

1 **Declaration of Abraham Osuna**

2 I, Abraham Osuna, hereby declare:

3 1. I am a Plaintiff in the above-captioned action and if called to testify could and would  
4 do so competently as follows:

5 2. I live in Los Angeles and am in the twelfth grade at Jefferson High School in South  
6 Central Los Angeles. I want to go to college after I graduate from high school. My ambition is to  
7 be a film maker.

8 3. I love Jefferson, but I also think it is unfair that there are so many things wrong at the  
9 school that get in the way of learning.

10 4. In a lot of my classes we don't have what we need to learn. For example, in my  
11 chemistry class there were about 40 students in the class, and we did not have enough seats for  
12 everyone. Some kids sat on the lab stations because they did not have chairs. Some students had  
13 to sit in places in the room where they could not even see the blackboard.

14 5. Even though it was a chemistry class, we hardly ever did experiments. I think we did  
15 three all semester. The school does not provide chemicals, so the teacher had to buy them if we were  
16 going to do an experiment. It was also much too crowded at the lab stations, so there would be about  
17 6 to 8 people crowded at each lab station. Only one or two would be able to participate in doing the  
18 experiment, while others just watched.

19 6. In some of my classes, like my Spanish class and one of my English classes we did  
20 not have enough books. There were only enough for about 2/3 of the students, so a lot of people  
21 have to share books in class. When the teacher would give us work to do in class, 1/3 of the students  
22 had to copy the problems out of the book before they could do the problems, and it slowed the class  
23 down a lot. We also did not have books to take home for homework or so we could study or review.  
24 Sometimes the teacher would give us homework on xerox sheets, but if you did not understand  
25 something on the homework you did not have a book to go back to try to figure it out. I know that  
26 we went slowly in the class and I did not learn what I hoped to because we had homework so  
27 infrequently.

28 7. Sometimes the books in our classes are all torn up with missing pages. In other

1 classes the books are totally out of date. I have used books from the 1970's in my classes. In my  
2 calculus class this year, the book we used was 12 years old. A number of times during the year, my  
3 teacher told us that material in the book was useless or outdated because it did not reflect more  
4 modern calculator-based approaches to studying calculus. It was depressing to be taking an  
5 advanced math class with plans to take the AP test knowing that the book I was using was not up-to-  
6 date.

7 8. I also took a Math Analysis class where the school did not have enough graphic  
8 calculators for every student in the class, and I was one of the students who did not get one. A  
9 number of times our teacher gave us a graphing problem for homework that I could not do without  
10 the calculator. It was very frustrating not to be able to do the assigned work in the class because I  
11 did not have the basic supplies we needed.

12 9. In my English class this year the school did not provide copies of two books we were  
13 supposed to be reading, The Awakening and Hamlet. Instead, the teacher bought the cheapest copies  
14 of the books she could find, and we paid for them.

15 10. We also have a lot of problems with teachers at school. In my English class last year,  
16 the teacher was constantly sick. She missed weeks at a time. We had a series of substitutes teachers,  
17 and I barely learned anything in the class. In fact, we did not even have a final at the end of the  
18 semester.

19 11. In my AP English class this year, my teacher never seemed to pay attention to the  
20 work we did. She still has not returned assignments we completed from the fall semester. She has  
21 not graded or commented on at least half of our written assignments. It appears that she was too  
22 busy coordinating the school's efforts concerning the WASC accreditation. Lots of times in class  
23 she told us about what the school was doing to prepare for the accreditation instead of teaching us  
24 English. As far as I could tell, the accreditation process is sort of a joke. Before it took place, the  
25 school did all this painting and cleaning that does not take place ordinarily. I don't know why the  
26 administration does not regularly maintain the school for the teachers and students instead of just  
27 doing it for the accreditation.

28 12. Jefferson is a multi-track year round school because there are too many students for

1 the size of the school. As a result, we have many fewer school days than we would have on  
2 a normal school schedule, and our school days are longer. Classes run from 7:30 am till 3:14 pm.  
3 The schedule does not work. For example, I have to make choices between taking AP classes, and  
4 playing a sport or doing student government. A bunch of my friends have also had to choose  
5 between AP government and playing school sports.

6 13. The multi-track system makes it hard for many students to take the classes they want.  
7 There was no teacher teaching AP Calculus on B Track. So B Track students who wanted to take  
8 the class had to take it on C Track, which meant that they missed out on their vacation time.

9 14. Students on Track C have similar problems. A lot of students on C Track took the  
10 first year of French. But second year French was not offered on C Track the following year. The  
11 only foreign language offered on C Track that year was Spanish, which was not a great choice  
12 because so many of the students at Jefferson already speak Spanish. However, they took Spanish  
13 because French was not offered, and the University of California requires two years of a foreign  
14 language.

15 15. The facilities at Jefferson are in bad shape. For example, there is a lot of tagging on  
16 campus that does not get cleaned up.

17 16. The room where I take film classes is often very hot. When it is, I sweat a lot and  
18 have a hard time focusing on what I am doing. There is an air conditioning unit in the classroom,  
19 but it is so noisy that the teacher does not use it much because if it is on we cannot hear each other  
20 talk.

21 17. The roof in the math and science building leaks. Two years ago when it rained a lot,  
22 the roof leaked and there was water on the floors. The same thing happened this year.

23 18. The bathrooms at Jefferson are disgusting. There is garbage all over the floors  
24 because there are no trash cans in the bathrooms and the rooms are not cleaned much. There is  
25 generally no soap or hot water, and the toilets are often broken. I try to avoid using the bathrooms.

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