

1 **Declaration of Ricardo Brathwaite**

2 I, Ricardo Brathwaite, hereby declare:

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

5 2. I am an eleventh grade student at Crenshaw High School.

6 3. It is really overcrowded at my school, and it affects me in and outside of class.

7 During lunch period, I literally have to run to get in line in order to get my lunch. If I don't then  
8 by the time I get up to the front to order there will only be sodas left. There are portable  
9 classrooms all over the parking lots at Crenshaw. In the last two years, they added about twelve  
10 more portable classrooms on top of all the ones we already have. Even with all the portables, we  
11 still don't have enough classrooms for all of the students, because many of my classes have too  
12 many students in them. This classroom crowding really alters your learning experience, because  
13 when you have kids who are struggling with the subject and lots of them together, then the  
14 teacher can't get anyone individual attention, more students get frustrated, and we all suffer in the  
15 long term. In my music class there aren't enough seats for all of the students to sit down. Often  
16 we go across the hall and borrow seats from a neighboring class. Sometimes the teacher from the  
17 class across the hall will be late, and then because of our school policy, that class must come in  
18 our music class and stand there until the other teacher shows up. Having that classroom in our  
19 class disrupts our class, so it's not fair to any of us.

20 4. The bathrooms at my school are so disgusting. It smells terrible, there is graffiti on  
21 the walls, no soap in the soap dispensers, and rarely ever any paper towels. There are not enough  
22 bathrooms available for the students to use, because the administrators lock them for most of the  
23 day. There is only one bathroom at the front of the school that is open regularly for everyone to  
24 use, and so if you want to go to the bathroom you have to wait in line.

25 5. My chemistry teacher does not show up regularly for class. On average she is  
26 probably in class one or two weeks out of every month. The rest of the time we have substitutes.  
27 Usually, the substitutes don't know how to teach chemistry and so we just sit around, talk, and  
28 wait for the next class. This really limits the amount of chemistry I can learn.

1 I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of California and the United  
2 States that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 13th day of June, 2001 in Los  
3 Angeles, California.

*Ricardo Brathwaite*  
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Ricardo Brathwaite

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