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1 and we did not have enough books. During the first semester we had science in the wood shop
2 room, so there was no lab space. Mostly everyone shared books; I shared one book with two
3 friends. We could not take the books home because there were not enough books. The science
4 books were out of date, some had missing pages, and some had the covers torn off.

5 6. I saw cockroaches in class during my physical sciences class.

6 7. For my English class this year we did not have any books at all. All we did was
7 watch movies like *The Matrix* and write reports on the movies. The teacher reads us
8 kindergarten-level books everyday, like this bunny book that had only three words on each page.
9 I asked him why he reads these types of books because I was confused about this, and he replied
10 because he just wanted to. To graduate from high school we have to do a portfolio, which
11 contains our resume and autobiography, among other things. We told him about this, but he said
12 he didn't feel like doing it. Instead, we watched movies and did reports on them.

13 8. There is also a big problem with the bathrooms. There are a bunch of bathrooms,
14 including one on every floor and another by drama class, but only one bathroom for girls is ever
15 open, and even that one is sometimes locked. This one bathroom is supposed to be for all the
16 girls at the school. Of the stalls that do have doors, some of the stall doors don't have a lock so
17 we put toilet paper to stuff the gap. Some of the stalls don't have doors. And sometimes there is
18 no paper.

19 9. We just got a college counselor at Fremont this year, so I didn't have one for my
20 freshman to junior years. From my freshman to junior years I only saw my regular class
21 counselor once a year. The counselor would call you in to give you your classes and your grades,
22 and just say, these are your classes. For my first semester of my freshman year I did not get a
23 program card with my classes. So for the first week I did not have any classes. All of us who did
24 not get program cards had to get in line for that week to wait until we could get classes. The
25 counselor finally gave me a schedule with standard classes. I didn't have a choice in what classes
26 I received. I get really mad because in the ninth grade they gave me integrated math, even though
27 I could've gone straight into algebra. If they would have put me into algebra, which was my real
28 level, I would've been able to have gone into calculus or trigonometry. But instead, I was only

1 able to go up to algebra 2, and I know that in college they expect more than that from students.
2 Also, I was supposed to take education & career planning in ninth grade, which is a required
3 class, but they didn't ever give me that class. I didn't take it until the 12th grade when my
4 counselor gave it to me, so I sat in that class with all freshman.

5 10. The buildings and the bathrooms are very important, but the education is more
6 important. I'm really concerned about the education we receive. To me, it is most important to
7 be informed about college, about the classes we need to graduate, and to be called in by
8 counselors so they can tell us what we need. I did not even know of the A-G requirements that
9 are necessary for the University of California system. I never heard of them because no one at
10 school told me about them. The first time I learned about the A-G requirements was through a
11 youth program I belong to at the Community Coalition. It makes me mad because this only
12 happens to us because of the community we live in. In other communities, they have more
13 college prep and advanced placement classes, SAT preparation classes, and other things we don't
14 have. Kids in other communities know about college, financial aid, and what they have to do.
15 I'm mad because I could've gone to a U.C. school, but the highest goal the school has for us is to
16 go to a community college, if that. The goal is not for us to reach for our best. My college
17 counselor told me to go to Santa Monica Community College. By then, I already knew about
18 universities. I should be wanting to go to a U.C., and not just what they think about us. The
19 education is not high enough for us to be prepared to go to college. I'm going to a Cal State
20 university, and I'm scared sometimes about going to college because at Fremont they don't
21 prepare us. I question whether I'm smart enough to go to college, whether they taught me
22 enough.

23

24 I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of California and the United
25 States that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 15 day of June, 2001 in Los
26 Angeles, California.

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Karla Henriquez