

1 **DECLARATION OF NOAH HAHN**

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3 I, NOAH HAHN, hereby declare:

4 1. I have taught for two years at Hosler Middle School in Lynwood as part of the Teach
5 For America program. During my first year teaching at the school, the school was an elementary
6 school, and now it's a junior high. My first year, I taught sixth grade history, and my second year,
7 I taught seventh grade history.

8 2. I make this declaration based on my own personal knowledge and if called to testify
9 I could and would do so competently as follows:

10 3. I make this declaration to describe the ways in which kids at Hosler Middle School
11 in Lynwood are deprived of basic learning tools they need, such as textbooks, and teachers, a library,
12 and music, art, and PE classes. I saw, during my two years teaching at the school, the sad effect on
13 kids of not having learning tools. The kids realized they were getting screwed, and many of them
14 took the attitude that if no one at their school cares about them, then they don't need to care about
15 school. It's not fair that these kids should be taught that lesson at school.

16 4. I didn't get my textbooks for my seventh grade history course until November 12 or
17 13, after the school year started in September. And when those books came, they were the old
18 editions. Before November, I made my own lesson plans, even though I was a new teacher with
19 virtually no experience. I got a copy of the textbook and I created my own worksheets for the
20 students. But I'd never taught seventh grade history at all, and I'd only taught for one year. The
21 district never gave me a history curriculum because such a curriculum doesn't exist. I depended on
22 other Teach For America teachers to help me out in preparing lesson plans.

23 5. I complained to my superintendent about not having books to use to teach my history
24 class, and the superintendent told me it doesn't matter if I don't have textbooks. He told me that if
25 I'm a good enough teacher, then I don't need textbooks.

26 6. In addition to not having any books at the beginning of the school year, I also had
27 more students in my class than I had desks. For the first month of the school year, I had 35 to 40
28 students in my class, but I only had 30 desks. Kids sat on the floor and at my desk.

1 7. We had a lot of uncredentialed teachers at Hosler, and I had almost no mentors to go
2 to. One or two other teachers at the school helped me, but it would have been better for me to have
3 had mentor teachers.

4 8. During both my years at Hosler, a lot of times, if a teacher was absent, the school
5 didn't provide a substitute. Kids would show up to class and there would be no teacher there. The
6 kids would just walk around campus then because they didn't have anything else to do. Other times,
7 the school would break up a class and put five kids in one class and five kids in another class and
8 so on. The classes kids would go into when their teacher was absent were not necessarily the same
9 subject classes as the classes the kids were missing.

10 9. During my first year at Hosler, when the school was an elementary school, there were
11 no music classes, no art, and no PE. The school didn't have teachers for those subjects. The regular
12 subject teachers were supposed to teach those subjects as well. I have no musical ability, so my
13 students mostly lost out on music. My kids got to rotate into music work one time every three
14 months.

15 10. During both my years at Hosler, about 100 kids would have to stand for entire
16 assemblies because there were not enough seats for all the students in the school.

17 11. The school has had no library for the past two years because they're using the library
18 to store textbooks. As a history teacher, I couldn't have the kids do research projects because they
19 had no library to use for research. They also had no access to computers at the school, so they had
20 no research tools.

21 12. We had one xerox machine for 90 teachers, and it was busted half the time. We
22 needed more copy machines.

23 13. I was almost never reviewed for my teaching. Over the course of nine months during
24 my second year of teaching, one administrator came into my room for a total of 15 minutes. I had
25 no other review of my work.

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27 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States and the State of
28 California that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on July 17, 2000, at Highland Park.

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