

1 **DECLARATION OF LISA BISHOP**

2 I, LISA BISHOP, hereby declare:

3 1. I make this declaration based on my personal knowledge, and if called to testify I
4 could and would do so competently as follows:

5 2. I teach a fourth and fifth grade combination class of bilingual Spanish speakers at
6 Paul Revere Elementary School in San Francisco, California. I have been teaching at Paul Revere
7 for four years.

8 3. There are not enough textbooks at the school. My class is the only class at the fourth
9 or fifth grade level that has enough social studies books for all the students in the class. And in my
10 classroom, my students have no math or science books, and I do not even have a teacher version of a
11 text for all the subjects I have to teach. I have to share the one spelling workbook in my class (which
12 I received at an education workshop) with two other teachers. I also have one copy of a grammar
13 workbook and one math textbook, which I have to use to make copies to distribute to my class so I
14 can give them homework. Not having books of their own hurts the students. For example, the math
15 worksheets I photocopy to give to the students for homework do not teach skills or include tables
16 such as multiplication tables. So our students have no resource to turn to if they do not understand a
17 math concept. In addition, students miss out on being able to see a progression in their work when
18 they have to work from disorganized, looseleaf worksheets.

19 4. In my classroom, I am constantly making photocopies to teach my students grammar
20 and spelling. And every time I assign math homework, I have to photocopy pages out of a
21 reproducible workbook for the students. Other teachers also face the same problem of constantly
22 having to photocopy materials for their students because there are not enough workbooks for the
23 students. The time we spend copying ends up cutting into our teaching and preparation time. Also,
24 there are only two copy machines at the school, and one is usually broken because teachers need to

1 use it so much. With one machine being shared by twenty-eight teachers, chances are someone else
2 is already using the machine when you need to make copies. Sometimes, when we cannot get access
3 to the copy machine during the workday, we are forced to spend our own money to make the copies
4 at Kinkos. It makes no sense that our students don't get their own books; the amount of money that
5 is spent on photocopying is surely greater than the cost of buying students their own books.

6 5. Another big problem is that our instructional materials are not necessarily aligned
7 with the SAT 9 tests. As a result, teachers are buying skill-based test materials, such as math skill
8 workbooks and reading comprehension workbooks, with their own money.

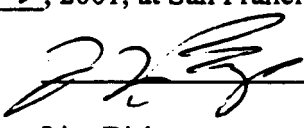
9 6. We teachers have to spend our own money to buy supplies because the supplies we
10 need are not kept in our supply room. Nobody really seems to be in charge of making sure that
11 teachers get their supplies. The school has a resource teacher, but she does not help us much. When
12 we request specific supplies, either we never get them or we get them six to eight months after we
13 make the request. When I need something for my class, I cannot wait that long; I need the supplies
14 immediately. So over the past two years, I have paid for various supplies out of my own pocket,
15 including copy paper, pencils, glue, scissors, markers, wipe boards, pocket charts, sentence strips,
16 science equipment, and a variety of art supplies. I have also bought balls for the students to use
17 during physical education classes and materials for "hands on" units, such as cooking projects used
18 to teach math.

19 7. There is high teacher turnover at the school. Out of twenty-eight teachers in the
20 school, at least eight left last year. This year, there are four new teachers at the fourth- and fifth-
21 grade level alone. I expect the numbers will be similar next year. I think the high turnover is due to
22 the lack of leadership, supplies, paraprofessional help, and programs for the students.

23 8. The bathrooms at Paul Revere often are not clean. Usually, there are no paper towels
24 and no soap in the bathrooms.

1 9. One teacher in the school must teach in the basement in what used to be a staff room.
2 I worry about the children in that class. They are forced to learn in a tiny classroom that is like a
3 rat's cage. Because they are far removed from the rest of the school, I also worry about their
4 security.

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6 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is
7 true and correct. Executed on March 23, 2001, at San Francisco, California.

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9 Lisa Bishop

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