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I, Dr. John Deasy, declare as follows:

- I am Superintendent of the Los Angeles Unified School District. I make this declaration in support of Plaintiffs Motion for a Temporary Restraining Order in this matter. I make this declaration based on my own personal knowledge, and if called as a witness, I could and would testify to the following matters.
- As Superintendent, I am responsible for oversight of the day-to-day 2. operations of the entire school system including instruction, curriculum, personnel, fiscal management and physical facilities. I am also responsible for ensuring the delivery of educational opportunity to the students in the Los Angeles Unified School District.
- I have been involved in education for approximately 31 years. I began 3. my career as a classroom teacher of math and science and later as a high school principal. I earned a bachelor's degree in biology and chemistry education and a master's in education administration from Providence College as well as a doctorate of philosophy in education from the University of Louisville. I was superintendent of schools of Prince George's County, Maryland; the Coventry Public School System in Rhode Island; and the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District in California. I was also Deputy Director of Education at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.
- 4. I firmly believe that every high school student should have a full schedule and that no student should be assigned to course periods that do not deliver meaningful instruction. My views apply to assignment not only to "Home" periods in which students are assigned to no class at all and are sent home from school—but also to other content-free courses, including "Service" periods. These "classes" are not designed to deliver real instruction or learning opportunities to students, but rather are no more than fillers to plug gaps where no genuine courses are readily available.

- 5. I became aware of the Plaintiffs' request for a temporary restraining order yesterday morning.
- 6. Through counsel, I relayed to the State my belief that the use of these courses violate students' fundamental right to education. I firmly believe that this restraining order should be granted, and I think that it should apply not just to Jefferson, but to every high school in LAUSD that assigns students to these courses.
- 7. These courses serve no conceivable pedagogical purpose and defy every norm and standard adhered to by professional educators. The fact that these courses are used anywhere is antithetical to education, but the fact that they are being assigned to students who are academically behind and have not fulfilled graduation and college entry requirements is outrageous. I can't think of a better gift to give this school district than to expose this indefensible practice that is antithetical to learning.
- 8. If my further testimony would be of benefit to the Court, I am available by telephone to participate in the hearing on this matter, which I understand is scheduled for October 2, 2014 at 2:30 p.m.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed at Los Angeles, California on October 2, 2014

Dr. John Deasy