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Declaration of Allyson Clark

I, Allyson Clark, hereby declare:

1. I am the parent of Clark Wininger. I make this declaration based on my own personal knowledge and if called to testify I could and would do so competently as follows:

2. My son Clark Wininger is seven years old and is currently in the first grade at Grattan Elementary School located in San Francisco, California.

3. Since my child has attended school at Grattan Elementary last year, the school has had a problem with mice infestation. I am a concerned parent about my child's education. At the beginning of this school year, Clark would often come home at the end of the day and complain to me that he had seen mice in his class. This concerned me. When I would drop Clark off in class, I began noticing numerous sticky mice traps placed throughout the classroom. I confirmed the near constant visibility of mice in the classroom with Clark's teacher, Miss [redacted]. In September, a group of parents with children in Miss [redacted]'s class offered to clean her classroom, hoping this would help alleviate the mice problem. We had to discard of a series of books required by the district called "Shoebox Scholastic Collection" because there were mice feces stains all over the books. It had ruined them. The mice problem did not become any better after the parents and I thoroughly cleaned out Miss [redacted]'s classroom. A group of parents and I began to email and phone the principal and district for about two months about the mice problem in the Miss [redacted]'s classroom. We got no response. The district ignored the concerns of parents about the mice infestation in the school. In December the parents and I became extremely frustrated, the PTA hired an exterminator out of their own expense. The exterminator began to go into the school after hours and on the weekends. Till this day, the exterminator continues to go into the school once a month. This has alleviated some of the mice infestation but not completely. The parents should not have to hire a private exterminator to take care of the problem. For example, the teacher Miss [redacted], has been absent from teaching quite a bit because she is allergic to rodents and rodent feces and has been ill. Miss [redacted]'s allergic reaction was so bad that she had to go see a doctor and the doctor indicated that she was allergic to rodent and rodent feces. Miss [redacted] has also moved from the initial room where she started

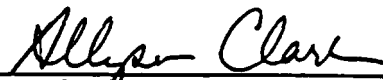
1 teaching at the beginning of the school year to another room because the rodent infestation was
2 so bad.

3 4. The mice infestation has negatively affected not only my child but other students
4 in other ways, in addition to the health and sanitation effects. Clark has lost much instructional
5 time due to Miss [redacted] being ill because of allergies due to mice feces. There have been a lot
6 of substitutes who are ineffective. During the times that substitutes have had to replace Miss
7 [redacted], my child has often come home complaining that the substitute gives him kindergarten
8 work. This makes Clark feel like his intelligence is being insulted. Obviously with Miss [redacted]
9 being out ill, the curriculum for the students in her class has not been maintained. The
10 substitutes are not adequately trained or prepared to carry the curriculum. This sets the children
11 back in their learning.

12 5. The heater in Clark's class does not work well during the winter months. Often
13 the heater breaks down and it takes a couple of days to get repaired. There are days that Clark
14 has to wear his coat in class all day because it is cold in his classroom.

15 6. Next year I will be enrolling Clark in a private school because I do not want him
16 to have to suffer again in these conditions like he did this year. I am extremely disappointed at
17 how the school district has handled the substandard conditions in the public schools. I am bitter,
18 angry and appalled that my child's education has had to suffer because of the conditions of the his
19 school.

20 I swear under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of California and the United
21 States that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on this 23 day of
22 MAY, 2001 in San Francisco, California.

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24 Allyson Clark

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