

1 **Declaration of Rosa Garcia**

2 I, Rosa Garcia, 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 a senior at Jefferson High School in Los Angeles, where I have gone to  
6 school for all my years of high school.

7 3. Jefferson is so overcrowded that the only way it can function is to operate on a  
8 year-round, multitrack schedule. I'm on track C. Not all the tracks offer the same courses, so  
9 kids don't all have the same opportunities. For example, I wanted to take French, but French is  
10 only offered on another track so I couldn't take it. Also, kids on track A get to do summer  
11 activities, and the rest of us have to stay in school in the summer. For one example of things kids  
12 on track A can do that the rest of us cannot do, kids on track A can go to summer programs at  
13 colleges, but colleges do not run similar programs for high school kids at times when the rest of  
14 us are off track. I am lucky to be on C track for one reason, though: kids on my track take  
15 advanced placement ("AP") tests after our courses are over, so we're ready for the test. Kids on  
16 tracks A and B have to take their AP tests before they're done with their courses because of the  
17 multitrack schedule. When I was in 11th grade, my boyfriend was on track A and he was really  
18 mad that he had to take the AP test when he wasn't done with his course yet and so he hadn't  
19 learned all the material yet.

20 4. Even with the multitrack schedule, Jefferson still feels overcrowded when I'm on  
21 campus. Track A has a lot of students in it, so when track A and track C are on campus at the  
22 same time, you can hardly walk to class because the people are all bunched up on the stairwell.  
23 Track B has fewer students, so the crowding isn't quite as bad when tracks B and C are on  
24 campus at the same time.

25 5. We don't have enough bathrooms for all the students. We almost always have to  
26 wait in line for the bathroom because there are a lot of people in there. We just expect to have to  
27 wait in line. We have four bathrooms for girls on campus, including the one in the bungalow,  
28 but really there are only two bathrooms for girls to use most of the time. The bungalow

1 bathroom is too far away for us to be able to use it between classes. And the bathroom in the  
2 quad is always locked during class time because of safety concerns. When I was in 11th grade,  
3 there was an attempted rape against one of my friends in that bathroom. Students took up a  
4 petition to address the safety issue, and in response the administration decided to lock the  
5 bathroom during class time and told us never to go in there by ourselves. The administration also  
6 fixed the light in the bathroom so it's not so dark in there anymore. They did that because the  
7 light had been broken for a long time when the attempted rape happened last year, and my friend  
8 couldn't see the guy who reached out to grab her. So when the quad bathroom is closed and the  
9 other bathroom is too far away to get into, we only really have two bathrooms for girls to use:  
10 one in the science building and one in the main building. During part of the week of April 16  
11 and during the week of April 23, the bathroom in the science building was closed because one of  
12 the toilets overflowed there and the school had to fix the bathroom. That meant that only one  
13 bathroom was open for girls on campus during class time. The girls' bathrooms in the quad and  
14 the main building each have four stalls, and the girls' bathroom in the science building has about  
15 six to eight stalls. Those just are not enough stalls for all the girls on campus at Jefferson.

16         6.       I have textbooks in my classes this year because I'm in AP and honors classes, but  
17 other classes don't have enough books for all the kids. Some of my friends in other classes tell  
18 me their teachers won't let them take books home for homework because the teachers do not  
19 have enough books for all their students. Also, my friends in AP calculus this year have books  
20 that are more than 10 years old and I know we're not supposed to be using books that are that  
21 old.

22         7.       In my third period class, we have too many students and not enough desks. Some  
23 people sit at the teacher's desk and other people sit on chairs at a table in the back of the room.  
24 We have about five or six more people than we have desks.

25         8.       Jefferson doesn't have enough classes for all the students, so a lot of students have  
26 to take service classes. In service classes, students don't learn anything. Instead, they run  
27 errands for teachers or, if they don't have anything to do, then they sleep. It's a waste of time, so  
28 I don't take those classes.

1           9.       When I was in 11th grade, we didn't have a teacher for my AP English class for a  
2 lot of the school year. Our teacher missed school a lot during the first semester because  
3 something was wrong with her, and then she just didn't come back at all the second semester.  
4 We had different substitutes almost every day for the first semester in that class. The school just  
5 gave us someone to cover the class every day, but they didn't necessarily give us someone who  
6 knew anything about AP English. For one week, for example, we had a coach who teaches  
7 history, not English. Then we got a permanent teacher who teaches English literature the second  
8 semester. None of us were prepared for the AP test, and I think everyone in the class got a 1 on  
9 the test, which is the lowest score you can get, except for one student Gloria de Santos who got a  
10 3 on the test.

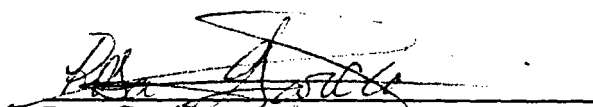
11           10.       The WASC accreditation team came to school this month, and the school was like  
12 a totally different place when they were here. The school put up posters and district banners and  
13 display cases that had been empty all year suddenly were full of stuff. The school was cleaned  
14 and the walls were painted and the floors were waxed. Just because all these accreditation people  
15 were coming to see the school, they couldn't leave it how it really is when we go to school there  
16 every day. It felt really false to have the school all fixed up like that when they won't fix it up for  
17 the students. Administrators told students that if they didn't fix the school up, then our diplomas  
18 wouldn't mean anything because the school might not get accredited. But if that's right, then our  
19 diplomas really don't mean anything because for the almost four years I went to Jefferson before  
20 the WASC team came, the stuff the school cleaned up for the accreditation team was not cleaned  
21 up. I don't want a diploma that doesn't mean anything because I went to school for four years at  
22 a school that was the way it was before the accreditation team came.

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 16 day of May, 2001 in Los Angeles,  
26 California.

27

28

  
Rosa Garcia