

1 **Declaration of Elizabeth Perea**

2 I, Elizabeth Perea, 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 an eleventh grade student at Locke High School. I have attended Locke for
6 three years.

7 3. During my ninth grade year in my integrated science class, I did not have a teacher
8 or a textbook for the entire year. We had substitutes every day, and we didn't do anything but
9 just sit there for most of the class period.

10 4. I have not had textbooks in several of my classes during my three years at Locke.
11 In my Spanish class in ninth grade we did not have any textbooks at all, and so we would do
12 projects out of magazines sometimes. In tenth grade, we did not have any textbooks in my
13 science class. During the second semester of my sophomore year, I was moved into a better
14 English class, an honors English class. However, we did not have any textbooks in that class.
15 My tenth grade English teacher made photocopies for us to read and sometimes my tenth grade
16 science teacher would make us photocopies from the textbook he bought himself. In my fourth
17 period discrete math class this year, we did not have math books. My teacher gave us
18 photocopies or had us copy things from the overhead. In my AP Spanish class this year, we had
19 no textbooks either. My teacher would just give us photocopies or teach us what he knows about
20 Spanish.

21 5. The school does not provide enough basic supplies for us. For example, in my
22 tenth grade science class, we didn't have necessary supplies. I think that we need chemicals,
23 beakers, and other supplies for chemistry that are provided by the schools so that we can see how
24 experiments are done, and what happens to chemicals when they are mixed. That is what that
25 class is really supposed to be about, and if you don't have a teacher who will bring in their own
26 supplies then you can't really learn those important things. My tenth grade science teacher was a
27 creative teacher, and he bought supplies or brought them in from home or from his mother who is
28 a scientist, so we could actually do experiments in class. I learned a lot because of that, but we

1 shouldn't have had to rely on the teacher to bring supplies in. Also, in my physical education
2 class in ninth grade we had no basic supplies like balls to play basketball, soccer, or anything
3 else. Our teacher finally bought us balls. A friend of my teachers who doesn't work at the
4 school, but felt bad that we did not have any supplies to play sports donated some supplies to the
5 class.

6 6. In my AP English class this year we had to buy our books for the class. We
7 bought *The Scarlet Letter* and *To Kill A Mockingbird*. We shouldn't have to buy our textbooks.
8 Some of the students in our class couldn't afford their textbooks, and my teacher just paid for
9 them. Every year the students have to pay for their books in AP English.

10 7. The students are not allowed to go on field trips at Locke because there is not
11 enough money for buses and to pay for the activities.

12 8. The bathrooms are disgusting. There is no toilet paper, no seat covers, and
13 sometimes no soap. They are really dirty. I only use them when it is a real emergency, but
14 usually I just try to hold it for the whole day. I just don't want to have to use the bathrooms.

15 9. We need more credentialed teachers, and teachers with better training. I believe
16 that more than half of the teachers at the school are uncredentialed. I know that a credential
17 doesn't necessarily mean you will get a good teacher, but I think that we need to have teachers
18 who are better prepared to teach. I have seen teachers trying to show other teachers how to teach
19 the subject matter they are required to teach. That worries me, because then I am not sure how
20 well the teachers really know the subject they are teaching to me. I want the teachers to be better
21 prepared and more knowledgeable about the subject. I want our school to have more good
22 teachers who won't leave the school.


23 10. I am concerned that a lot of the good teachers leave our school, and I think that we
24 have a very high teacher turnover rate. At least three teachers that I know of have had to leave
25 each year. It feels like the best teachers just go to other schools or quit. It makes me upset.

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1 I declare under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of California and the United States that
2 the foregoing is true and correct. Executed this 21st day of June, 2001 in Los Angeles,
3 California.

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Elizabeth Perea

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