

1 6. The Spanish class without a permanent teacher is located near my classroom, and
2 there would be times when I'd walk by at 8:45 or 9:00 and see no teacher at all—not even a
3 substitute—in the room, even though class started at 8:00. I think the school has a responsibility to
4 provide an adult in every room. If the school cannot find a substitute when a teacher is absent or
5 when a teaching position has not yet been filled, then the principal or some other administrator
6 should stand in the classroom with the students just to be sure an adult is in the room

7 7. For weeks during the school year, students have to stand or sit on counters or the floor
8 because their classrooms do not have enough seats for all the students. Eventually the school
9 reassigns students to different classrooms to alleviate the overcrowding, but students' schedules are
10 disrupted from the reassignment and the students are not learning the way they should during the
11 times when they do not have seats in class.

12 8. The math department does not have enough textbooks for all the students, so students
13 often have to share books in class. And students cannot take home math books for homework.

14 9. The student bathrooms are disgusting. The toilets do not all have seats, several of the
15 stalls are missing doors, and the bathrooms have lots of graffiti. Often, the bathrooms are missing
16 toilet paper. In the girls' bathrooms, there are no feminine napkins or tampons in the dispensers.

17 10. Ceiling tiles are missing in almost every classroom in the school. The kids tell me
18 they worry tiles will fall on them during class.

19 11. The school science labs are a joke. Students don't do labs in science class because
20 we simply do not have enough materials. Chemistry and biology should be dynamic, experiential
21 classes during which students can see their lessons come alive through their labs. Instead our
22 students just do book work because the school doesn't have material to offer them labs.

23 12. About half the window shades in my classroom are broken, so I cannot pull them
24 down when we show history movies. When I try to show educational movies anyway, there is so
25 much light in the room that the kids have a hard time seeing the movies.

26 13. We teachers have a hard time making all the copies we need for our students'
27 homework and in-class lessons because we only have one large copier for about 60 or so teachers.
28 That machine breaks down a lot because we use it so much, and we have only one small backup copy

1 machine. That small machine breaks down a lot also, and anyway the machine is too small to handle
2 large copy jobs.

3 14. The school has only three guidance counselors for about 1200 to 1400 kids. One of
4 the counselors works only with the 300 or 400 bilingual kids, so that means the school has only two
5 counselors for the other 900 to 1000 kids. The guidance counselors are supposed to program classes
6 for students and make sure students take the classes they need to graduate and to get in to college.
7 The counselors are incredibly overworked with so many students to oversee. Because the counselors
8 are so overworked, students end up placed in the wrong classes for weeks at a time before their
9 course schedules can be corrected.

10 15. The school has no master calendar, so it's hard to plan lessons. For example, we
11 teachers will learn two days before a school rally that the rally is scheduled, meaning that on the day
12 of the rally our students have only half their class time. I take my teaching really seriously, and I
13 don't like to lose class time with my students. Having so little notice for when I will lose class time
14 makes it hard for me to plan my lessons for the students.

15 16. I don't think the school offers enough honors or advanced placement classes to
16 challenge students. I have tried to have a few of my classes certified as honors classes, which means
17 that I have had classes full of kids stating that they wanted to do extra work for honors credit. But
18 the school district keeps thwarting my efforts to certify the classes as honors classes. One district
19 official said that the honors work is too accelerated for our student population, which is comprised
20 mostly of students of color. I took that statement to be racist. In any event, the district's position
21 does not help kids get honors course work.

22
23 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing
24 is true and correct. Executed on June 27, 2000 at Los Gatos, California.

25
26 
27 _____
28 Shane Safir