

1 claim that across all grade levels, students and teachers face a
2 lack of appropriate, grade-level materials, and that they claim
3 that Grant Elementary School needs more books for the classrooms
4 and the library, more supplementary materials, more multilingual
5 materials.

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7 4. I was not principal at Grant Elementary School when the
8 Action Plan to which plaintiffs refer was drafted. Since I
9 became principal in fall of 2001, it has not been true that the
10 school lacks appropriate intervention materials for the upper
11 grades. In the 2001-2002 school year, each of the students at
12 Grant Elementary School was given a State standards-aligned
13 textbook in language arts which contained intervention materials
14 for struggling students in the higher grades. Starting in the
15 fall of 2002, the school implemented a new District-wide reading
16 program with Highpoint textbooks for the 4th and 5th grades and
17 Prentice Hall textbooks for the 6th grade. The Highpoint and
18 Prentice Hall textbooks are both State-adopted and contain
19 intervention materials for students not reading at grade level.

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21 5. Since the fall of 2002, Grant Elementary has provided a
22 cohesive phonics program for its lower grades through a State-
23 adopted reading textbook series called Open Court that has been
24 adopted District-wide. Before the Open Court was implemented,
25 the students in the lower grades were provided with State
26 standards-aligned language arts texts which contained appropriate
27 phonics materials.

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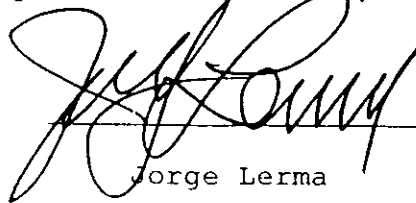
1 6. Grant Elementary School's 2000 Action Plan also
2 identified a need for more supplemental learning materials such
3 as appropriate, grade-level books for the classroom libraries and
4 the main library. In the past two years that I have been
5 principal, I have taken steps to ensure that this situation is
6 remedied by using II/USP and other funds. The school has
7 purchased a large collection of reading books for classroom
8 libraries and the main library that are multilingual, appropriate
9 to the students' reading levels, and reflect their multi-cultural
10 backgrounds. I have made plans to continue purchasing more
11 reading books for the students of Grant Elementary School.
12

13 7. At least since fall 2001, all students at Grant
14 Elementary School have had State standards-aligned textbooks to
15 use in class and to take home in all core classes.
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17 I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is
18 true and correct.
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20 Executed this ___ day of July, 2003 at Richmond, California.
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Jorge Lerma