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1 being able to get our copies there. At times we are unable to use the copier because there is no
2 toner or paper. The Title I office sometimes refuses to pay for copies, so we can't always get our
3 copies there either. In a school that does not have a lot of books, we teachers really need to be
4 able to rely on being able to make photocopies, but we can't even do that.

5 7. We teachers are required to cover another teacher's class if another teacher is
6 tardy or absent and no substitute has come to cover the class. The school assigns teachers weeks
7 to be on call to cover teacher absences and tardies, but sometimes Ms. Roland or Ms. Hines, or
8 whoever the administrator in charge is that day, will get on the PA system and say that all teachers
9 with first period conferences should come to the main office to cover for other teachers. New
10 teachers are the teachers with first period conference periods because other teachers don't want
11 to be stuck with the burden of having to cover for absent teachers so often. It is extremely hard
12 to give up our conference periods on a regular basis. When I first started teaching during the
13 2000-2001 school year, I had to give up my conference period about one or two times each week
14 to cover for absent teachers. But then our assistant principal, Marcie Hines, instituted the weekly
15 schedule when teachers would be on call to fill in for absent or tardy teachers and that reduced the
16 number of times we had to give up our conference periods.

17 8. Fremont's overcrowding is frightening because of the sheer numbers of people
18 moving through the halls. Sometimes I feel like we're on the brink of chaos because of the
19 numbers of students there. I fear that one day we will need to get out of the school in a hurry, for
20 example, if there is an earthquake, and it will be impossible for everyone to exit safely.

21 9. One of the rooms I taught in during the 2000-2001 school year, room 231, had no
22 heat. I could see vents in the room, but I had no idea where the heat was controlled from. I kept
23 a teeny space heater in the classroom, but the space heater didn't keep the whole room warm on
24 cold days and the kids would still complain that they were cold and keep their jackets on.

25 10. That same classroom, room 231, became hot and stuffy during summer months. I
26 taught in the room through June and another colleague of mine taught in there during the other
27 summer months. We have a gigantic fan in the room, but it only has one speed and it blows so
28 hard that it blows paper off desks and sounds like an airplane. We couldn't keep the fan on all the

1 time because it was too disruptive, so we would try to open the windows to cool off instead. But
2 then cigarette smoke would come into the classroom and some of the kids were allergic to the
3 smoke so we would have to close the windows again and try to endure the hot, stuffy classroom.

4 11. Room 231 has a small space where the wall does not reach all the way up so we
5 can hear clearly what takes place in the room next door. I teach in room 231 in the spring and
6 last year the teacher who taught special education next door to my classroom bellowed all day
7 long. It was really disruptive to my classes to have to listen to that teacher. We would try to do
8 silent reading, but we could hear every word being said in the classroom next door.

9 12. The school recently closed the Title I computer lab, which is the only computer lab
10 that my classes have regular access to. My classes theoretically could access the other computer
11 labs but we're low on the priority list because I do not teach bilingual classes, which are the
12 classes with priority for those labs. How am I supposed to teach writing without computers?

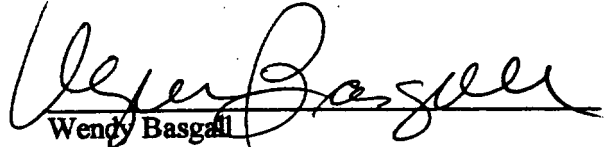
13 13. Fremont does not have enough open and unlocked bathrooms for the students on
14 campus. The bathrooms on the first floor are not locked, but students have told me that the
15 bathrooms on other floors are kept locked. Every period, at least one of my students asks to go
16 to the bathroom, and I can't in good conscience say no because I know all the students would
17 then be thinking about is having to go to the bathroom. It's not the students' fault that they need
18 to leave class to use the bathroom because they can't all access the bathrooms during passing
19 periods and lunch and nutrition. I have seen lines outside the bathrooms while students wait to
20 get inside the few bathrooms that are unlocked at the school. Additionally, I have been told by
21 female students that some of the stalls do not have doors.

22 14. Fremont operates on a multitrack, year-round calendar. I have never taught on a
23 traditional calendar, but I do know that our school days are really long. The students are in
24 school, sitting, for about eight hours each day. I think that would be really difficult, and the
25 students always seem very tired. I have students falling asleep in class because they're working to
26 support their families after school and trying to go to school during the day, too. They have very
27 long days.

28 15. My students are remarkable kids with so much potential. But the point that their

1 schools are deteriorated and lacking basic supplies is not lost on them. They talk almost
2 constantly about being in a "ghetto" school, and I have heard them say that that's why we don't
3 have ceiling tiles and other things at the school.
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5 I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of California and the United
6 States that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 27th day of September, 2001 in Los
7 Angeles, California.

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9 Wendy Basgall
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