

1 **Declaration of Rebecca Ruiz**

2 I, Rebecca Ruiz, 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 just finished eighth grade at Cesar Chavez Academy in East Palo Alto, and I will  
6 start the ninth grade at Carlmont High School in Belmont, California next year.

7 3. There were not always enough books for all of the students at Cesar Chavez  
8 Academy. In my eighth grade reading class in the 2000-2001 school year, there were not enough  
9 books. About five or six students had to share books. Sometimes the books at my school are in  
10 bad condition. In my eighth grade science class, some of the science books were dirty, and had  
11 pages ripped out. When the teacher wanted us to read from a page, and it was missing from a  
12 student's book, that student would have to ask a friend what was going on.

13 4. In my eighth grade reading class in the 2000-2001 school year, we did not have a  
14 teacher for three months. During that time, we had a lot of different substitutes. Some of those  
15 substitutes only showed movies in class, and didn't teach us anything about reading. We watched  
16 a lot of movies. We watched old James Bond movies, one of the Star Trek movies, and a lot of  
17 others. If we had had a permanent substitute during the entire time, instead of lots of different  
18 substitutes who didn't care about teaching us, I think we might have learned more.

19 5. In my eighth grade math and science class (this is a single class) in the 2000-2001  
20 school year, there were not enough desks for all of the students. There were two or three  
21 students who did not have desks. They put these students at a table and put chairs around it so  
22 that they could sit and work.

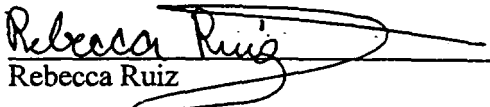
23 6. There were several non-English speaking students in my classes last year. There  
24 were two in my math and science class, one in my reading class, and one in my social studies  
25 class. These students only spoke Spanish. None of my teachers spoke any Spanish. So, the  
26 teachers would ask another student, who could speak both Spanish and English, to translate. This  
27 slowed the whole class down, because we would have to wait while everything was repeated  
28 again in Spanish. If the student tried to translate while the teacher was talking, sometimes the

1 teacher wouldn't realize that the student was translating. The teacher would think that the  
2 student was just talking in class, and tell that student to be quiet. This is distracting.

3 7. The bathrooms at my school are really dirty. I try not to go to the bathroom at  
4 school, because I think it's unsanitary. I try to wait until I get home from school. The bathrooms  
5 run out of toilet paper a lot. The bathrooms only have soap about two weeks out of every month.

6 8. There are not enough water fountains at my school. There are six in the whole  
7 school, but they are dirty and there's a lot of junk in them. The custodians do not clean them up.

8 I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of California and the United  
9 States that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 12 day of July, 2001 in East Palo  
10 Alto, California.

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12 Rebecca Ruiz

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