

1 **Declaration of Gerardo Perea**

2
3 I, Gerardo Perea, hereby declare:

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

6 2. I am 18 years old and am a senior at Locke High School in Los Angeles.

7 3. For my A.P. Spanish class during my senior year we did not have any books
8 either. We worked on essays and whatever else the teacher came up with. The class was pretty
9 laid back and was not at all challenging. During my junior year at Locke High School, I took
10 discrete math, which is a level between algebra II and calculus. We did not have any books in
11 this class because the school didn't have enough. The teacher had to make his own worksheets so
12 that we would have work. For homework we only had our class notes to refer to. If you wrote
13 down the notes then you had examples, but if you didn't take good notes then you didn't have
14 examples. This class was basically a waste of time. It was so easy for me that I helped the teacher
15 teach the class. I tried registering for a higher level class, but the counselors did not give it to me.

16 4. I did not have my own book for my government class during my senior year
17 because two to three classes shared a class set. Because these classes shared the class set, we
18 were only able to check them out to take home if we really needed the book for a particular night,
19 and then we had to bring it back. Obviously, not all the students could check the books out for
20 the same night because there weren't enough books. Two to three classes shared this class set.
21 We had worksheets for homework and only used whatever notes we had for assistance.

22 5. My Spanish for native speakers class had very old books. I believe they were
23 from like 1987, and some of them were torn and tagged on.

24 6. Many of my classes at Locke were overcrowded. My Spanish for native speakers
25 class during my junior year was very crowded with like 35-40 students. My discrete math class in
26 my junior year was also very crowded and there were not enough desks for everyone. The
27 custodian brought in regular chairs without desks after the teacher asked for extra chairs so that
28 students could sit down. The class never got enough desks for all of the students. There were

1 many times when I had to share a desk with another student by sitting on a chair and pulling up
2 to the other student's desk. When I shared a desk with another student it was hard to concentrate
3 because the desk was not big enough for two people. I sometimes had to use a regular chair,
4 without a desk, and write on my lap because there were not enough desks.

5 7. For my junior year chemistry class I had a very good teacher, but there were not
6 enough supplies or materials. Chemistry is a laboratory class where you need to do experiments,
7 but there was no gas, there were not enough test tubes, and some electrical sockets did not work.
8 The teacher had to buy most of the materials; he would tell us to take care of the materials
9 because he bought them with his own money. But still, those materials were not nearly enough
10 for the whole class, so we didn't do any labs. I never even touched a test tube in this class. Our
11 only lab experience was watching the teacher do the experiments and mixing things up in front of
12 the class. So, we learned the theory but never saw the theories actually happen. I would have
13 learned a lot more if I had the opportunity to do labs.

14 8. My honors English class during my junior year was taught mostly by substitutes.
15 The teacher assigned to teach this class was only there for the first three days of class because she
16 was ill. For the next month and a half I had substitute after substitute; it felt like I had a different
17 substitute every two days. We didn't do anything in that class; we just sat down, talked, played
18 cards, or slept. We could've done whatever we wanted to in that class, like just walk in and out
19 of the class. We finally got a permanent substitute for the last month of the semester. I feel as if I
20 was cheated out of this English class. I know that there are certain books we're required to read,
21 but we only read one book for the whole semester: The Scarlet Letter. The second semester was
22 the same. We had a lot of substitutes and teachers from other classes would come in and stay
23 with my class for the period. For example, we had math teachers teach our English class. We are
24 supposed to write a term paper during our junior year in English, but because of the way the class
25 was taught, I still have not written a term paper in high school.

26 9. During my senior year I took a computer class that had very old Apple computers.
27 They were so old that they only used floppy disks. Some of them would break down often.

28 10. To play any sport at Locke you have to pay \$15 for an activity card. I have no idea

1 why, but it's required from the school. The card is for discounts at school events like dances and
2 stuff, but it's not relevant to playing a sport. If you don't buy an activity card then you don't get to
3 play. This year, the Director of Athletics made an example of one player by sitting him out of the
4 game and not letting him play because he didn't buy a card. I play baseball, and there is no money
5 for this program. A lot of equipment is donated. Towards the end of a season we usually acquire
6 enough equipment, but we don't have enough at the start of the season. For example, the official
7 bat weight changed this year, so we didn't have any bats. We had some donated, but we still did
8 not have enough bats, so some players bought their own for \$150 - \$250. Students also have to
9 purchase our own uniforms to play baseball at the high school. For both of the years that I've
10 played baseball at Locke I've had to buy my own uniforms. For my 11th grade, I spent over \$285.
11 We put on and worked at our own fundraisers to help decrease our out-of-pocket costs, but we
12 could only raise so much. Plus, the school wanted to keep some of the money from the fundraiser
13 because the fundraiser was on campus. The school has a requirement that it keeps a portion of the
14 funds raised for activities. I'm not exactly sure why, but I've heard that they have this policy
15 because it supposedly decreases sales from the cafeteria.

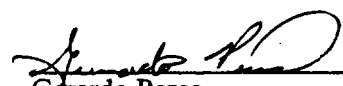
16 11. The bathrooms at Locke are so dirty that you can't tell whether they really clean
17 them or not. There are rarely paper towels or toilet paper. I don't even go to the bathrooms
18 anymore because they're too dirty and nasty. Nobody wants to use the bathrooms, unless you
19 really, really have to go. Or, if you know a teacher well and you're cool with them you can ask
20 them for the key to use the faculty restroom. Otherwise, you just hold it until you get home.

21 12. I was a student in a magnet program at Gardena High School for my ninth and
22 tenth years of high school. While I was at Gardena I noticed a big difference in quality of
23 education for the students in the standard classes versus the students in the higher academic
24 classes like the magnet program. While I had enough books, had homework, and was respected
25 and academically challenged, my friends in the standard classes had a different experience. My
26 friends did not have their own books, had no homework, and some were frequently absent but
27 still got A's in their classes.

28 \\

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

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


Gerardo Perea