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DECLARATION OF OLIVIA SAUNDERS

I, OLIVIA SAUNDERS, hereby declare:

1. I am one of the plaintiffs in this action and if called to testify I could and would do so competently as follows:

2. I am 12 years old and in seventh grade at Luther Burbank Middle School.

3. I make this declaration to describe the awful conditions at my school, where I have no textbooks to take home and where the bathrooms are truly nasty. I feel unsafe and nasty at school, and I really don't understand why we can't have books to use for homework.

4. At our school, we only have books in the classroom; we can't take books home for homework in any of our classes. The books are old, from 1991, and they're all torn up. Most of the books have had the covers ripped off them, and the sides of the books are peeling. When you turn the page, sometimes the pages are ripped out of the books. In my math class, we don't have enough books for the whole class to do math, so we have to share books in class. I wish I had new textbooks I could take home because we miss out and our parents can't help us with homework. I'd even appreciate torn up books that I could take home because books are that important.

5. I feel uneducated at times because I don't see how we are supposed to succeed in life and do well when we're not getting homework. The school could at least make the effort to get us books so we can get into college and get good jobs. They're always talking about getting into college, but they don't make the effort to help us out and give us that little push we need. I really don't understand that.

6. The bathrooms are such a problem at the school. They lock all the bathrooms during fourth and fifth periods, so you can't go to the bathroom at all during those times. I don't know why. Once, about two months ago, I peed on myself at school because I couldn't hold it when the bathrooms were locked. I told my teacher, Mr. Nawa, and he let me go to my counselor's bathroom to clean myself up.

7. When the bathrooms are unlocked, they are almost too gross to use. There's trash all over the floor, no water, no soap, and no toilet covers. In one bathroom, there are two bathroom stalls plus one more stall that's missing a door. When you walk into the bathroom, there are sanitary pads and blood all over the toilet and urine and feces on the floor. I don't think the janitor cleans

1 the bathroom—it's really stinky in there. If kids have to do "number two," a lot of kids go home
2 instead of doing it at school. It's too nasty to sit on the toilet with all that stuff on it.

3 8. Last month, I saw a mouse run across a chalkboard during my sixth period class. And
4 another time, my science teacher found a dead mouse in his teacher's cabinet. We need an
5 exterminator at the school.

6 9. The hallways at the school are stinky and dirty and have graffiti all over them. There
7 are Fruitopia bottles all over the floors. Two years ago, my friend stepped on glass and started
8 bleeding in the hallway, but still there are bottles and broken glass on the floors.

9 10. In my third period class, the phone doesn't work. I think that's a serious safety
10 problem. During a fight about three weeks ago, someone had his nose busted in class and our
11 teacher tried to call the office but he couldn't do it because the phone was broken.

12 11. Sometimes the classrooms are too cold. Everybody puts on sweaters and coats. For
13 a while about a month ago, everybody was wearing big old coats in class. I wore three shirts, two
14 sweaters and two big jackets for a week or two straight last month.

15 12. The ceiling tiles in our gym are falling down. Somebody was hit in the head with a
16 ceiling tile a couple of weeks ago. When we have a school dance, the tiles come down because the
17 music is too loud.

18 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing
19 is true and correct. Executed on April ____, 2000 at Sunnydale, California.

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21 Olivia Saunders
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