
- 8 that the department has generally surveyed school
- 9 districts about a range of topics?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. What other surveys are you -- as you sit here
- 12 today, can you recall any other surveys outside of your
- 13 branch?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. What can you recall?
- 16 A. They get surveyed a lot on their curriculum and
- 17 use of various curriculum material and textbooks and a
- 18 lot of things related to the education program.
- 19 Q. And these are surveys, I take it, that don't go
- 20 to the availability of curricular materials, but rather
- 21 to curricular choices that schools and school districts
- have made, to the best of your knowledge?
- 23 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 24 speculation.
- THE WITNESS: I'm not that familiar with them.

- 1 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague. Calls for 2 speculation.
- THE WITNESS: It's to identify exactly who has what.
- 5 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And on an identifiable basis
- 6 that is so that you know that a particular school or
- 7 school district does or does not have certain kinds of
- 8 technology; is that correct?
- 9 A. That's correct.
- 10 Q. What do you understand the policy purpose to
- 11 which those survey results will be put?
- MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 13 speculation. Vague and ambiguous.
- 14 THE WITNESS: All of the money for education
- 15 technology at this time is discretionary. There is no
- 16 mandated money for technology, no automatic
- 17 appropriation for technology, so districts have to
- 18 apply.
- 19 And any program at the moment that has provided
- 20 that opportunity has required that the applicant
- 21 identify what they currently have in order to become
- 22 eligible for something new.
- 23 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And how would the world change
- 24 with the results of this survey?
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.

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2

4

- 1 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Do you know who conducted those
- 2 surveys in terms of what division?
- 3 MR. HERRON: Curriculum surveys, you mean?
- 4 MR. JACOBS: The ones that --
- 5 THE WITNESS: I couldn't name you them right
- 6 now, but I think probably every branch in the department
- 7 has done some kind of survey.
- 8 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Have you assembled the results
- 9 of this technology survey yet?
- 10 A. Not yet. It's just happening kind of as we
- 11 speak.
- 12 Q. One possibility is that it will show that there
- is -- that there are particular needs for computers
- 14 concentrated in particular schools and school districts?
- MR. HERRON: So stipulated.
- 16 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 17 speculation. Calls for an opinion.
- 18 THE WITNESS: Yes, part of the survey is to
- 19 identify -- it's to tally what exists where.
- 20 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And I take it that that tally
- 21 is not for the purpose of assessing at the -- at an
- 22 aggregate level what the level of technology
- 23 dissemination is, or at least not only that, but to
- 24 identify whether there are particular pockets where
- 25 technology has not been disseminated; is that correct?

- Vague and ambiguous. The world change?
 - MR. JACOBS: I think you understand.
- 3 THE WITNESS: This helps --
 - MR. HERRON: I think she needs to guess.
- 5 THE WITNESS: This helps ensure that funding is
- 6 being distributed equitably and with some knowledge of
- 7 previously existing materials.
- 8 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: So the before and after here --
- 9 as I understand your answer here, the before is that the
- 10 funding has to be applied for by an LEA; is that
- 11 correct?
- 12 A. Generally. Sometimes federal money schools can
- 13 apply for it.
- 14 Q. As opposed to when I said LEA, that was
- 15 limited --
- 16 A. The district.
- 17 Q. Got it. Okay. So to complete the picture, a
- 18 school or school district could use its general funding
- 19 for technology as well, right?
- 20 A. That's correct.
- 21 Q. But what you were directing your comments to
- 22 was the categorical funding for technology?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. And, again, in the before case that you
- 25 described, the school or the school district has to make

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- an application to draw on these funds; is that correct?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 And after -- strike that. Q.
- 4 Did you participate in any discussions in which
- 5 it was -- in which that methodology was analyzed in
- terms of whether it was meeting the department's goals 6
- 7 for technology or not?
- 8 A. Which methodology?
- 9 Q. The methodology of having school districts
- 10 apply for funding. Did you participate in any
- discussions in which people said, if we wait for people 11
- 12 to apply, that means that people who don't apply aren't
- going to get the money, or discussions of that sort? 13
- 14 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague.
- 15 THE WITNESS: No.
- 16 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Do you know if such discussions
- 17 occurred?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. What information do you have?
- 20 A. The discussion is still -- is a very basic one,
- 21 which is at the moment the only technology money
- available is discretionary, that the state has not
- chosen to provide funding for technology.
- 24 Q. And just so I understand --
- 25 A. As they do for textbooks, for example.

- survey, is the intent that it will move to a mandatory
- 2 world?
- 3 A. No.
- 4 Q. What will it move to?
- 5 A. All the survey is doing is establishing a
- 6 baseline.
- 7 O. But that baseline was requested as part of a
- 8 shift in policy direction, correct?
- 9 A. No.
- 10 MR. SEFERIAN: You answered the question.
- 11 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Was it simply asked for on a
- 12 stand-alone basis?
- 13 A. We were asked to perfect the information we
- 14 had. We have been surveying prior to this survey.
- 15 I thought what you said, though, was that the
- survey instrument -- the request for the information 16
- 17 that will be gathered by the survey arose out of a
- 18 desire to allocate funding based on need?
- 19 It did. It's just there was previous
- 20 information that was considered incomplete, and we were
- 21 asked to continue to try to perfect what was available.
- 22 Do you understand that a choice has been made
- 23 though to allocate based on need going forward?
- 24 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague. Overbroad.
 - THE WITNESS: No.

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25

4

- So I understand your word choice there, 1
- 2 "discretionary" means what?
- 3 A. That it's not mandated. A mandated program in
- 4 the State means the State has to pay for it, so they --
- 5 the way the Department of Finance at the state level
- 6 operates is as long as they make money discretionary.
- 7 they don't have to deal with who gets it and who
- doesn't. That's a classic executive branch way of
- 9 avoiding having to buy every kid in the State a
- 10 computer.
- 11 Q. But "discretionary" here means -- whose
- 12 discretion is being referred to?
- 13 The receiver. It's at the discretion of the A.
- 14 receiver to apply or do what's necessary to get it.
- 15 Q. And this is a distinction between discretionary
- 16 and mandatory?
- 17 A. Yes.
- Is a common theme running through educational 18 Q.
- 19 programs that you're aware of?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. And "mandatory" means that the -- who is
- 22 mandated in the mandatory case?
- 23 Α. The giver.
- 24 O. And is the -- is there yet another category in
- 25 this schema of discretionary versus man -- with the

- O. BY MR. JACOBS: That still remains to be decided? 2
- 3 MR. SEFERIAN: Same objections.
 - MR. HERRON: Calls for speculation as well.
- 5 THE WITNESS: The need can be different based
- 6 on what funding is available.
- 7 O. BY MR. JACOBS: Meaning different funding
- 8 sources?
- A. Yes. And our baseline will have a lot of
- 10 information in it, and if it's the decision of the giver
- of the funds is that they want to augment numbers of
- computers versus Internet access versus staff
- 13 development or some aspect of technology, this baseline
- serves any one of these purposes. Do you see what I
- 15 mean?
- 16 Q.
- A. 17 It wasn't designed to just serve one purpose.
- Are you aware that there will be a change in 18 O.
- any technology-related funding methodology going forward 19
- 20 that may in some substantial part rely on this survey
- 21 data?
- 22 MR. HERRON: Would you mind if we had that
- 23 question reread?
- 24 THE WITNESS: I would like to hear the question
- 25 again.

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1 (Record read.)

2 THE WITNESS: Let me clarify something that may 3 be confusing us all here. This is the first time we've 4

done this on-line. That is very much what's new about 5 this. So we had previous data, decisions have been

6 being made on it.

7

8

9

In the newest money that went out from the governor's office, they wanted us to do this on-line so it was quicker, because speed became an issue in

10 spending it, and that's what is unique really about

this. Other than refining the data that's available in 11

it, it just made that survey information more readily 12

available to anybody who might be thinking about doing 13

something with technology. 14

15 O. BY MR. JACOBS: So separate from the survey,

16 you would distinguish -- you distinguished discretionary

funding from mandatory funding. And I believe your 17

18 testimony was that to date technology funding has been

19 discretionary; is that correct?

20 A. That's correct.

21 O. My question is -- let me ask it a little

22 differently. Is there any plan that you're aware of to

distribute technology-related funding on a

24 nondiscretionary basis going forward?

25 A. No. you proposed any mechanisms by which that may be

2 accomplished?

3 A. Yes.

What mechanisms have you proposed? 4 Q.

5 A. We were designers -- part of the team of

6 designers of the digital high school project, as an

7 example, that has been available now for -- I think it's

8 in the fourth year.

9 And how does -- what mechanisms does the

10 digital high school project use to try to promote an

equitable distribution of technology resources? 11

12 A. It had adequate funding for every high school

that wanted to apply, if they were willing to follow the 13

14 requirements of making themselves eligible to receive

15 funding.

16 Q. In terms of that, did that -- that conclusion

17 that you stated, that there was adequate funding, I take

it that you settled on some sort of a benchmark for what 18

19 every school required on a per student basis to become

20 adequately supplied with technology?

21 MR. HERRON: Objection. Assumes facts not in

22 evidence.

23 THE WITNESS: No.

24 O. BY MR. JACOBS: What did you have in mind?

25 A. We just said that there was adequate funding

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Is there a type of -- besides discretionary and

mandatory at that level of abstraction, what other types 2 3 of funding methodologies are there?

MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for speculation.

6 THE WITNESS: In the common world here, that's 7

it.

4

5

11

8 BY MR. JACOBS: Has your branch expressed a 9 policy viewpoint on how technology-related funding

10 should be disseminated?

Let me ask it a little differently. To use

your schema, have you expressed a position that funding

13 for technology should continue to be discretionary, or

14 have you said, we think we should move to a mandatory

15 world or we should move to a needs-based world? Have

16 you taken a position on that issue?

17 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Overly broad.

MR. HERRON: She personally? 18

19 MR. JACOBS: The branch.

20 MR. HERRON: Calls for speculation.

21 You can answer.

22 THE WITNESS: We have expressed the need to try

to ensure that technology services are available

24 equitably across the system.

25 BY MR. JACOBS: In expressing that view, have

made per pupil for them to advance their situation. 1

2 As opposed to -- what's the difference between

3 your answer and --

4 Supplying, getting everybody where they should A.

5 be in a perfect world.

I see. So the benchmark was not this is what 6 O.

7 it costs to have a standard level of technology, rather

the benchmark was this is what it will take to move from

9 wherever they are now to a more advanced position?

10 A.

11 Q. Have you proposed any other mechanisms --

12 strike that.

13 Is that all of the mechanisms that the digital

14 high school project uses to promote an equitable

15 distribution of technology?

16 A. Is what all?

17 An adequate level of funding for every school

18 that is willing to meet the standard and apply. I

19 believe that was your answer when I asked you.

20 And your question was -- I gathered from your

21 question that we said, that's done, now we can go do

22 something else. We don't consider high school done, if

23 that's --

24 O. I didn't understand you to have said that.

25 Let's replay. My question to you was, what mechanisms

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- 1 has the digital high school project used to promote an
- 2 equitable distribution of technology, and your answer
- 3 was there was, there's an adequate level of funding
- 4 for -- to achieve that, and then we had our benchmark
- 5 discussion.
- And so my question to you is, aside from that mechanism, does the digital high school project use any other mechanisms to promote an equitable distribution of technology?
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Misconstrues prior testimony. Calls for speculation.
- 12 You may respond.
- 13 THE WITNESS: I think the digital high school
- 14 project puts in place a good framework for beginning to
- 15 address the needs of high schools. It did not provide
- 16 adequate funding to complete that task. It has put a
- 17 good framework in place.
- 18 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: I take it putting the framework
- 19 in place itself is one mechanism for promoting an
- equitable distribution of technology; is that correct?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. Otherwise it would be up to school districts to
- 23 figure out for themselves how to get started in
- 24 implementing technology, is that your point?
- 25 A. Yes, more or less. We establish guidelines

1 MR. JACOBS: Yes.

3

4

5

- THE REPORTER: I need to change my paper.
 - (Recess taken from 2:06 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.)
 - (Ms. Welch no longer present.)
 - (Record read.)
- 6 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for a legal 7 conclusion.
- 8 THE WITNESS: That's a hypothetical question,
- 9 and I guess the answer would be it's possible.
- MR. JACOBS: Let me ask a more focused 11 question.
- 12 Q. Is it part of the design of the digital high
- 13 school project that such proactive steps would be taken
- 14 in that circumstance?
- 15 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 16 Overly broad.
- 17 THE WITNESS: The digital high school project
- 18 is separate from the survey. The digital high school
- 19 project actually has its own set of data, and within it
- 20 a lot has been done to address inequities in high
- 21 schools.
- 22 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: When you say "a lot has been
- 23 done," what do you have in mind?
- 24 A. The design of the program was to try to
- 25 bring -- to level the playing field, and the money was

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- jointly. We saved every school from having to reinvent 1
- 2 the wheel.
- 3 O. So that's one function. And I take it that
- 4 establishing that sort of guideline is a mechanism
- 5 that -- strike that.
- 6 Aside from establishing a framework and aside
- 7 from the funding, are there any other mechanisms that
- 8 the digital high school project uses to promote an
- 9 equitable distribution of technology?
- 10 MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- 11 THE WITNESS: No.
- 12 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Let me try some out on you.
- 13 Who administers the digital high school project?
- 14 A. The education technology division.
- 15 Q. And that's in your branch?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. If the education technology division learned
- 18 that, say, through the survey that there was a
- 19 technology poor high school, is there any proactive
- 20 steps that that division could take to enhance the level
- 21 of technology at that location?
- MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 23 Calls for speculation.
- MR. HERRON: Do you mean under the digital high
- 25 school program?

- 1 designed to be allocated based on steps taken so that
- 2 they were brought along step by step in order to ensure
- 3 that it was being used effectively and efficiently, and
- 4 so that's -- this survey would not tell us anything we
- 5 didn't already know.
- 6 You sort of jumped from digital high school and 7 this survey back and forth.
- 8 Q. So leave out the survey part?
- 9 A. Yeah.
- 10 Q. Let's just go back to the design of the digital
- 11 high school project. My sense from your answer is that
- 12 there is -- that the project is more than just a request
- 13 response sort of project, request coming from the school
- 14 district, response coming from the project, that there's
- more going on there in terms of interactivity, if you
- 16 will?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Is that correct?
- 19 A. That is correct.
- 20 Q. Can you describe the nature of that
- 21 interaction?
- 22 A. Yes, it's actually designed to be phased in,
- 23 that there is sufficient funding to cover a four-year
- 24 period, that you're only eligible for the next phase if
- 25 you do the first phase, and you're monitored and helped

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- 1 to accomplish what you said you were going to do, what
- 2 the school said it was going to do, and so it's pretty
- 3 carefully administered and monitored.
- 4 Q. And we're now talking about the project itself,
- 5 correct?
- 6 A. Digital high school project.
- 7 Q. Is it the case that a high school embarking on
- 8 the program outlined by the project would nonetheless
- 9 have to take the first step of saying we want to be a
- 10 digital high school project high school?
- 11 A. Yes, that's true.
- 12 Q. And are there high schools that did not take
- 13 that step?
- 14 A. It's not complete. We're in the final year
- 15 right now. There were some that -- there were some in
- 16 first, and -- you know, but they have not lost their
- 17 last opportunity yet.
- 18 Q. Have you taken any, you meaning your branch
- 19 or -- is all the activity related to getting high
- 20 schools in the project being done by the project as
- 21 opposed to other parts of your division or branch?
- MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- 24 THE WITNESS: Yes, it's being done by the
- 25 education technology division.

- 1 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- THE WITNESS: I have had the conversation with
- 3 my staff about ensuring that we could answer that
- 4 question, that no school would say it had not been
- 5 informed.
- 6 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Therefore, I take it, making it
- 7 very clear, that it was a choice by a school district
- 8 not to participate rather than just a lack of
- 9 information?
- 10 A. That's correct.
- 11 Q. Do you have a sense of, to use the technology
- 12 term, the penetration level of the digital high school
- 13 project?
- 14 A. Yes, we have a sense of that.
- 15 O. And what is it?
- 16 A. It's been very effective at -- at establishing
- 17 a good solid base for building technology in high
- 18 schools.
- 19 Q. And in terms of a percentage of high schools
- 20 reached by the project, do you have a sense of that?
- 21 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 22 speculation.
- THE WITNESS: We're very close to 100 percent,
- 24 but understand there are traditional high schools and
- 5 there are then -- there are about 800 of those, and

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- 1 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: That's that division taking
- 2 steps to enlist high schools in the project that to date
- 3 have not enlisted?
- 4 A. Yes, we would have notified -- we've kept
- 5 records on who has applied and who hasn't and that's
- 6 been readily available information.
- 7 Q. And what has been done with that information?
- 8 A. We notify the school districts, we notify the
- 9 high schools, reminding them of their eligibility and of10 the process for applying.
- 11 Q. Are there any other steps taken to enlist high 12 schools? Let me set it up a little bit.
- This is the last year of this, right?
- 14 A. Uh-huh.
- 15 Q. Let's suppose -- are there high schools that
- 16 haven't signed up yet? I think the answer was yes.
- 17 A. Yes. But Nancy Sullivan, who is the program
- 18 manager for this, could speak more at that level of
- 19 detail.
- 20 Q. Have you had any discussions in which you
- 21 have -- in which the topic of the discussion has been,
- 22 this is the last year, we need to take additional steps
- 23 to make sure that no high school is left unsupported by
- 24 the digital high school project, let's really go out
- 25 there and sign these high schools up?

- 1 there are about that many of nontraditional that may
- 2 have 20 kids in them that are continuation schools and
- 3 juvenile court high schools and things that also are
- 4 eligible for this funding, so those are the ones that
- 5 are in the group that are now not all on board yet.
- 6 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Those smaller and alternative
- 7 kinds of high schools presented special challenges for
- 8 being reached by the project, correct?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Shall we call them traditional high schools?
- 11 A. Traditional high schools.
- 12 Q. Do you think that you're approaching 100
- 13 percent in terms of the --
- 14 A. Yes, we're approaching 100 percent.
- 15 Q. What's the -- are all of the personnel in the
- 16 project who have interactions with the high school,
- 17 employees of the project and the technology services
- 18 division?
- 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. There are outside contractors, or what's the
- 21 other category of personnel?
- 22 A. The Department of Education uses county
- 23 services of education. There is a network of -- that's
- 24 called California Technology Assistance Project, CTAP,
- 25 that operates through county offices of education that

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- 1 are staff to this project.
- 2 Q. Do you have an estimate of the total number of
- $3\,\,$ $\,$ personnel who are may be FTE, full-time equivalent, who
- 4 are involved with the project?
- 5 MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- 6 Vague and ambiguous.
- 7 THE WITNESS: Formally the department has had a
- 8 very small education technology division. There are
- 9 probably three people who have something to do with
- 10 that, and there are eleven regions of CTAB.
- 11 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And each of the regions has
- 12 several counties?
- 13 A. Right, the 11 regions cover all 58 counties.
- 14 Q. Do you know how many county personnel are
- 15 involved in the project?
- 16 A. I don't know that.
- 17 Q. By county personnel, we're talking about
- 18 individuals whose salaries are, in the general case,
- 19 paid by the county superintendent of education; is
- 20 that --
- 21 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 22 speculation.
- 23 THE WITNESS: Yes, they are employees of the
- 24 counties.

1

25 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And is there special funding

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Have you familiarized yourself with the results
- 3 of those evaluations?
- 4 A. Only distantly.
- 5 Q. Have you participated in any discussions in
- 6 which the model of the digital high school project has
- 7 been proposed for applicability to areas other than the
- 8 dissemination of technology?
- 9 MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 10 THE WITNESS: No.
- 11 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Have you yourself thought about
- 12 that possibility?
- 13 A. Other than technology?
- 14 Q. Yes, where you've said to yourself --
- 15 A. No
- 16 Q. -- we've set up an interesting model here of
- 17 activity with the school districts, and this might make
- 18 sense to apply to the following issue confronting
- 19 California public schools?
- MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 21 THE WITNESS: No, but it's a good idea.
- MR. JACOBS: Happened here.
- 23 Q. Do you have any current intention to repeat the
- 24 survey?
- 25 A. Yes, we intend to do it annually.

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- Q. I take it that this is, at least by design,
- 2 going to substitute for other information queries about
- 3 technology to the school districts so that they're not
- 4 unduly burdened by the information requests?
- 5 A. Yes
- 6 Q. And that is a -- I take it that you received
- 7 input from the districts that they were, as you put it,
- 8 being surveyed to death, that they were being asked too
- 9 many times the same question, and that they wanted you
- 10 to adopt a more efficient mechanism for eliciting this
- 11 information, correct?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. It's a case where the districts said we've got
- 14 to do this more efficiently and your branch responded by
- 15 developing this particular survey instrument?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Misstates the prior
- 18 testimony.
- THE WITNESS: That wasn't the only reason, but
- 20 yes, that is true, districts complained.
- 21 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Another reason was the one that
- 22 you described, that you were actually asked to do this
- 23 on an on-line basis, is that what you're pointing to?
- 24 A. Yes.

25

MR. JACOBS: I literally just this morning,

- for the counties to hire those individuals?
- 2 A. As part of this project, we have the funding
- 3 that we contract with them to assist us in delivering
- 4 this service.
- 5 Q. Do you know the budget --
- 6 A. I don't.
- 7 Q. And the person who is closest to the actual
- 8 implementation of the digital high school project at a
- 9 managerial level is Nancy Sullivan?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And is she one of these three people in
- 12 educational technology?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Were you involved in the design of the digital
- 15 high school project?
- 16 A. No.
- 17 Q. Have you participated -- have you been involved
- 18 in any evaluations of it?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. What kinds of evaluations are done?
- 21 A. There are required evaluations, and I only sign
- 22 off on their completion.
- 23 Q. The fact that they have been done?
- 24 A. That they have been done.
- 25 Q. That's a legislative requirement?

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- just to answer your question why we haven't produced it
- 2 to you, came across the mission statement and vision and
- 3 guiding principles of the California Department of
- Education. I want to ask you whether you're familiar
- 5 with that. Let's mark them as the next in order.
- 6 (Exhibit SAD-37 was marked.)
- 7 THE WITNESS: Yes, I recognize it.
- 8 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Have you -- you recognize it
- 9 because you've seen them before?
- 10 Yes. A.
- 11 Q. Is it something that you refer to periodically,
- 12 or is it something that you happened to see when they
- 13 were last updated, or none of the above?
- Actually, both. Periodically is when it's 14 A.
- updated. 15
- 16 O. And do you ever -- is it something that's
- 17 actually used in the sense that when you are deciding on
- tasks, do you either on your own or in discussion with 18
- 19 your staff say, let's go back to CDE goals and
- 20 objectives and see how this fits in?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 O. So, for example, in the technology area, the
- CDE goals and objectives for technology, goal 4, is this
- 24 something that has operational significance for your
- 25 branch?

- department?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. One of the activities of your branch is the
- 4 development of the CSIS; is that correct?
- 5 A.
- The California school information services 6 Q.
- 7 system?
- 8 A. Right.
- 9 O. What is the current status of the development
- 10 of the CSIS?
- It's California school information system --11 A.
- 12 services, yes. Right.
- We'll call it the CSIS. 13 Q.
- 14 Okay. A.
- 15 What's its current status? Q.
- 16 It is in development. A.
- You are an advocate for the development of 17 O.
- CSIS? 18

20

21

25

1

- 19 MR. HERRON: She personally?
 - MR. JACOBS: You personally.
 - THE WITNESS: Yes, I am.
- 22 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: You believe strongly in the
- 23 importance of CSIS to the accomplishment of the
- 24 educational mission of California public schools?
 - MR. HERRON: Objection. Argumentative.

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- MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Overly broad. Vague and ambiguous. 2
- 3 THE WITNESS: Well, the operational
- 4 significance is that in order to request funding each
- year through the state budget process, you have to tie
- 6 your request to your goals and objectives so, yes, in
- 7 that regard.
- 8 BY MR. JACOBS: Did you participate, you
- meaning your branch or the technology services division 9
- in particular, participate in the development of the 10
- 11 technology goals?
- 12 A. Yes, I did.
- Q. 13 And, in fact, are these goals in whole or
- substantial part in the form that you proposed them?
- 15 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Overly broad. Vague 16 and ambiguous.
- 17 THE WITNESS: This is an effort of the home
- management team. All deputies participated, so I had 18
- 19 input, yes.
- 20 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And others had input?
- 21 A. But not singularly. Yes.
- 22 Q. So technology is in your branch, correct?
- 23 A. That's correct.
- 24 O. But the management team participated in the
- 25 identification of the goals for technology for the

- MR. JACOBS: It's not a trick question. I'm
- 2 not going to use it against you. I saw in some Board 3 minutes that you were praised in your role as an
- 4 advocate for this system.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Yes, I think it's a valuable
- 6 system.
- 7 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Briefly, why is the system valuable?
- 9 There does not exist a student tracking system
- 10 in the State of California, and therefore there is a lot
- of data that is impossible to piece together. 11
- 12 Q. What kinds of data in particular do you have in
- mind? 13
- 14 A. Common examples are drop-out data, graduation
- data, things where students -- where you need to track
- students as they go through their education and pass
- 17 from one location to another, and there's no way to
- 18 track them.

23

- 19 O. So we know how many students graduate each
- 20 year, but we don't know with respect to a particular
- 21 graduate where this student went to school over the
- 22 course of his or her education; is that correct?
 - MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Overly broad.
- 24 MR. JACOBS: We meaning at the state level.
- 25 THE WITNESS: That's an example, yes.

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- 1 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And do you have in mind some
- 2 particular uses that the CSIS might well be put once it
- 3 is implemented?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. What do you have in mind?
- 6 A. Well, we have, for starters, 40 individual data
- 7 collections that are required of school districts that
- 8 they must submit individually now that could be -- they
- 9 could be relieved of if we had one valid, reliable
- 10 student data system.
- 11 Q. These 40 individual data collections, by
- 12 individual you mean what?
- 13 A. They each have to be filled out separately.
- 14 Q. And so how does that relate to student by
- 15 student?
- 16 A. Because once we -- for example, there's migrant
- 17 students, there's limited English speaking students,
- 18 there's special ed students, there are any number of
- 19 different categories of students by programs that get
- 20 funding, and at the moment we have to collect all that
- 21 data separately, whereas if we had a way to track those
- 22 students, we could just pick that data out of the
- 23 database and put it in any one of these configurations
- 24 ourselves and the schools wouldn't have to fill that
- 25 form out separately.

- 1 A. No, it's those two. It's bringing those two
- 2 things together.
- 3 Q. Are there other areas of the California
- 4 Department of Education Mission, Vision, Guiding
- 5 Principles, Goals, and Objectives that you had
- 6 substantial input into?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. What are those?
- 9 A. I had a lot of input into all of this actually.
- 10 Q. Let me break it down there. Are there areas
- 11 where you took the initial drafting responsibility?
- 12 A. Beyond the technology division, the adequate
- 13 flexible funding, goal 7, department management.
- 14 Q. With respect to goal 6, did you have initial
- 15 drafting responsibility for the first paragraph there,
- 16 advocate?
- 17 A. I participated in it. These have been around a
- 18 while.
- 19 Q. How long?
- 20 A. Several years. We just kind of update them
- 21 each year.
- 22 Q. Has additional resources and additional
- 23 flexibility been in the statement for some time?
- 24 A. Yes
- 25 Q. The goal 6.2 there, back to our facilities

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1 topic, do you see that?

- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. I was going to say, suppose I ask you about. I
- 4 think I'll just ask you.
- 5 How has your branch implemented that objective?
- 6 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Overly broad.
- 7 Assumes facts not in evidence. Calls for speculation.
- 8 MR. HERRON: Which one was it, Michael?
- 9 MR. JACOBS: 6.2.
- THE WITNESS: Well, in our role of analyzing
- 11 legislation, we are called upon to testify as well in
- 12 support of legislation or opposition, and we are always
- 13 strong advocates. And our data is used by the
- 14 committees and other advocates for trying to push that
- 15 issue of needing more facilities.
- 16 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Have you participated in any
- 17 discussions in which the thrust of the discussion was
- 18 there's a gap between funding and needs, there's been a
- 19 gap between funding and needs for several years, how are
- 20 we going to change that situation, how are we going to
- 21 get out of this pickle we're in of funding for
- 22 facilities, have you participated in discussions of that
- 23 sort?
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 25 Assumes facts not in evidence.

Q. Have the data fields that you were going to

2 include in CSIS been defined yet?

3 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for 4 speculation.

5 MR. HERRON: Asked and answered in part.

6 THE WITNESS: Actually, they have been. At

- 7 this stage it's a phased-in development. There
- 8 currently are districts participating in the first
- 9 phase, and there are five data systems included in that
- 10 first phase, and there has been a data dictionary
- 11 developed for them.
- 12 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And by -- and your reference to
- 13 phases contemplates that additional data elements could
- 14 be incorporated into the system prospectively?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And is the next phase in terms of data elements
- 17 defined?
- 18 A. Yes. But the phase-in is also of the school
- 19 districts coming into it.
- 20 Q. So there's a breadth of data access to the
- 21 phase-in, and then there's a penetration to school
- 22 district's access, is that what you have in mind?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Is there any other major component of the
- 25 phase-in?

- 1 You may respond.
- 2 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 3 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: What discussions do you have in 4 mind?
- 5 THE WITNESS: That's the kind of discussion
- 6 that goes on at the time that we're deciding to -- what
- 7 requests we might make in our budget or what legislation
- 8 we might want to support that's going through the
- 9 legislature, or that we want to find an author to
- 10 support the issue of facilities is one that the
- superintendent would look to my branch for advice on 11
- 12 what we might need to do.
- 13 O. BY MR. JACOBS: As you sit here today, are you
- aware of any concrete plans that will address the gap in
- funding that you've identified with respect to
- 16 facilities?
- 17 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 18 speculation. Vague and ambiguous.
- 19 THE WITNESS: Concrete plans? The only
- 20 concrete plan I would be aware of would be the pursuit
- 21 of more bond money.
- 22 BY MR. JACOBS: Is there -- do you have in mind O.
- 23 a particular bond proposal?
- 24 A. Actually, I don't know right now what that one
- is. There is one knocking around, but --25

- you believe is especially meritorious?
- 2 MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- 3 Calls for an expert opinion.
- 4 THE WITNESS: No, I think there are a
 - combination of things that need to be done.
 - BY MR. JACOBS: And what is that combination?
- 7 MR. HERRON: Same objections.
 - THE WITNESS: It would include things like
- 9 lowering the voting number, which has been somewhat
- 10 addressed. But just continuing to press for recognition
- 11 of the need for more funding.
- 12 O. BY MR. JACOBS: And by pressing for that
- recommend -- for recognition of that need, what do you 13
- 14 mean?

5

6

8

- 15 A. Through the legislature.
- 16 Q. Have you identified -- let me approach this
- 17 from the following standpoint.
- 18 I showed you the advisory that was sent out
- 19 about bathroom conditions, and you indicated that you
 - were not aware of that advisory.
- 21 Are you aware of any other issues with respect
- 22 to conditions in facilities in the schools that, in your
- 23 judgment, are not substantially attributable to funding
- 24 shortfalls?
- 25 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for

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- Did you reach sort of a summary conclusion 1
- 2 about the legislative analyst report that you mentioned
- 3 in the morning, the report on funding of school
- 4 construction, as to whether that report represented a
- 5 possible answer to the gap?
- 6 And the first part of your question was, had we A.
- 7 reached --
- 8 You said that you commented on the report, and
- 9 I'm asking now about one aspect of your comment now,
- 10 which is, did you decide whether --
- 11 We didn't decide anything, we made some
- 12 comments about some of the recommendations in the
- 13 report.
- 14 Q. Did you comment on the funding level that the
- 15 report proposed?
- 16 I don't recall specifically the funding level
- 17 being an issue.
- 18 So if I understood your answer to my have you
- 19 participated in discussions about how we change the
- 20 situation with respect to the funding gap, your answer
- was along the lines of, this topic comes up in a variety
- 22 of contexts and you participate in those discussions?
- 23 Α.
- 24 O. And in your personal judgment, is there any
- 25 particular approach to addressing the funding gap that

- speculation. Vague and ambiguous. Calls for an 2
- opinion.
- 3 THE WITNESS: The only thing that comes to mind
- 4 is there is currently a growing concern about toxic
- issues, and I think that it's unclear at this time
- exactly how to get our arms around that one and whether
- it's -- it would ultimately be a funding issue, but
- there is a lot that needs to be done, I think, to help
- us understand that issue better.
- 10 BY MR. JACOBS: And one of the things that's
- 11 being done, as I understand it from reading the paper,
- is some information gathering about the extent of the
- problem; is that right? 13
- 14 A. Yes, and mitigation and --
- 15 Q. Meaning mitigation -- potential mitigation
- 16 techniques?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 O. As opposed to what's actually been done to
- 19 mitigate so far, or what do you have in mind by
- 20 mitigation?
- 21 A. Or whether it works or not. There's disputes
- 22 about how to mitigate.
- 23 How have you addressed the toxics issue in
- 24 terms of assignment of responsibility in your branch?
- 25 A. Our only responsibility really is information.

- 1 There's a department in state government that has most
- 2 of the responsibility for actually developing
- 3 guidelines. We are a participant in those discussions,
- 4 but that's not our expertise. We have no expertise in
- 5 toxics.
- 6 Q. And the "department" in the state government is
- 7 which department?
- 8 A. I think it's the department of toxic substance
- 9 something.
- 10 MR. JORDAN: Substance control?
- 11 THE WITNESS: Yeah, toxic substance control or
- 12 something. There is a separate agency.
- 13 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Is it your understanding that
- 14 that's not in the department of environmental --
- 15 A. I'm not sure whether it's department of health
- 16 or under environmental.
- 17 Q. Are there -- what's your understanding of the
- 18 process by which this issue surfaced to the attention of
- 19 state officials and an action plan -- strike that.
- In your judgment, has an action plan been
- 21 developed for assessing the scope of this problem and
- 22 developing a plan for ameliorating it?
- 23 MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- 24 It's beyond the scope of her knowledge.
- 25 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I don't really know. It

- 1 department of general services. Those are the
- 2 primary -- it used to be the office of public school
- 3 construction, but that's now with the State allocation
- 4 board, I think.
- 5 Q. And then the toxics issue is in this toxic
- 6 substances group. They have a large role to play in
- 7 that one, right?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Are there other instances related to facilities
- 10 in which you're aware of other agencies playing a major
- 11 role?

13

- MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
 - THE WITNESS: I'm not sure. There are water
- 14 issues. I would guess those are someplace else. But
- 15 Duwayne would know that.
- 16 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: On 6.5 of goal 6, provide
- 17 resources and guidance to ensure that local education
- 18 agencies utilize resources effectively, efficiently and
- 19 appropriately, do you see that?
- 20 A. Uh-huh. Yes.
- 21 Q. Is there anything that comes to mind that your
- 22 branch is involved in that is focused on addressing that
- 23 objective?
- 24 A. You know, I don't even know what this means. I
- don't know what we were thinking when we wrote it.

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- 1 isn't just a problem.
- 2 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: It's many problems?
- 3 A. Yes
- 4 Q. Different kinds of toxins potentially from
- 5 different kinds of sources?
- 6 A. Yes
- 7 Q. Is there somebody in your branch who is
- 8 tracking it from the standpoint of the Department of
- 9 Education?
- 10 A. Duwayne is primarily the person who
- 11 participates.
- 12 Q. Has this been an issue that's been discussed at
- 13 the State Board of Education?
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Q. Are you aware of any other facilities, school
- 16 facilities related issues that, in your judgment, are
- 17 the primary responsibility at the state level of other
- 18 State agencies?
- MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for a legal
- 20 opinion. Calls for speculation. Vague and ambiguous.
- 21 MR. JACOBS: It is pretty broad.
- 22 Q. Facilities funding involves several agencies,
- 23 right? It involves your agency, it involves the SAB.
- 24 What other agencies are involved?
- 25 A. State architect, who I think is in the

- $1\quad Q. \quad \ \ \, Let \ me \ try \ something. \ FCMAT plays a role, at \ \,$
- least in sort of the urgent cases, right?
 MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for spe
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
 The document speaks for itself, albeit not with perfect
- 5 clarity.
- 6 THE WITNESS: Yeah, it's possible FCMAT is --
- 7 was part of what was being referred to in here.
- 8 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: So whether or not it was the 9 original intention of the drafters to refer to FCMAT, do
- 10 you think of FCMAT as playing a role in ensuring that
- 11 LEAs utilize resources effectively, efficiently and
- 12 appropriately?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. What is your involvement with FCMAT?
- 15 A. I represent the superintendent on the Board.
- 16 Q. And what is the role of the Board with respect
- 17 to the day-to-day activities of FCMAT?
- MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for a legal
- 19 opinion. Overly broad.
- THE WITNESS: The Board isn't involved in the
- 21 day-to-day activities of FCMAT.
- 22 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: What does the Board do?
- 23 A. The Board, in my opinion, is an advisory body.
- 24 It's broadly representative of the state, districts and
- 25 county offices and is there to give guidance.

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- 1 Q. What kind of guidance?
- 2 A. To the mission of FCMAT, which is to provide
- 3 advice and services to school districts who feel they
- 4 need -- who are either in fiscal crisis or believe they
- 5 need some evaluation of their fiscal health.
- 6 Q. How do you actually staff your Board
- 7 membership; that is, do you do it all yourself, or do
- 8 you have somebody who assists you with your Board
- 9 involvement in FCMAT?
- 10 MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 11 THE WITNESS: I go alone. The director of the
- 12 school fiscal services division is someone that I depend
- 13 on for information about issues that might be on that
- 14 agenda.
- 15 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Do you -- you've been on this
- 16 board for how long?
- 17 A. A couple of years.
- 18 Q. Have there been any issues that have -- as
- 19 opposed to you seeking input from someone under you, and
- 20 then you yourself deciding what you're going to do as a
- 21 FCMAT board member, have there been issues in which
- 22 people superior to you in the department have given you
- 23 guidance as to what they would like you to do, in turn,
- 24 giving guidance to FCMAT?
- 25 MR. HERRON: Objection. Long.

- 1 you're pointing to now is that the superintendent
- 2 herself can enlist FCMAT in issues that she considers
- 3 worthy of FCMAT's attention; is that correct?
- 4 A. Yes
- 5 Q. And in the cases that you identified, was
- 6 the -- as far as you know, was the exclusive call upon
- 7 FCMAT a call that came from the superintendent as
- 8 opposed to a call that also came from the district?
- 9 A. I know that to be the case in a couple of them.
- 10 I don't know whether the district independently had
- 11 asked for their assistance as well.
- 12 Q. Is there a mechanism in the department by which
- 13 an issue reaches the superintendent with sort of a
- 14 recommendation to her, we should get FCMAT involved in
- 15 this problem?
- 16 A. What was the first part of your question?
- 17 Q. Is there a procedure or process in the
- 18 department with which an issue reaches the
- 19 superintendent?
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- 21 THE WITNESS: No, there's not a process.
- 22 Fiscal issues are important, and there are various ways
- 23 we find out about them.
- 24 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: So it could be a very informal
- 5 way in the sense that you would learn, say, from the

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- 1 MR. JACOBS: It was long.
- 2 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Did you understand it?
- 3 A. Yeah. The superintendent can call upon FCMAT
- 4 at her will by statute. They exist partially -- their
- 5 service is provided at her request in addition to other
- 6 responsibilities they can take on themselves. So, yes,
- 7 she would -- I would be the instrument of her initiating8 a request to them.
- 9 Q. Has that happened?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. On what occasions?
- MR. HERRON: Do you want a list, or are you
- 13 just asking --
- 14 THE WITNESS: I mean, at the moment we are
- 15 involved in San Francisco Unified School District, we're
- 16 involved in Emery School District, we're involved in
- 17 Alameda County office, in Compton Unified School
- 18 District, and to varying degrees we have called upon
- 19 FCMAT to assist us in evaluating their fiscal health.
- 20 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: And by the "we" there, you're
- 21 referring to a FCMAT request that came from the
- 22 superintendent?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. So what I understand, FCMAT -- I understood
- 25 FCMAT to be responsive to district requests, and what

- 1 paper that there's a fiscal crisis and then you, now
- 2 meaning the department, would have a discussion, and
- 3 then the request would be made to FCMAT?
- 4 A. Yes, that could happen.
- 5 Q. Do you know whether FCMAT has rules of thumb
- 6 for what portions of school district budgets should go
- 7 to what categories of expenditures?
- 8 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 9 speculation.
- THE WITNESS: I don't know that for a fact.
- 11 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Are you aware of any such rules
- 12 of thumb?
- 13 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 14 speculation.
- MR. HERRON: You mean by FCMAT or the
- 16 department, or anyone else?
- 17 MR. JACOBS: Anyone.
 - THE WITNESS: I am not personally.
- 19 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Do you think that somebody --
- 20 you're thinking that I should ask somebody else that
- 21 question who might be more knowledgeable about that
- 22 topic?

18

- 23 A. Jan Sterling, the director of my school fiscal
- 24 services division, has staff that reviews school
- 25 district budgets and, yes, they have criteria by which

- 1 they assess a general sense of stability.
- 2 Do you have any information about whether the
- 3 department has given out guidance to LEAs that indicate
- in the typical case "X" percentage goes to facilities,
- 5 "Y" percentage goes to teachers, something along those
- 6 lines?
- 7 I don't know that for a fact. I only -- only
- 8 in the case of reserves. There actually is a statutory
- 9 requirement on reserves, that a certain percent be
- 10 there.
- That a district has to maintain a certain level 11 Q.
- 12 of reserves?
- 13 A. Reserves, uh-huh.
- Is that something that the fiscal services 14
- division reviews when it reviews budgets? 15
- 16 A. Yes.

3

4

9

- 17 MR. HERRON: When you are at a convenient
- point, could we take a break? 18
- 19 MR. JACOBS: Let me just ask a couple more
- 20 about fiscal service and its connection.
- 21 MR. HERRON: Sure.
- 22 O. BY MR. JACOBS: Do you have any information
- 23 about whether the fiscal services division in reviewing
- 24 budgets draws on the budgetary review process to
- 25 identify particular funding issues confronting the state

- and those are -- it's just a series of kind of warning
- 2 flags that say that's known publically. We inform that

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- 3 district and their board that we believe they're in a
- 4 sensitive situation and they need to address the issues
- 5 that we identified that made us arrive at that
- conclusion. We do that twice a year, budgets are
- 7 reviewed for their stability.
- 8 Twice a year for all districts, or twice a year
- 9 for qualified or negative?
- 10 All districts twice a year. A.
- Q. When you say it's "known publically," is it 11
- 12 announced in some sense, or is it merely conveyed to the
- Board? 13
- 14 It's conveyed, and if asked for, it would be A.
- 15 told to anyone who wanted to know.
- 16 Q. Do you know if it's posted on the web?
- 17 A. I don't know.
- O. Is there any trend analysis conducted from this 18
- 19 budgetary review, not as to particular districts, but as
- to the school system statewide?
- 21 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 22 speculation.
- 23 MR. HERRON: Vague and ambiguous.
- 24 THE WITNESS: I don't know actually. It could
- be. The data is there always and it's public, so

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anybody could review. Those are all public documents,

2 the budgets are.

3 O. BY MR. JACOBS: But to your knowledge, it isn't 4 a -- let me take it at its most simple.

5 Is the number of school districts on the

qualified or negative going up, do you know?

7 MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.

8 THE WITNESS: I don't know right now. It goes 9 up and down.

10 O. BY MR. JACOBS: Are there any trends that your

11 branch has spotted in terms of reasons districts might

12 be on the qualified or negative list?

MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation. 13

14 THE WITNESS: Not consistently. Right now we 15 will expect to see more because of the energy crisis,

16 for example.

25

- 17 BY MR. JACOBS: And will you -- that's a good
- 18 example. Do you have any plan to gather the data about
- 19 energy costs that you have potentially available to you
- 20 through this budget review process and do anything with
- 21 that data from the standpoint of, for example,
- 22 advocating for adequate resources?
- 23 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 24 speculation. Hypothetical question.
 - THE WITNESS: The superintendent already has

public education system? In other words, let me set 1 2 this up.

I can imagine that FSD reviews budgets and says your budget is okay, your budget is okay, your budget is

5 okay. And my question is, aside from that, do they 6 actually assemble that data and try to draw some

7 conclusions about it, about what kind of fiscal problems 8 they are having?

MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for speculation. Assumes facts not in evidence.

10 11 THE WITNESS: We have a requirement that we categorize districts that we feel are -- show some sign

13 of having difficulty, so, yes, we don't just do nothing 14 with them.

15 BY MR. JACOBS: Separate -- explain what you 16 mean by that. You look at a budget and then an

17 identification is made that this district has some

18 problems, fiscal issues?

19 MR. HERRON: Are you now talking about the 20 fiscal services division?

- 21 MR. JACOBS: Yes.
- 22 Is that correct? Q.
- 23 Yes. Α.
- 24 Q. Is there a name for it?
- You are put on a qualified list for a negative, 25 A.

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- publically stated her concern over the effect of the
- 2 energy crisis and said that in front of both committees,
- 3 budget committees of both houses of the legislature,
- that that's an issue that definitely needs to be
- addressed in this budget, because school districts will 5
- 6 need to deal with that.

7 We have also sent out notices through Duwayne's

- 8 shop actually about energy conservation, just to alert
- 9 districts to attend to that as well as they can.
- 10 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: But in terms of drawing on the
- 11 data that's available to you through the budget review
- 12 process with respect to energy costs, do you have any
- 13 plan to assemble that data and report it out?
- 14 MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- 15 THE WITNESS: Right now there's not a plan.
- 16 MR. JACOBS: Let's take a break.
- 17 (Recess taken 3:06 p.m. to 3:14 p.m.)
- 18 (Mr. Hamilton not present.)
- 19 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Does FCMAT assess nonfinancial
- 20 conditions in schools that it reviews? For example, if
- 21 there was overcrowding in a school, would it be within
- FCMAT's purview, as you understand it, to identify that
- 23 as an issue and recommend appropriate action?
- 24 A.

2

25 Q. And how about the fiscal services division in

- 1 homework.
- 2 Do you have any information on whether that 3
 - condition, that is, the absence of sufficient numbers of
- 4 current legible textbooks, exists in some subset of
- 5 California public schools?
- 6 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 7 speculation. Overly broad. Vague and ambiguous.
 - THE WITNESS: What was the first part of the question?
- 10 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Do you have any information on
- whether that condition exists in some subset of 11
- 12 California schools?
- 13 MR. SEFERIAN: Same objections.
- 14 MR. HERRON: Would you mind also defining
- 15 "you"? Are we talking about Ms. Lange personally?
- 16 MR. JACOBS: I'm asking if Ms. Lange is aware
- 17 of --

8

9

- 18 MR. HERRON: She herself?
- 19 MR. JACOBS: -- if there's any information on
- that topic, that's correct.
- 21 THE WITNESS: I don't have information on that
- 22 topic.
- 23 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: So you're not in a position to
- 24 say whether or not it's true or false; is that correct?
- 25 A. That's correct.

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- O. Are you aware of any effort to say whether that
- 2 condition exists?
- 3 I'm not aware. There is a textbook and
- 4 instructional materials office in another branch of the
- 5 department, and they may be.
- 6 Q. Another allegation in the complaint is that
- there are insufficient numbers of -- that there are some 7
- schools that have high numbers of emergency-credentialed
- teachers as opposed to fully credentialed, quote,
- 10 unquote, teachers.
- 11 Do you have any information in your official
- 12 capacity as to whether that condition exists or doesn't
- exist? 13
- 14 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 15 speculation.
- 16 THE WITNESS: The CBEDS database may have that.
- 17 I'm not sure.
- BY MR. JACOBS: CBEDS is in your branch? 18 Q.
- 19 A.
- 20 Q. In the demographics?
- 21 A. In the demographics division. Lynn Bocker is
- 22 the division director.
- 23 O. Educational demographics office, Lynn Boc --
- 24 A. Bocker.
- 25 Q. Are you aware of any reports that have been

its role in reviewing budgets, does it have within its purview assessing nonfinancial conditions in school?

3 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for a legal 4 opinion. Calls for speculation. Overly broad.

5 (Mr. Hamilton entered the room.)

6 THE WITNESS: No.

- 7 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Are you aware of any vehicle in
- 8 the state -- at the state level for assessing conditions
- 9 in schools with respect to, let's say, overcrowding?
- 10 First of all, we've talked about FCMAT, we've 11 talked about fiscal services division. Is there any
- other entity in the state apparatus that assesses the
- 13 existence of those conditions?
- 14 MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 15 Calls for speculation.
- 16 THE WITNESS: I'm not aware of any.
- 17 BY MR. JACOBS: Let me walk you through a couple of the issues we identified in the complaint and 18
- 19 ask you what information you have about whether or not
- 20 those conditions exist. Okay?
- 21 The first one that we identified was a lack of
- 22 sufficient numbers of legible and current textbooks or
- instructional materials for each student to have his or
- her own textbook or materials in core subjects to use in
- class without sharing and to be able to use at home for

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- 1 generated by your branch in which the issue of
- 2 concentration of nonfully credentialed teachers has been
- 3 assessed?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. Is it your view that there's another branch
- 6 that would -- CBEDS is in your branch?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. But I take it, in part from your answer, that
- 9 whether or not -- what that data shows in terms of its
- 10 policy implications is not part of your branch's
- 11 responsibilities; is that correct?
- 12 A. That's correct.
- 13 Q. And is there a branch that you would identify
- 14 that as most appropriately residing in?
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 16 Calls for speculation. Calls for an expert opinion
- 17 beyond this witness' capability.
- 18 THE WITNESS: There's a curriculum and
- 19 instructional leadership branch, and they might know
- 20 that. And the data is on-line.
- 21 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: But in terms of relying on the
- 22 data and making policy recommendations, that would
- 23 address, if there is such a concentration, what to do
- 24 about it, do you have a view as to what branch that
- 25 would most appropriately reside in?

- 1 A. I'm not aware.
- 2 Q. Another condition we identified is a series of
- 3 conditions related to facilities. Let me break them
- 4 down. One issue is noise levels, ambient noise levels,
- 5 external noise as opposed to a lively classroom. We --
- 6 the complaint alleges that there are a subset of
- 7 California public schools in which the classrooms are
- 8 too noisy in that way to allow effective learning to
- 9 take place.
- Do you have any information on whether that's true or false?
- 12 A. I don't.
- 13 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 14 speculation.
- 15 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Are you aware of any data
- 16 gathering that takes place routinely from which one
- 17 could discern whether that condition exists?
- 18 A. I'm not aware of that.
- 19 Q. Another issue that was identified is whether
- 20 there are sufficient numbers of clean, stocked and
- 21 functioning toilets. I think the issue that we
- 22 discussed in conjunction with that advisory that went
- 23 out.
- Are you aware of any information about whether
- 25 that condition exists?
- 1 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
 - 2 speculation.
 - THE WITNESS: Other than what is said in the
 - 4 memo by my staff, I'm not personally aware, no.
 - 5 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Are you aware of any efforts to
 - 6 assess whether that condition exists?
 - 7 MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
 - 8 THE WITNESS: I am aware of one circumstance
 - 9 that is -- yes.
 - 10 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: What are you thinking of?
 - 11 A. It's Compton, because at the moment the State
 - 12 Department of Education is the trustee of Compton, and
 - 13 that is one of the issues related to the Compton
 - 14 District, so I have -- I am aware of that.
 - 15 Q. What role does your branch play in the
 - 16 administration of the Compton district?
 - 17 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Assumes facts not in 18 evidence.
 - 19 THE WITNESS: We have advised their business
 - 20 officials in reconstructing their budget since the
 - 21 beginning of the trusteeship.
 - 22 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: There is a team in your branch
 - 23 that is assigned to the Compton project?
 - 24 A. There is not now.
 - 25 Q. There was?

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1 MR. HERRON: Same objection. Asked and 2 answered.

THE WITNESS: Just the same as I answered before.

- 5 O. BY MR. JACOBS: Another issue we identified is
- 6 an issue related to classroom temperature, and in
- 7 particular whether there are some schools in which
- 8 classrooms are too cold or too hot on a -- with a
- 9 regularity or are frequency sufficient to make it an
- 10 issue.
- Do you have any information on whether that
- 12 condition exists in some subset of California public
- 13 schools?
- MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 15 Calls for speculation.
- 16 THE WITNESS: I don't know.
- 17 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Are you aware of any efforts to
- 18 assess whether that condition exists in California
- 19 public schools?
- 20 A. Am I aware of any effort to assess --
- 21 Q. Whether it exists?
- 22 A. No
- 23 Q. Are you aware of any data gathering that occurs
- 24 routinely from which one could assess whether that
- 25 condition exists or not?

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1 A. Yes.

3

- 2 Q. What happened to that team?
 - MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- 4 THE WITNESS: It was before I was in this role.
- 5 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: So what has the involvement of
- 6 the branch been while you've been in the -- in your
- 7 current role?
- 8 A. My branch's involvement has been more in an
- 9 on-call advisory capacity to the business office.
- 10 Q. And the "business office," you're referring to
- 11 what?
- 12 A. Compton School District.
- 13 Q. The business office is the ongoing
- 14 administrative entity?
- 15 A. Right.
- 16 Q. You understood from -- I take it from internal
- 17 discussions that one of the issues that surfaced was a
- 18 bathroom issue at Compton; is that correct?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 O. Are you aware of any other bathroom-related
- 21 conditions in California public schools?
- 22 A. Not personally.
- 23 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 24 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: The issue of multi-tracking and
- 25 how multi-tracking is implemented is another issue that

1 programs head into?

3

15

- 2 MR. HERRON: Same objections.
 - THE WITNESS: We have a concern related to
- 4 MTYRE in light of the new effort to extend the school
- 5 year for middle schools and other programs that extend
- 6 into summer, or supplemental service that become
- 7 difficult for year-around schools to participate in, and
- 8 that often gets overlooked in the legislative process.
- 9 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: So extending the school year
- 10 may be particularly difficult when the school is on an
- 11 MTYRE program; is that the point?
- 12 A. That is --
- 13 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Overly broad. Vague
- 14 and ambiguous.
 - THE WITNESS: That can be a problem, yes.
- 16 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Is that something that has
- 17 shown up? Has that issue shown up in your analysis of
- 18 legislative proposals?
- 19 A. Yes, that's an issue that arises in
- 20 legislation.
- 21 Q. Are you aware of any other issues -- let me see
- 22 if I can approach this differently.
- Are you aware of any evaluations of MTYRE
- 24 programs that have been provided to your branch?
- 25 A. Yeah.

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we identified in the complaint.

- What information -- what is your branch's role
- 3 in multi-tracking programs?
- 4 A. Duwayne, good old Duwayne has responsibility
- 5 for the administration of MTYRE grants and general
- 6 information.
- 7 Q. Have you participated in any discussions about
- 8 revisions to the MTYRE program in your current capacity?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. What sorts of discussions have those been?
- 11 A. Those are generally in response to legislative
- 12 proposals.
- 13 Q. Have you initiated any such proposals?
- 14 A. Not that I can recall.
- 15 Q. Is there a prevailing view in your branch about
- 16 what the -- let me come at this from another direction.
- When you've made those analyses of legislative
- 18 proposals, are there any consistent themes that come out
- 19 of your branch in response to those proposals with
- 20 respect to MTYRE programs?
- 21 MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 22 Calls for speculation.
- THE WITNESS: No, not any particular themes.
- 24 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Are there some particular
- 25 directions that your branch would like to see MTYRE

- 1 Q. What are you aware of?
- 2 A. Recently there was an evaluation or a
- 3 suggestion in an evaluation that the API rankings, that
- 4 the test results of students correlated negatively with
- 5 year-around schools.
- 6 Q. And was there a suggestion that there was a
- 7 causal relationship?
- 8 A. There was a discussion in that report that was
- 9 done, yes.
- 10 Q. What was the source of that report?
- 11 A. I'm not sure. It may have been -- I'm not
- 12 sure. It was not the department.
- 13 Q. So it was an external report?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. When did you see it?
- 16 A. It's been in the last month.
- 17 Q. What else do you recall of the report's
- 18 conclusions?
- 19 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 20 speculation.
- 21 THE WITNESS: I just recall that we don't think
- 22 that they substantiated that.
- 23 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: They just didn't substantiate
- 24 the statistical correlation, or they didn't substantiate
- 25 the causal relationship?

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- 1 A. The causal relationship.
- 2 Q. And do you have any -- did you have contrary
- 3 information, or just did you simply conclude that there
- 4 was insufficient substantiation in the report itself?
- 5 A. Insufficient substantiation of cause and
- 6 effect.
- 7 Q. Let me ask the question directly. Do you have
- 8 any information that was contrary on that question?
- 9 MR. SEFERIAN: You mean her personally?
- 10 BY MR. JACOBS: Are you aware of any Q.
- information in the branch that's contrary to that 11
- conclusion? 12
- 13 A. No.
- Do you have a belief based on your knowledge 14 O.
- and experience in the education system that they're not 15
- 16 causily related?
- 17 MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- 18 Also asks for an expert opinion beyond the competence of
- 19 this witness.
- 20 THE WITNESS: Our concern is just that
- 21 conclusions not be drawn without sufficient evidence.
- BY MR. JACOBS: Do you have a belief yourself? 22
- 23 MR. HERRON: Same objection.
- 24 THE WITNESS: I believe they started out poor
- performing, and that's why they -- and they are in

- that it is deleterious to educational outcomes or
- 2 educational objectives that multi-track, year-around
- 3 programs might be expanded?
- 4 MR. HERRON: Objection. Argumentative.
 - THE WITNESS: I don't know whether -- what was
- the question? 6

5

- 7 BY MR. JACOBS: Whether your branch has -- let
- 8 me refine it a little bit. When you are advocating for
- 9 more facilities funding, do you point out that one
- benefit of more facilities funding would be less need 10
- 11 for multi-track, year-around education in the belief
- 12 that MTYRE, all things being equal, would be better if
- 13 it wasn't expanding?
- 14 MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous in
- 15 the use of the term "you."
- 16 THE WITNESS: Yeah, we don't -- now I've
- 17 lost -- we don't advocate for more facilities funding to
- 18 get people off MTYRE. Is that the question?
- 19 MR. JACOBS: Yeah.
- 20 THE WITNESS: We don't do that.
- 21 (Record read.)
- 22 O. BY MR. JACOBS: In providing your estimates of
- 23 the amount of new classroom construction that is needed,
- 24 the kinds of estimates we talked about earlier in
- connection with those fingertip facts, do those 25

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- low-income districts, and that it wasn't year-around estimates assume that students will move out of MTYRE
- school that caused them to do poorly on the test. That 2
- 3 was our concern.
- 4 BY MR. JACOBS: Have you -- are you aware of Q.
- 5 any other evaluations of MTYRE programs?
- 6 A. I'm not personally aware.
- Do you -- does the department have an 7 O.
- 8 officially expressed concern about the expansion of
- MTYRE and whether that's good or bad for California
- 10 public schoolchildren?
- 11 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- speculation. Overly broad. Vague and ambiguous.
- THE WITNESS: There's not a department position 13 14 on MTYRE.
- 15 BY MR. JACOBS: How about your branch, has your
- branch expressed a position on whether MTYRE -- that
- policy makers should be concerned about the expansion of 17
- 18 MTYRE programs?
- 19 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 20 THE WITNESS: No, our role is to ensure that
- 21 they get served fairly and well, and that information is
- 22 available for those that have no choice but to go on
- 23 multi-track year-around school.
- 24 BY MR. JACOBS: So the answer is, no, you have
- 25 not expressed -- your branch has not expressed the view

- programs into traditional calendared programs? 2
- 3 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for 4 speculation.
- 5 THE WITNESS: And I don't know the answer.
- 6 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Just to make sure I asked the
- 7 question in this way, in your personal opinion, based on
- your experience in the educational system, do you
- personally believe that MTYRE programs are in a general
- 10 case beneficial, neutral, deleterious to education?
- 11 MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 12 Calls for speculation. Calls for an expert opinion
- beyond the capabilities of this witness. 13
- 14 THE WITNESS: I think year-around education is
- good, the more multi -- the more tracks you have, the
- more it increases the difficulty of delivering a good
- 17 program.

21

- 18 BY MR. JACOBS: Would it be fair to O.
- 19 characterize your views that the MTYRE presents special
- 20 challenges to educational administrators?
 - MR. HERRON: Same objections.
- 22 THE WITNESS: I think it's challenging.
- 23 BY MR. JACOBS: Do you have a view as to what
- 24 makes for a successful implementation of an MTYRE
- program as opposed to an unsuccessful one?

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- 1 MR. HERRON: Same objections.
- 2 THE WITNESS: No, I don't know enough about it.
- 3 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Do you know whether your branch
- 4 has conducted a study of that question?
- 5 A. I don't know that.
- 6 Q. Have you participated in any discussions in
- 7 which conducting such a study was the topic of the
- discussion? 8
- 9 A. No.
- 10 O. Has the study that you referred to that drew
- both the statistical correlation and proposed a causal 11
- 12 relationship between poor educational outcomes and
- 13 MTYRE, did that study prompt any discussion about
- whether additional studies should be performed?
- 15 No, because the study wasn't about MTYRE, it
- 16 was about the testing results, and that was just one
- 17 of -- a conclusion they drew from the bigger study.
- 18 Q. Did that conclusion prompt any discussion about
- 19 whether additional study of MTYRE would be called for?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 MR. JACOBS: Let's mark as the next document
- 22 the approved minutes of the California State Board of
- 23 Education, public session, July 12-13, 2000.
- 24 (Exhibit SAD-38 was marked.)
- 25 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Directing your attention to

- you said that?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Is that, in fact, the funding pathway?
- 4 Yes, for the bulk of the money. The Department
- 5 of Education keeps a small piece, but FCMAT gets the big
- piece of it. 6
- 7 Q. What is the explanation for why CSIS is funded
- 8 through FCMAT?
- 9 A. Prop 98.
- 10 Q. How did that cause that to happen?
- 11 A. The State Department of Education cannot spend
- 12 Prop 98 funding. Do you know what Prop 98 is?
- 13 Q. Go ahead.
- In order to carve out enough money to pay for 14 A.
- 15 this project, it was beneficial from the State
- standpoint to take it out of the appropriations that's
- allocated out of Prop 98. So they couldn't give it to
- 18 us to spend, they have to give it to an LEA to spend.
- 19 Q. And the Prop 98 restriction at issue here is a
- restriction on what can go to administration?
- 21 Just what can be spent by the State versus a
- 22 local school, a local education agency.
- 23 Q. And then data collection is an essential part
- 24 of the assessment and accountability systems, did you
- say that in words or substance?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 O. What did you mean by that?
- That understanding what's going on out there is 3
- 4 beneficial to helping us make decisions about policy and
- 5 spending.
- Does FCMAT have an operational role in CSIS 6 Q.
- 7 that's not very good?
- 8 Is CSIS a project unto itself and does the
- funding merely come through FCMAT, or does FCMAT play a
- 10 role in the design and development of CSIS? 11
 - MR. HERRON: Objection. Compound.
- 12 THE WITNESS: FCMAT contracts with a person
- 13 who -- with an entity that does CSIS. FCMAT does not
- 14 participate.
- 15 O. BY MR. JACOBS: Does CSIS administer that
- 16 contract?
- 17 A. FCMAT administers the contract.
- Q. In the sense of overseeing the performance of 18
- 19 the contractor?
- FCMAT oversees the performance of the 20 A.
- 21 contractor, yes.
- 22 Have you been involved in any discussions about
- 23 possibly expanding FCMAT's role to cover additional
- 24 areas of potential concern in terms of what they examine
- when they go into a school district?

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page 4, item 8, CSIS. The minutes state, Susie Lange 1 2 deputy superintendent, stated that the Board's role is

- 3 now minor, but will grow over the years. Did you say
- 4 that in words or substance?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 What did you mean by the Board's role would Q. 7 grow?
- 8 That was a year ago, and CSIS is relatively new
- 9 and small, and it's going to get bigger, and I expect 10 that the oversight of the State Board of Education will
- 11 grow with it.

21

- 12 So by the Board there, you were actually Q.
- referring to the members of the Board of Education and 13
- the role they would play in overseeing the uses to which
- 15 CSIS data would be put, for example?
- 16 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Misstates the 17 witness' testimony.
- 18 THE WITNESS: That's not what I meant.
- 19 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: What did you mean?
- 20 A. They have a role of approving the data
- dictionary, and the data dictionary will get bigger. 22 Then I assume this is a report of what you
- 23 said, the funding for this project goes through the
- 24 California Department of Education to the Kern County
- Office of Education to FCMAT to CSIS. Is that correct,

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- 1 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 2 THE WITNESS: So repeat the question.
- 3 MR. JACOBS: Read it, please.
- 4 (Record read.)
- 5 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 6 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: What such discussions?
- 7 A. Whether or not they should be involved in
- 8 evaluating the education program instead of just the
- 9 fiscal.
- 10 Q. The shorthand for what they do now is examine
- 11 the fiscal operations of a school district, correct?
- 12 A. Yes
- 13 Q. And the topic of discussion was whether their
- 14 role should be expanded to cover the educational program
- 15 as well?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And by educational program, what was meant?
- 18 A. The academic performance, not just the fiscal
- 19 performance of a district.
- 20 O. By "academic performance," what kinds of
- 21 factors were under discussion?
- 22 A. That would open the area of looking at their
- 23 curriculum, looking at anything involved in the delivery
- 24 of the educational program as opposed to just how they
- 25 handle their finances and their budgeting.

- 1 they have been asked to do that through the
- 2 superintendent request mechanism that we discussed
- 3 earlier?

5

- 4 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
 - THE WITNESS: I'm not aware of the
- 6 superintendent having asked them to do facilities.
- 7 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Is there anything -- is there
- 8 any barrier that you're aware of, any institutional
- 9 barrier to that request being made of FCMAT?
- 10 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for a legal 11 opinion.
- 12 THE WITNESS: I'm not aware of there being a
- 13 barrier.
- 14 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: So to set this up then, if you
- 15 became aware, you collectively became aware of a major
- 16 facilities issue in a school district, one possible
- 17 avenue available to you, the department, would be to ask
- 18 FCMAT to examine that facility's question, right?
- 19 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 20 Calls for a legal opinion. Calls for speculation.
- MR. HERRON: Michael, "you" has been defined
- 22 two different ways.
- 23 MR. JACOBS: It's collectively and you the
- 24 department. They meant the same thing.
- 25 MR. HERRON: Okay.

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- Q. Would that include -- did the discussion
- 2 contemplate including an area such as the condition of
- 3 facilities?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. Did the discussion contemplate including an
- 6 area such as the availability of instructional
- 7 materials?
- 8 A. No.
- 9 I have to correct the facilities thing.
- 10 There's nothing right now that precludes FCMAT from
- 11 looking at facilities. If a district called them in and
- 12 asked them to help them evaluate, that would be part of
- 13 their business operations, and I assume -- and they
- 14 could do that. That's different than what we are
- 15 talking about right now.
- 16 Q. With respect to the expansion of the role?
- 17 A. Right.
- 18 Q. So with respect to facilities, are you aware of
- 19 instances in which FCMAT has played a role in evaluating
- 20 facilities issues?
- 21 A. I'm not aware of that personally.
- 22 Q. But you understand it to be within their
- 23 charter to undertake that if asked?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. And are you aware of any instances in which

- THE WITNESS: We the department use ourselves
- 2 in facilities, so we have not called upon FCMAT. And I
- 3 don't know that we would need to spend the money for
- 4 them to do that.
- 5 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: When you say we "use
- 6 ourselves"?
- 7 A. The school facilities planning division is
- 8 capable of doing a level of evaluation of a facilities
- 9 program without having to call -- call upon and pay for
- 10 further external evaluations.
- 11 Q. So the way we got to this stage is I asked you
- 12 if the department became aware of a major facilities
- 13 issue in a school district, could you engage FCMAT, and
- 14 your answer was, we probably wouldn't do that because we
- 15 have the internal resources. Is that a fair summary of
- 16 your testimony?
- 17 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Misstates the
- 18 witness' testimony.
- 19 THE WITNESS: We could do it, I assume,
- 20 legally. I don't think we would.
- 21 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: We could engage FCMAT legally?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. I don't think we would because we have the
- 24 internal resources to carry out such an evaluation?
- 25 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous

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- 1 overly broad.
- 2 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Is that correct?
- 3 A. Yes.

7

15

- 4 Q. So what do you have in mind in characterizing
- 5 the capabilities of the facilities staff to engage in a
- 6 facilities evaluation?
 - MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 8 speculation. Calls for an opinion. Overly broad.
- 9 Vague and ambiguous. Beyond the scope of knowledge of10 this witness to testify.
- 11 THE WITNESS: It's beyond my scope.
- 12 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Is it beyond your scope because
- 13 he told you it's beyond your scope, or do you really
- 14 think it's beyond your scope?
 - MR. HERRON: Come on. Ask her a question.
- MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Argumentative.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Yeah, a facilities evaluation is
- 18 very broad, so it would depend on the problem we were
- 19 evaluating as to whether we felt our facilities division
- 20 could do it or not.
- 21 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Are you aware of any instance
- 22 in which the department has turned to its facilities
- 23 division to conduct an assessment of the sort that you
- 24 had in mind in proposing that you have that internal
- 25 capability?

- 1 MR. HERRON: I appreciate your having shown
- 2 this to the witness before asking her about it. That's
- 3 kind and beyond the call, but I do object to the use of
- 4 this document because I don't think it's been either
- 5 identified or previously produced in discovery.
- 6 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Do you see at the top it says
- 7 SFPD field services consultants and analysts assist
- 8 California's 58 counties with long-range master planning
- 9 for new school facilities? Do you see that?
- 10 A. Yes, I do.
- 11 Q. What's your understanding of the role of
- 12 counties in that as referred to in that sentence,
- 13 counties as opposed to school districts?
- 14 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for
- 15 speculation.
- 16 THE WITNESS: I don't know the answer to that.
- 17 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Are you aware of any mechanism
- 18 by which the SFPD assesses whether counties or school
- 19 districts, in fact, have long-range master plans?
- 20 A. Am I aware if we do assess whether they have
- 21 them?
- 22 Q. I can use another word. Do you monitor whether
- 23 school districts or counties, in fact, have in place
- 24 long-range master plans for facilities?
- 25 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous

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- 1 MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- THE WITNESS: I can't speak to that. Duwayne
- 3 would be a better source of information on the
- 4 specifics.
- 5 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Are you aware generally if
- 6 they've conducted such evaluations?
- 7 MR. HERRON: Objection. Asked and answered the
- 8 question before.
- 9 THE WITNESS: I'm not specifically aware of an 10 example.
- 11 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: How about generally aware of
- whether such evaluations have been conducted?
- 13 MR. HERRON: Objection. Asked and answered the 14 last two questions.
- 15 THE WITNESS: I think evaluation is problematic
- 16 for me because I think our staff is called upon to give
- 17 advice to school districts about their facilities, and
- 18 how that is defined, they do that routinely in answering
- 19 questions that they get asked. Where that stops and
- 20 starts with the evaluation, I don't know.
- MR. JACOBS: Let me ask you about the next
- 22 document, the school facilities planning division, about
- 23 us, printed from the web of the CDE, and I guess this
- 24 will be SAD-39.
- 25 (Exhibit SAD-39 was marked.)

1 as to "monitor."

- THE WITNESS: Yeah, I don't know for sure.
- 3 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Have you participated in any
- 4 discussions about whether having such a monitoring
- 5 capacity would be beneficial?
- 6 A. I haven't participated in that.
- 7 Q. Aside from SFPD, from the school facilities
- 8 planning division, would your answer be the same if we
- 9 extended it to the Department of Education as a whole;
- 10 that is, you're unaware of a monitoring mechanism and
- 11 you haven't participated in discussions about whether
- 12 such a mechanism would be a good idea?
- 13 A. That's correct.
- 14 Q. And on an informal basis do the geographic
- 15 representatives have a practice of reporting to the
- 16 branch that they have observed facilities issues in the
- 17 course of their -- of their visits to schools for school
- 18 districts?
- MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 20 THE WITNESS: The field representatives that
- 21 work for these -- that work for Duwayne?
- 22 MR. JACOBS: Correct.
- 23 THE WITNESS: Duwayne calls all the field
- 24 representatives in to Sacramento periodically for that
- 25 purpose, for reporting in as well as receiving

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- information that they need.
- 2 BY MR. JACOBS: Do you -- are you aware of any 3 actions taken as a result of those meetings?

4 MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for specu --5 take that back.

6 THE WITNESS: I don't know. I'm -- my 7 assumption is that Duwayne -- any information he would 8 receive that he felt we needed to have, he would give 9

- 10 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Have there been instances in
- which he has come to you and said something along the 11
- 12 lines of, you know, in the XYZ school districts they are
- really in a jam on facilities, I learned this through my 13
- field representative, through my field services
- consultant? 15
- 16 A. I don't recall that happening.
- 17 O. Have you encouraged that kind of reporting?
- 18 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous. 19
- Overly broad.

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- 20 THE WITNESS: I encourage my division directors
- 21 to do what they need to do to do their jobs, and they
- 22 don't necessarily always have to report all of that to
- 23 me. So I would assume that kind of feedback comes in
- 24 and gets acted upon by Duwayne and his people, but I
- have not been a participant in that.

Duwayne to take action without having to ask that.

2 There are two routes for information to come

3 into the department. The formal one is through the 4 superintendent's office which has a tracking system

5 because it has to come back out that way. That would be

if a parent wrote and said I have a concern, and that 6

7 would be documented.

8 But if people call in or information comes in 9 directly to Duwayne's office, then I expect that he will 10 act on that and do as much as possible to solve the 11 problem, and often solving the problem is to get the

12 person connected with the person closest to them that actually can solve the problem, and understand that we 13

are not necessarily that entity. 14

15 O. BY MR. JACOBS: So my question to you is, what

16 other than putting -- this is a different situation now.

This is a situation in which the field services

18 consultant is reporting to Duwayne there is a major

19 facilities issue at the XYZ school district. What is

the range of tools available to Mr. Brooks to address

21 that, to deal with that information?

22 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Hypothetical. Calls 23 for speculation. Calls for a legal opinion.

MR. HERRON: Assumes facts not in evidence.

THE WITNESS: And all of that said, it really

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24

25

BY MR. JACOBS: Do you have any understanding of the ways in which Mr. Brooks is empowered to act on 2 3 such information?

MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for a legal opinion.

THE WITNESS: I'm not sure I understand what vou're asking.

8 BY MR. JACOBS: When we talked earlier about 9 complaints from parents, by the time we got through the

10 discussion on various formats, my takeaway from our

11 discussion was that at the end of the day, essentially

your response to parents is these are the people who can

13 take action on your complaint, we at the state level

14 aren't empowered to take action on your complaint.

15 Whether or not that's an accurate characterization,

that's my takeaway, and you don't have to agree or 17 disagree.

18 But it's in that context that I ask you whether

19 Mr. Brooks is empowered to take action if he learns of a

20 facility situation through his field services

21 consultants and analysts?

22 MR. SEFERIAN: Calls for speculation and a

23 legal opinion. Objection.

24 THE WITNESS: Well, I absolutely expect Duwayne

25 to take action, as does Duwayne expect me to expect

Page 185 would depend on the kind of complaint. If it was a

2 safety issue, I would expect them to take an action to

3 ensure that it got taken care of, if that meant the

4 visiting consultant should at the time and place talk to 5 the person in charge of that facility to address and

6 then report it and then we would follow it up.

7 If it's -- if they don't have enough classrooms for their kids, that's a different kind of a problem,

and we would address it depending on what a possible 10 solution would be.

11 BY MR. JACOBS: Let's take the latter case.

What is the range of tools available to Mr. Brooks in

his official capacity to address a situation where there 13 14 are not enough classrooms?

15 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Hypothetical 16 question. Calls for speculation. Calls for a legal conclusion. 17

18 MR. HERRON: I believe it's been asked and 19 answered.

20 THE WITNESS: I consider the least we could do 21 is to make sure it's brought to the attention of

22 officials that have the authority or the ability to

23 correct it.

24 BY MR. JACOBS: That's at the local. You now O.

25 have in mind officials at the local level, correct?

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- 1 A. Generally, yeah.
- 2 So Mr. Brooks doesn't have any tools available O.
- 3 to him to -- to actually -- even to facilitate
- addressing that problem; isn't that correct? 4
- 5 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 6 Calls for an opinion. Calls for speculation. Asked and answered. 7
- 8 MR. HERRON: Argumentative.
- 9 THE WITNESS: Like a magic wand?
- 10 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Let's take some possibilities.
- He doesn't have any power as -- he doesn't have any 11
- 12 power, as you understand his powers, to order school
- districts to address a shortage of class sizes by 13
- spending their own money; is that correct? 14
- 15 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for an
- 16 opinion. Calls for speculation. Incomplete
- hypothetical question. 17
- 18 THE WITNESS: I mean, our powers are very
- 19 limited statutorily.
- 20 BY MR. JACOBS: And they don't include the
- 21 power to issue that sort of order I just --
- 22 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for a legal
- 23 opinion.
- 24 THE WITNESS: We have very little power to
- issue orders.

- that that would be reported to officials both of the
- 2 school district and local health officials.
- 3 BY MR. JACOBS: Are you aware of any policy on
- 4 the last part of your answer, that is, that
- 5 health-related issues should, as a matter of routine
- practice, be reported to local health officials?
- 7 I don't know of -- I don't know if there's a
- 8 policy or a law or anything in that regard.
- 9 And in no case does Mr. Brooks have a pot of
- 10 money that he can draw on to facilitate the correction
- of problems that a field services consultant would 11
- 12 relate to him about facilities; isn't that correct?
- 13 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 14 MR. HERRON: Calls for speculation.
- 15 THE WITNESS: That's probably true, we don't
- 16 have money allocated to us for those purposes.
- 17 BY MR. JACOBS: Are there any other tools that
- 18 you are aware of that Mr. Brooks -- we'll use Mr. Brooks
- 19 as a proxy for your branch -- that your branch has
- available to you to address facilities issues that a
- 21 field services consultant would report?
- MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous. 22
- 23 Calls for a legal opinion. Calls for speculation.
 - THE WITNESS: I'm not sure I understand the
- question. 25

24

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- BY MR. JACOBS: And specifically I just need a 1
- clean answer to my question. You don't understand your 2
- 3 branch or Mr. Brooks to have the power to order a school
- 4 district to spend its own money to build additional
- 5 classrooms; isn't that correct?
- 6 That's correct. A.
- 7 O. And now let's take a different case. Let's
- 8 take -- one of the allegations in the complaint is that
- 9 there are classrooms that have persistent vermin and
- 10 rodent issues.
- 11 If one of the school facilities -- the field
- services consultants reported to Mr. Brooks, I've been
- to that school and they've got rodents and vermin just 13
- 14 like the parents say, and I understand the field
- services consultant says that the parents have 15
- 16 complained and nothing happened, what are the range of
- tools available to Mr. Brooks in that case? 17
- 18 MR. HERRON: Objection. Assumes facts not in
- 19 evidence. Incomplete and improper hypothetical. Vague
- 20 and ambiguous. Calls for speculation. Calls for a
- 21 legal conclusion. Goes beyond the expertise of this
- 22 particular witness.
- 23 THE WITNESS: My expectation is that any time
- 24 one of our consultants would observe something that was
- in that vein of a very apparent potential health risk,

- BY MR. JACOBS: We talked about the capacity to
- 2 order, we've talked about whether there's a pot of money
- 3 available, we've talked about reporting to local
- 4 officials.
- 5 A. Uh-huh.
- 6 Q. Are there any other?
- I consider our advice to be a very valuable 7
- asset to districts. The rat thing to me has nothing to
- do with whether he's a facilities consultant or a nurse
- 10 or a P.E. teacher, that's like clean up the place.
- 11 But in terms of facilities-related things that
- 12 have to do with our responsibility for them, we are --
- our first line of action should be to ensure that that 13
- facility and the people in charge of it understand
- 15 what's available to them to fix something.
- 16 So, in fact, one of the tools that you rely on most heavily is putting out advisories on issues that
- 17
- come to your attention through whatever mechanism? 18
- 19 MR. HERRON: Could we have that reread or 20 restated.
 - (Record read.)
- 22 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Misstates the
- 23 witness testimony.

21

- 24 MR. JACOBS: Go ahead.
- 25 THE WITNESS: We use advisories to disseminate

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- 1 information.
- 2 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: But more particularly, are
- 3 advisories a tool available to you to address particular
- 4 issues that from time to time come to your attention?
- 5 A. Yes, advisories are.
- 6 Q. And for that purpose it doesn't really matter
- 7 how they come to your attention, correct?
- 8 A. That's correct.
- 9 Q. If you become aware of a problem and it seems
- 10 like a new advisory would be useful and the resources
- 11 are available, you generate an advisory to districts
- 12 about the problem and the tools that are available to
- 13 them to address it?
- MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Hypothetical question. Vague and ambiguous.
- MR. HERRON: Calls for speculation.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 18 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: I think we've covered four
- 19 orders, or the lack of a capacity to order, a pot of
- 20 funds, reference to local officials, and advisories.
- 21 Are there any other tools available to the
- 22 branch to deal with facilities issues that come to your
- 23 attention?
- 24 A. Not that I can think of.
- 25 Q. Have you participated in any discussions in

- 1 Q. So does this -- do you distinguish this from
- 2 advisories, or is this an expansion of the advisory?
- 3 I think of advisories as information flowing
- 4 from the department to districts.
- 5 A. Yes, I think it's an expansion in that this is
- 6 the kind of stuff you probably need to go there, go help
- 7 them evaluate how they're using their tool and suggest
- 8 ways that they could do it differently and better.
- 9 Q. So this is more -- less in the nature of a
- 10 general advisory to school districts, and more
- 11 particularized as to the circumstances of a particular
- 12 school or school district?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And you've discussed whether it would be
- 15 beneficial to have additional personnel who were
- 16 appropriately trained so that they could consult with
- 17 school districts in this way?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Misstates witness'
- 20 testimony.
- 21 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Have you had any discussions
- 22 about other tools or the same tool in other contexts
- 23 being useful to have in your repertoire?
- 24 A. Yeah, I lost you on that one.
- 25 Q. So we identified another tool, which is a

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- 1 which the question of the expansion of the availability
- 2 of such tools to your branch to deal with facilities
- 3 issues has been discussed?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. Have you participated in any discussion in
- 6 which the expansion of tools available to the branch to
- deal with other issues that come to the branch's
- 8 attention, local issues, issues that come to the
- 9 branch's attention about what's happening in school
- 10 districts or schools has been discussed?
- 11 A. Related to facilities?
- 12 Q. I just moved off of facilities to a more
- 13 general question.
- 14 A. So repeat it again.
- 15 Q. Where you've had discussion along the lines of,
- 16 we could really use an additional tool to deal with this
- 17 sort of problem in school districts.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. What sorts of discussions do you have in mind?
- 20 A. Education technology is a good example.
- 21 Q. And the tool there that you -- the kinds of
- 22 tools that you were talking about, what did you --
- 23 A. There's a lot of information available now
- 24 about computer-related issues that schools could benefit
- 25 from knowing that we could help them understand better.

- 1 consulting capacity, and we talked about it being
- 2 applied to the technology dissemination issue, right?
- 3 A. Yes
- 4 Q. Have you talked about having additional
- 5 consulting capacity for other purposes?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And what other purposes?
- 8 A. The school fiscal services area is one that we
- 9 have lost staff through the budget, the state budget
- 10 over the years. We used to have a much broader capacity
- 11 to go do hands-on consulting with districts. That's
- 12 really been stripped away.
- 13 Q. So you've had discussions, say, within the last
- 14 two years about rebuilding that capacity in the
- 15 department?
- 16 A. Yes
- 17 Q. To serve the policy objective of what?
- 18 A. Providing assistance to school districts on
- 19 handling their fiscal affairs.
- 20 Q. Would one of those -- would one of the benefits
- 21 of such an expansion of capacity be that school
- 22 districts could be made available of categorical funding
- 23 sources that they might not be drawing upon?
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 25 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Is that something you discussed

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- 1 as a benefit?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. What did you have in mind in terms of how the
- 4 school district would benefit?
- 5 A. More in the management, their business
- 6 management.
- 7 Q. As in accounting controls, or what?
- 8 A. Yes, fiscal -- just traditional fiscal
- 9 management.
- 10 Q. Have you had any other discussions about
- 11 enhancing the tools available at the branch in dealing
- 12 with local issues?
- 13 A. No.
- 14 Q. And if I change the question a little bit to
- 15 discussions you've had about capacity building in your
- 16 branch, have you had discussions in the last two years
- 17 about where it would be beneficial to add capacity in a
- 18 general sense?
- 19 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 20 O. BY MR. JACOBS: What have those discussions
- 21 been?
- MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- THE WITNESS: In my branch?
- 24 MR. JACOBS: Uh-huh.
- 25 THE WITNESS: It's all relatively technical.

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. What is its purpose?
- 3 A. It's to provide a summary of the budget as it
- 4 came out from the governor when he first announces it in
- 5 January.
- 6 Q. How is this document prepared?
- 7 A. The school fiscal services division has a
- 8 policy analysis unit that goes through the budget and
- 9 synthesizes the information for the field.
- 10 Q. Is this the -- are there any other vehicles in
- 11 the department that you're aware of by which school
- 12 districts get this kind of information?
- 13 A. Not all in one place.
- 14 Q. But they may get information about particular
- 15 programs from other branches?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And in the course of your involve -- how are
- 18 you involved in the preparation of this document?
- 19 A. I just review it right before it goes out.
- 20 Q. For general comprehensibility and issues like
- 21 that?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. And do you personally get involved in finding
- 24 out what happened in the budget process to particular
- 25 proposals?

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- On their data gathering, on their fiscal management,
- we -- other than education technology, we don't deliverprograms out of my branch.
- 4 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: So what you were just referring
- 5 to when you referred to technical aspects, that was a
- 6 capacity that you had discussions about building to have
- 7 more technical -- not technical in the technology sense,
- 8 but technical in the fiscal sense?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And the discussion was about whether it would
- 11 be beneficial for the branch to have additional such
- 12 capacity?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Let me ask you about management bulletin 001.
- 15 I think it's there.
- 16 (Exhibit SAD-40 was marked.)
- 17 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: So SAD-40 is a January 12th,
- 18 2001 memo from you to county and district
- 19 superintendents, charter school administrators?
- 20 A. There should be a comma in there, I think.
- 21 Q. It's to district superintendents, whether or
- 22 not they have charter schools, correct?
- 23 A. Uh-huh.
- 24 Q. Is this a kind of memo that you issue on a
- 25 periodic basis?

1 A. Yes.

- 2 Q. And in what way?
- 3 A. The governor's budget is the product of input
- 4 from us, as well as from himself. So our first run
- 5 through a governor's new budget would be to see what of
- 6 our recommendations were incorporated into it, and
- 7 then -- so we have our self-serving reasons because
- there are things we need for ourselves to operate.
 - And then, in addition, we would look at what
- 10 newly the governor was offering for -- generally he's
- 11 where the big-picture issues come from.
- 12 Q. In that context, from the governor's office to
- 13 the legislature, things can happen as well, right? The
- 14 legislature may not adopt what the governor proposes?
- 15 A. Right.

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- 16 Q. And is that something that you monitor?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. So if somebody in the department says, what
- 19 happened to that proposal from the governor to do "X,"
- 20 you're one of the people they might turn to and ask that
- 21 question?
- 22 A. Yes
- 23 Q. At one point there was a proposal for a special
- 24 funding allocation to incent (sic) the recruitment of
- 25 teachers for districts in which there were large numbers

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- 1 of emergency-credentialed teachers.
- 2 Are you aware of that proposal?
- 3 A. Only as much as you just said, yes, that there
- 4 is such a proposal.
- 5 Q. And do you have any information on what has
- 6 happened to that proposal?
- 7 A. I don't. I don't know.
- 8 Q. Did the proposal come initially from your
- 9 branch?
- 10 A. It was a combination of the CT -- the
- 11 California teacher credentialing commission and us and
- 12 the governor's office staff. There were a number of
- 13 people interested in that issue.
- 14 Q. And how was your branch involved in that issue?
- 15 A. A participant in a discussion about how to do
- 16 that, what the best way to do that to keep track.
- 17 Q. Why was your branch involved in that issue?
- 18 A. My branch really wasn't.
- 19 Q. You were personally?
- 20 A. No, only -- I was not involved in that
- 21 discussion.
- 22 Q. The "we" there was the department?
- 23 A. Yes
- 24 Q. Do you have any other information about what
- 25 led to the development of that proposal?

- 1 of the report, whether -- how local school board
- 2 accountability could be strengthened?
- 3 MR. HERRON: Whether there was such a
- 4 discussion in which she was involved?
 - MR. JACOBS: Yes.
- 6 THE WITNESS: No.
 - Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Do you have -- does your branch
- 8 have any -- does your branch have any insight into how
- 9 effective local school boards are at delivering the
- 10 services that your branch is particularly charged with,
- 11 such as facilities or technology?
- 12 MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Vague and ambiguous.
- 13 Overly broad.

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- 14 MR. HERRON: Calls for speculation.
 - THE WITNESS: The only involvement we have with
- 16 boards would be through the fiscal services division
- 17 generally, because they're -- a lot of the documentation
- 18 of fiscal budgets and audits need to have a board
- 19 approval, but we don't normally deal a lot with boards
- 20 in my branch.
- 21 Q. BY MR. JACOBS: Have you had any discussions
- 22 about measures that would strengthen the capacity of
- 23 local school boards to monitor the performance of school
- 24 administrators in delivering the sorts of services that
- 25 your branch has a special interest in?

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- 2 everyone right now, the number of emergency-credentialed

Nothing other than that is a major concern of

- 3 teachers.
- 4 Q. Do you recall the Butt case?
- 5 MR. HERRON: He's not swearing.
- 6 THE WITNESS: I recognize the name. I couldn't
- 7 tell you right now what it was.
- 8 MR. JACOBS: Let me just take a minute and see
- 9 if I've covered everything.
- 10 Q. In your -- you've been a deputy superintendent
- 11 for four years; is that right?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. In your four years as a deputy superintendent,
- 14 have you participated in any discussions about measures
- 15 that would enhance the effectiveness of local school
- 16 boards?
- 17 A. No. School boards? No.
- 18 Q. The LAO report that you mentioned earlier
- 19 dealing with school construction issues, one of the
- 20 topics in that report is the -- is strengthening the
- 21 accountability of local school boards for the delivery
- 22 of facilities to their constituents.
- 23 Do you recall that in that report?
- 24 A. Not specifically, no.
- 25 Q. Do you recall any discussion about that aspect

- 1 A. No.
- 2 Q. Have you participated in any discussions in
- 3 which the issue has been whether -- or the topic has
- 4 been whether local school boards are equally responsive
- 5 to the needs of all of their constituents? Let me
- 6 reframe that a little bit.
- 7 If we are right, that is, that if the
- 8 plaintiffs here are right, that there are some schools
- 9 in some school districts that are disparately treated
- 10 with respect to facilities or textbooks or the other
- 11 conditions we've identified in the complaint, one
- 12 possible explanation for that would be the school boards
- 13 are disparately responsive to different constituents.
 - My question to you is whether with that as
- 15 background, have you participated in any discussions in
- 16 which the topic has been are school boards equally
- 17 responsive to all our constituents, or are some left
- 18 out, if you will, or disempowered or otherwise 19 neglected?
- 20 A. I haven't participated in that kind of
- 21 discussion.

14

- 22 Q. Are you aware of any assessment of that issue?
- 23 A. No.
- 24 Q. Are you aware of any programs in the department
- 25 that monitor that question?

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- 1 A. No.
- 2 Q. In your branch do you deal with discrimination
- 3 issues? If a complaint comes in that looks like
- 4 somebody's being discriminated against for some
- 5 particular reason, does that stay within your branch, or
- 6 does that go somewhere else in the department?
 - MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Incomplete
- 8 hypothetical. Vague and ambiguous. Calls for
- 9 speculation.

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- THE WITNESS: We don't deal with discrimination
- 11 issues other than among our own employees in my branch.
- MR. JACOBS: I have no further questions.
 - EXAMINATION BY MR. JORDAN
- 14 Q. Referring to Exhibit 33, that memo about
- 15 sanitation and codes for bathrooms.
- 16 A. Uh-huh.
- 17 O. I know you didn't write this. This is another
- 18 Duwayne Brooks memo. But there's a statement in here
- 19 about the enforcement process for school projects being
- 20 different than the process for private sector projects.
- 21 Do you have any familiarity at all with how
- 22 projects are designed and reviewed and constructed?
- 23 A. Not really.
- 24 Q. In particular what I wanted to ask you about
- 25 is -- let's take new construction, for example. This

- 1 the risk of getting things more confused. There was
- 2 some discussion about mandates and mandatory funding and
- 3 discretionary funding.
- 4 A. Uh-huh.
- 5 Q. And a particular question asked, I don't
- 6 pretend to remember the exact wording, but the question
- 7 was essentially mandatory for whom, and your response
- 8 was something along the lines of, it's mandatory for the
- 9 giver. I think you were talking about the State in that
- 10 case.

17

- Were you having reference to the commission on
- 12 State Mandates where the State require something new and
- 13 one way or another they've got to provide the funding
- 14 for it, is that the definition?
- MR. HERRON: Objection. Calls for speculation.
- 16 Calls for a legal conclusion.
 - THE WITNESS: I wasn't referring to the
- 18 Commission on State Mandates.
- 19 Q. BY MR. JORDAN: So when you talked about
- 20 mandatory funding, what did you mean by that?
- 21 A. I meant that either you are told that you have
- 22 to do something and given the money to do it, or you're
- 23 told you can and here is how you get it if you want it.
- 24 Q. Okay. For example, your digital high school
- 5 program, that's not something districts have to do, but

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- 1 memo says that enforcement of building code
- 2 requirements, regulations that deal with these topics is
- 3 the responsibility of the local school board. Do you
- 4 have any information whether what this means is that
- 5 individual board members are supposed to go out and try
- 6 to figure out whether a school building being designed
- 7 complies with all code requirements, or whether it has
- 8 in mind to hire somebody like an architect to take care
- 9 of that thing?
- 10 A. It's the latter.
- 11 Q. Okay. And as to existing school facilities, I
- 12 take it you wouldn't expect board members to go out and
- 13 try to figure out whether all existing buildings comply
- 14 with all the codes that were in effect at the time they
- 15 were built?

MR. SEFERIAN: Objection. Calls for

- 17 speculation.
- THE WITNESS: I think generally the reference to the school board means that the buck stops with them,
- and they ought to make sure it's getting done.
- 21 Q. BY MR. JORDAN: So if there's a complaint, for
- 22 example, it would be their responsibility to make sure
- 23 the complaint was investigated and that sort of thing?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Okay. Another area that I'd like to clarify at

- 1 if they want to take advantage of that, then they've got
- 2 to spend the money in a particular way?
- 3 A. Yes
- 4 Q. As opposed to discretionary funding or general
- 5 funding sort of like in your department where there are
- 6 strings on exactly how the money has got to be spent?
- 7 A. Actually, that's a good point, and I thought
- 8 about that later, that there is a third category, which
- 9 is the apportionment that goes out per student that's
- 10 neither discretionary nor mandatory, but given to the
- 11 district to use at their discretion. So that is a third
- 12 distinction.
- 13 And that money is not controlled by the state
- 14 as to how it's spent, it's controlled by that local
- 15 district and board.
- 16 MR. JACOBS: Okay. I think that's what I
- 17 wanted to clear up. No further questions.
- MR. HERRON: None for us. I did want to thank
- 19 you for identifying the documents in the letter of May
- 20 25th. That was a pleasure to have you do that.
 - Do you want to stipulate?
- MR. JACOBS: Do you have something in
- 23 particular in mind?

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- MR. HERRON: I don't want to have her come down
- 25 to the court reporter's office.

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1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	MR. JORDAN: She can sign it in front of any notary. MR. HERRON: I prefer to relieve the court reporter of her obligations under the code and have 30 days after the receipt by us of the transcript to review it to make any changes and to communicate those changes to Mr. Jacobs and the other parties. MR. JACOBS: And in the absence of such communication, the transcript will be deemed signed? MR. HERRON: Yes. MR. JACOBS: So stipulated. MR. HERRON: Great. (The deposition concluded at 4:49 p.m.) 000 Please be advised that I have read the foregoing deposition. I hereby state there are: (check one) NO CORRECTIONS CORRECTIONS ATTACHED Date Signed	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE I certify that the witness in the foregoing deposition, SUSIE LANGE, was by me duly sworn to testify the truth, the whole truth, in the within-entitled cause; that said deposition was taken at the time and place therein named; that the testimony of said witness was reported by me, a duly certified shorthand reporter and a disinterested person, and was thereafter transcribed into typewriting. I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for either or any of the parties to said cause, nor in any way interested in the outcome of the cause named in said deposition. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 11th day of June, 2001. TRACY LEE MOORELAND, CSR 10397 State of California
25	Case Title: Williams vs State of California Date of Deposition: Thursday, May 31, 2001	23 24 25	State of California
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25	DEPONENT'S CHANGES OR CORRECTIONS Note: If you are adding to your testimony, print the exact words you want to add. If you are deleting from your testimony, print the exact words you want to delete. Specify with "Add" or "Delete" and sign this form. DEPOSITION OF: SUSIE LANGE CASE: WILLIAMS VS STATE OF CALIFORNIA DATE OF DEPOSITION: THURSDAY, MAY 31, 2001 I,, have the following corrections to make to my deposition: PAGE LINE CHANGE/ADD/DELETE		