

Declaration of Crystle Carillo

I, Crystle Carillo, hereby declare:

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

2. I am a student at Locke High School in Los Angeles, where I just completed my eleventh grade.

3. I have had classes where there was no teacher. In my ninth grade integrated science class, we had no teacher during the first semester. We had different substitutes about every day. We also had no books at all. The substitutes didn't teach anything, so all we did was color in photocopied worksheets. We didn't ever get any homework at all. Not having a teacher or books made me feel like the school didn't care about me or the other students. I think that that's wrong. In the major subjects at least, we should have a permanent teacher. We need to be taught the major subjects so that we can be up to par in our education.

4. In many of my classes, we have not had books. In my eleventh grade discrete math class, we didn't have any books at all. We didn't have a teacher the first semester, so another teacher covered our class during his conference period. He was a math teacher, but he didn't usually teach discrete math. He tried to give us lessons for the first few weeks, but we didn't have any books, and it wasn't his area, so after the first few weeks, he would just tell us about the stock market. During the second semester, we still had no books. We had a permanent teacher during second semester, and he did the best he could, but not having books really made things hard. I was very upset, because this is one of my main college prep classes, and I feel I was cheated out of the chance to learn anything in it. I have to learn this information in order to go to college, but I don't understand how I'm expected to learn it if I don't have a book to learn from. I did not have any books in my tenth grade algebra II class, either. The teacher gave us photocopies to work from. We also didn't have any books in my tenth grade science II class, or in my ninth grade integrated science class. All we had was photocopies. I didn't have any books in my ninth grade geometry class, either. My teacher would give us a lot of notes and worksheets. He would write the lessons up on the board for us to copy down. If we had books, I

1 think we could have saved a lot of time, because then the teacher would not have had to spend so
2 much time writing on the board, and we wouldn't have had to copy everything down. I can't
3 understand why we don't have books, because we really need them. What could be more
4 important, in school, than having books? In my tenth grade English class, we only had a class
5 set of books. This means that the teacher had only enough books for one period to use. We used
6 them during class time, but then we had to leave them in the room, so that the next period could
7 use them. We had to copy down all the assignments, which took a long time. I felt like we spent
8 too much class time just copying down assignments. If we had books to take home we wouldn't
9 have had to waste that time. Other classes where we only had a class set of books were my tenth
10 grade health class and my tenth grade Spanish class. For homework, the teachers would copy
11 worksheets for us to do. It's important to have books to take home, though, because when you're
12 doing your homework you need the book to look back at, so you can be sure that you're doing it
13 right.

14 5. In my AP English class in the eleventh grade, we had to pay for our own books.
15 We all had to buy the book, *The Awakening*, by Kate Chopin. Also, when I took basketball in the
16 tenth grade, we each had to pay sixty or seventy dollars for our uniforms.

17 6. There are rats in my school. In my eleventh grade physics class, my teacher kept a
18 salad dressing bottle in his desk drawer, and the rats ate through the plastic bottle. My teacher
19 showed it to us. It was gross. Also in the art class I took in the eleventh grade, there was rat
20 poop by the sinks. The teacher wouldn't let us go near the sinks, because the rat poop was
21 hazardous to our health. It is really disgusting.

22 7. Some of my classes are overcrowded. In my tenth grade algebra II class, it was
23 much too crowded at first. For a week at the beginning of the first semester, there were people
24 who didn't have seats. Finally, the school had to send people out of the class.

25 8. My school does not give us all the supplies we need to learn. In my tenth grade
26 science II class, we did not have enough working equipment. The measuring scales didn't work,
27 and there were too many of us, about eight or nine students, assigned to each lab group. Because
28 of this, the students didn't have as much time to do lab work as we would have if the groups were

1 smaller. In my introduction to computers class, in the ninth grade, there were not enough
2 working computers for all of the students. The school was making it seem like we had
3 computers, but we really didn't, because they didn't all work. The class was called "introduction
4 to computers," but if you don't have a computer then how can you be introduced to it?

5 9. The school also doesn't provide basic equipment for us. In my basketball class in
6 the ninth grade, my teacher told us she had to buy our balls and our uniforms herself. She got a
7 deal where she bought five balls for one hundred dollars. She told us she paid for everything and
8 then the school never reimbursed her. She also said she had to make her own first aid kit.

9 10. The school is in poor condition. In the tenth grade, I took an educational career
10 planning class. One of the windows was broken, and there was broken glass on the floor, that the
11 school didn't clean up for a week.

12 11. The bathrooms in my school are dirty. There is not enough toilet tissue, and the
13 toilets flood sometimes.

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15 I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of California and the United
16 States that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 17th day of July, 2001 in Los
17 Angeles, California.

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Crystle Carillo

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