| 1  | ROBERT W. THOMPSON, ESQ. (SBN: 2500   | 038) Electronically  |  |
|----|---|--|--|
| 2  | TLO LAW, PC 700 Airport Boulevard, Suite 160  | FILED by Superior Court of California, County of San Mateo |  |
| 3  | Burlingame, CA 94010<br>Telephone: (650) 513-6111   | ON 3/3/2025 By /s/ Kimberly Claussen                       |  |
| 4  | Facsimile: (650) 513-6071<br>Email: bobby@tlopc.com; kris@tlopc.com                         | By <u>/s/ Kimberly Claussen</u><br>Deputy Clerk            |  |
| 5  | MASON M. MARTINEZ, ESQ. (SBN: 34189   | 26)  |  |
| 6  | CATTERMOLE LAW GROUP<br>477 Ninth Avenue, Suite 101   |  |  |
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| 9  | Attorneys for Plaintiffs  |  |  |
| 10 | SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SAN MATEO                               |  |  |
| 11 |   |  |  |
| 12 | UNLIMITED JURISDICTION  |  |  |
| 13 |   |  |  |
| 14 | JANE DOE (J.R.), a minor, by and through  | Case No.: 25-CIV-01710                                     |  |
| 15 | her Guardian ad Litem, JANE DOE (D.R.); and JANE DOE (K.M.), a minor, by and                | COMPLAINT FOR PERSONAL INJURIES                            |  |
| 16 | through her Guardian ad Litem, JANE<br>DOE (B.M.)   | AND DAMAGES  |  |
| 17 | Plaintiffs,   | DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL                                      |  |
| 18 | v.  |  |  |
| 19 | SAN BRUNO PARK SCHOOL   |  |  |
| 20 | DISTRICT, a public entity; and DOES 1 through 125, inclusive                                |  |  |
| 21 | Defendants.   |  |  |
| 22 |   |  |  |
| 23 |   |  |  |
| 24 | COMES NOW, Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.), a minor, by and through her Guardian ad               |  |  |
| 25 | Litem, JANE DOE (D.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), a minor, by and through her           |  |  |
| 26 | Guardian ad Litem, JANE DOE (B.M.), brings this Complaint for Personal Injuries and Damages |  |  |
| 27 | against Defendants SAN BRUNO PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT, a public entity, and DOES 1              |  |  |
| 28 |   |  |  |
|    | COMPLAINT FOR PERSONAL INJURIES AND DAMAGES; DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL                          |  |  |

### **PARTIES**

- 1. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.), an individual and minor, was a resident of the County of San Mateo, State of California and was a student at El Crystal Elementary School and a student at Allen Elementary School, at both times Plaintiff was a student of Jeremy Yeh. Due to the sensitive nature of this case, Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) is using a fictitious name in this Complaint under rights to privacy granted by the Constitution of the State of California. Plaintiff's full identity has been concealed from public court filings in order to prevent those not directly involved in this action from learning her identity and making her identity public. Such a public disclosure would further harm Plaintiff and her family.
- 2. Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), an individual and minor, was a resident of the County of San Mateo, State of California and was a student at Allen Elementary School and a student of Jeremy Yeh. Due to the sensitive nature of this case, Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) is using a fictitious name in this Complaint under rights to privacy granted by the Constitution of the State of California. Plaintiff's full identity has been concealed from public court filings in order to prevent those not directly involved in this action from learning her identity and making her identity public. Sucha a public disclosure would further harm Plaintiff and her family.
- 3. Defendant SAN BRUNO PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT ("SBPSD") is a public school district existing under the laws of the State of California. Defendant SBPSD is located in the City of San Bruno, within the County of San Mateo, State of California. Defendants DOES 1 through 25 are employees and/or agents of Defendant SBPSD who owed a duty of care to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and breached that duty of care. Defendant SBPSD employed Jeremy Yeh as a teacher who was assigned to both Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) were under the care and supervision of Defendant SBPSD, Jeremy Yeh repeatedly sexually battered, molested, and abused Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.).
  - 4. Allen Elementary School is a public school located in the City of San Bruno,

within the County of San Mateo, State of California. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) were students at Allen Elementary School at the time of the incidents that is the subject of this Complaint. Allen Elementary School was and is operated by and under the control of Defendant SBPSD, and its respective governing boards and/or superintendents, administrators, agents, and employees. Defendants DOES 26 through 50 are employees and/or agents of Allen Elementary School who owed a duty of care to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and breached that duty of care.

- 5. El Crystal Elementary School ("ECES") was a public school located in the City of San Bruno, within the County of San Mateo, State of California. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) was a student at El Crystal Elementary School. El Crystal Elementary School closed following the 2017-2018 school year, but at all relevant times prior, was operated by and under the control of Defendant SBPSD, and its respective governing boards and/or superintendents, administrators, agents, and employees.
- 6. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) are informed and believe, and upon such information and belief allege, that each Defendant designated herein as DOE 1-125 is negligently or otherwise legally responsible in some manner for the events and happenings herein referred to, and negligently or otherwise caused injuries and damages proximately thereby to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) as hereinafter alleged. At all times herein mentioned, each and every Defendant herein was the agent, servant, partner, joint venturer, employee, and/or franchisee of each of the other Defendants, and each was at all times acting within the course and scope of such agency, service, employment, joint venture, partnership, and/or franchise.
- 7. The true names and capacities of each Defendant designated herein as DOES 1 through 125, whether an individual, business, public entity, or some other entity, are presently unknown to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), who therefore sue said Defendants by such fictitious names, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure § 474. Each DOE defendant is responsible in some actionable manner for the events alleged herein. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) will amend the Complaint to state the true names

and capacities of said Defendants when the same have been ascertained.\

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School, Jeremy Yeh was her teacher and repeatedly sexually molested, abused, harassed, manipulated, assaulted, and battered her, which included touching and fondling of her breasts, buttocks, pubic region, vulva, and genitalia.

- 15. Prior to Jeremy Yeh's sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assault, and battery of Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and PLAINTIFF (K.M.), Defendants SBPSD and DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, knew or should have known, at least as early as the 2016-2017 school year, of Jeremy Yeh's propensity and proclivity to sexually abuse his students, and that Defendants SBPSD and DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, knew he posed a threat to the safety of Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and their classmates, but took no steps to prevent Jeremy Yeh's abuse. During the 2016-2017 school year, while Jeremy Yeh taught a first/second grade combined class at ECES, multiple ECES students told ECES administrators that Jeremy Yeh had pulled down a female student's pants while hugging her and looked down the pants of another female student. Upon receiving the student reports, Defendant SBPSD and ECES administrators covered up and concealed Jeremy Yeh's inappropriate and abhorrent conduct, failed to document, investigate, or respond to prevent further incidents of sexual misconduct of minor students, and failed to comply with their mandatory duties to report suspected and known abuse of children to law enforcement and child welfare agencies. According to the District Attorney's Office, "The first victim came forward in 2017 but was called a liar by the administration at El Crystal Elementary School."
- 16. Instead of investigating Mr. Yeh's alleged sexual abuse, the Principal of El Crystal, Jeanne Elliott, forced the young girl who witnessed Mr. Yeh's sexual abuse and the young girl who Mr. Yeh sexual abuse to have a meeting with Mr. Yeh. During the meeting, Principal Elliott forced both young girls to recount their allegations. Principal Elliott later sent an email to Mr. Yeh telling him that she would handle the situation. She also sent a letter to all parents with children in Mr. Yeh's class calling the young girl who he abused "a liar." At the time, neither Principal Elliott nor Superintendent Cheryl Olson reported Mr. Yeh's alleged sexual abuse to police as required by California's mandatory reporting laws. Superintendent Olson retired two months later. Criminal charges may be filed by the DA's office against Principal

Elliott and former Superintendent Olson for their failure to report Mr. Yeh's 2017 sexual abuse. As a result, both young girls were labeled as "liars" and bullied by other students.

- 17. Compounding Defendant SBPSD's inaction, an ECES administrator who received the reports "reassured [Jeremy Yeh] that he is not a victim, rather the child is troubled" and disciplined the reporting students for "spreading rumors." These actions amount to ratification of Jeremy Yeh's misconduct and thus aided and abetted Jeremy Yeh to continue to sexually molest, abuse, harass, manipulate, assault, and batter Defendants' students, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and, at least, two (2) other female students.
- 18. Over the course of his employment with Defendants SBPSD and DOES 1 through 50 and each of them from 2016 through 2023, Jeremy Yeh repeatedly engaged in lewd sexual acts with minor students at ECES and Allen Elementary School, subjecting multiple victim students to ongoing sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assault, and battery. To date, at least four (4) female students were sexually molested, abused, harassed, manipulated, assaulted, and battered by Jeremy Yeh while he was employed by Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50.
- 19. Administrators and other officials and employees of Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, knew or should have known that Jeremy Yeh routinely engaged in grooming behaviors with Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and, at least, two (2) other female students, such as offering his classroom to them in the mornings and during recess to be alone with them. Administrators and other officials and employees of Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, knew or should have known that Jeremy Yeh encouraged Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) to spend time alone with him inside his classroom, which is a clear red flag and against Defendant SBPSD's own policies. Administrators and other officials and employees of Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, knew or should have known that Jeremy Yeh was contacting students outside of school via online gaming platforms and other applications. Administrators and other officials and employees of Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, knew or should have known that Jeremy Yeh engaged in a

game with female students, including, Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), called "tickle time" during which he would tickle the female students and while doing so, touch and grope their breasts, buttocks, pubic region, vulva, and genitalia. Administrators and other officials and employees of Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, knew or should have known that Jeremy Yeh awarded "points" to only female students, including, Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff (K.M.), for completing random classroom activities, which when awarded allowed the female students to skip recess and spend time with him in his classroom.

- 20. Jeremy Yeh's grooming conduct towards Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) was open, obvious, and was known or should have been known to Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, and their administrators and staff. Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, knew or should have known that Jeremy Yeh posed a threat to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and other students, and that Jeremy Yeh sexually molested, abused, harassed, manipulated assaulted, and battered Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and other students, but nonetheless negligently failed to monitor and supervise Jeremy Yeh, or Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and other students to ensure their safety.
- 21. Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, knew or should have known of Jeremy Yeh's sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assaults, and battery of Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) while they were under the control, supervision, and care of Defendant SBPSD. Prior to his sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assaults, and battery of Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and, at least two (2) other female students, Defendant SBPSD's staff, employees, administrators knew that Jeremy Yeh was sexually molesting, abusing, harassing, manipulating, assaulting, and battering Defendants' students, but they remained indifferent to it and negligently retained and negligently failed to supervise and monitor Jeremy Yeh as a teacher, and negligently failed to supervise students or take intervening action to ensure student safety. Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, had a long-standing history and a pattern

and practice of ignoring and/or mishandling reports of inappropriate sexual conduct and sexual abuse inflicted upon students by school staff members, and of failing to document, investigate, or adequately responding to reports alleging its employees engaged in sexual misconduct with students.

- 22. In April 2023, at least six (6) years after Defendants' SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, knew Jeremy Yeh sexually molested, abused, harassed, manipulated, assaulted, and/or battered a student, law enforcement arrested him, and the San Mateo County District Attorney subsequently charged him with seventeen (17) felony counts of PC288(a) Lew Acts Upon a Child, with multiple felony enhancements, in connection with his sexual assaults of Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and other victim students over the course of his employment with Defendant SBOSD as a teacher. A jury recently found Jeremy Yeh guilty on all charges.
- 23. At no time prior to Jeremy Yeh's 2023 arrest for child sexual abuse did Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, inform Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.)'s parents or guardians that Defendants knew Jeremy Yeh had been previously reported for sexually abusing children; that Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) were victims of Jeremy Yeh; that Defendants knew of Jeremy Yeh's grooming behaviors with students, including that Jeremy Yeh engaged in grooming behaviors with Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.); that Defendants conducted any investigation into any report about Jeremy Yeh, and if so, the substance or outcome of any investigation of Jeremy Yeh, including that which related to his inappropriate misconduct with Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) or other students; and/or that Defendants never reported Jeremy Yeh to law enforcement or any child welfare agency. To the contrary, when interviewed by law enforcement, Defendant SBPSD administrators retained criminal defense attorneys and refused to cooperate with law enforcement.
- 24. Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, failed to take appropriate action to intervene and stop the abuse of minor students by Jeremy Yeh, negligently failed to monitor, supervise and/or control Jeremy Yeh, and failed to adequately supervise

Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) to protect them from abuse while they were in Defendants' care and control. Prior to and during Jeremy Yeh's abuse of Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and other female students, Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, knew or should have known of Jeremy Yeh's propensity and proclivity to molest, abuse, harass, manipulate, assault, and batter students, that Jeremy Yeh posed a threat to the safety and welfare of students, and that Jeremy Yeh was likely to harm and sexually abuse Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and other students if Defendants did not provide reasonable supervision and care. Despite their actual knowledge of the danger Jeremy Yeh posed to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and other students, Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, negligently retained Jeremy Yeh, and negligently failed to monitor and supervise Jeremy Yeh, and failed to protect Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and other students from repeated sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assault, and battery while in Defendants' control and care

25. As a proximate and legal result of Defendants' SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, and their employees' and agents' negligence and indifference to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.)'s safety, their negligent supervision of students and employees on campus during operational hours, and their negligent and deliberate indifference to reports of sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assaults, and battery of students on its campuses, Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) were also sexually molested, abused, harassed, manipulated, assaulted, battered, discriminated against, deprived of access to the educational opportunities and benefits they were entitled, and otherwise harmed. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) are informed and believe that, at all relevant times, school officials, supervisors, and administrators at Defendant SBPSD failed to implement or enforce any rules, policies, procedures, guidelines, or standards regarding supervision and care of its students and teachers, such as Jeremy Yeh, of which would have prevented the sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assaults, and battery of students on its campuses, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.).

- 26. As minors and as students of Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) were under the supervision, care, and control of Defendants and their agents, thereby creating a special relationship with Defendants, and each of them. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) were entrusted to the care, custody, and control of Defendants who stood in loco parentis. Defendants owe students under their supervision, care, and control a protective duty of ordinary care. Due to this special relationship, there is an affirmative duty on Defendants and their employees, agents, and independent contractors to take all reasonable steps to protect students, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), from the foreseeable risk of harm posed by others, such as the foreseeable harm Jeremy Yeh posed and ultimately caused. After learning of Jeremy Yeh's inappropriate behavior as early as the 2016 – 2017 school year, Defendants had a duty to protect Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and other female students based on the *in loco parentis* special relationship between them, but Defendants negligently failed to do so. Defendants failed to take reasonable steps or implement safeguards to prevent inappropriate conduct, sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation assault, and battery of Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) by Jeremy Yeh.
- 27. Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, are liable for the acts and omissions of their staff, employees, administrators, and/or agents acting within the course and scope of their employment. (Gov't Code § 815.2.) A public employee is liable for injury caused by their act or omission to the same extent as a private person. (Gov't Code § 820.) At all times herein, Defendants' staff, employees, administrators, and/or agents were acting within the course and scope of their employment with Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them. Defendants, and each of them, had the responsibility and duty to adequately and properly investigate, hire, retain, train, and supervise Jeremy Yeh and to protect students from harm caused by unfit and dangerous individuals hired as teachers. This action is brought under California Government Code §§ 815.2-815.6 and 820, et seq.
  - 28. Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, are responsible

for maintaining a safe school environment pursuant to California laws, statutes, and regulations

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30. The aforementioned laws, statutes, and regulations were adopted to impose non-delegable duties upon public schools, including their employees, to take all reasonable steps to protect students. These statutes were and are intended to afford minor students, like Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), protection from sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assault, and battery. Defendants negligently exposed Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) to the foreseeable danger of sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assault, and battery by Jeremy Yeh.

Defendants breached one or more of these mandatory duties, which is negligence per se.

- 31. Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, are also directly liable because they approved, aided and abetted, adopted, and ratified Jeremy Yeh's sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assault, and battery of Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.). After repeatedly being informed and/or becoming aware of Jeremy Yeh's sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assault, and battery of female students, Defendants took no action to take any remedial actions or to discipline him in any way. In fact, Defendants assured him he was the victim and that the students were the bad actors. Defendants also chose not to conduct an investigation. Through Defendants' failure to timely reprimand and sanction the acts referenced herein, and for all of the other reasons set forth in this Complaint including, without limitation, its failure to take the steps necessary to prevent the occurrence of such reprehensible acts the Defendants ratified said actions and, accordingly, are vicariously liable for the actions of Jeremy Yeh.
- 32. As a direct and proximate result of said acts, omissions, and negligence of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) sustained personal injuries and damages. As a direct and proximate result of their personal injuries, Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) have been generally damaged in a sum in excess of the jurisdictional limits of the Superior Court, Limited Jurisdiction.
  - 33. As a direct and proximate result of said acts, omissions, and negligence of

Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) have incurred economic and noneconomic damages and continue to and will continue to incur these damages into the future, the full nature and extent of which are not yet known to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), and leave is requested to amend this Complaint to conform to proof at the time of trial.

34. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) are entitled to prejudgment interest on said damages attributable to an ascertainable economic value pursuant to Civil Code § 3288. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) have lost prejudgment interest pursuant to Civil Code § 3291, the exact amount of which Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) pray leave to insert herein when finally ascertained and to conform to proof at trial.

### FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

#### **NEGLIGENCE**

## AGAINST DEFENDANTS SAN BRUNO PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT AND DOES 1 THROUGH 125, INCLUSIVE

- 35. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) reallege and incorporate as if fully stated herein each and every allegation contained in the previous paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 36. Defendants are liable for the acts and omissions of their employees acting within the course and scope of their employment. Gov. Code § 815.2. A public employee is liable for injury caused by their act or omission to the same extent as a private person. Gov. Code § 820. At all times herein, Defendants' employees, staff, and administrators were acting within the course and scope of their employment.
- 37. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) were entrusted to the care of the Defendants and their teachers *in loco parentis*. Defendants had a special relationship with students, like Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and had an affirmative and mandatory duty to protect children from the foreseeable risk of harm. Defendants owed its students, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), under

their supervision a protective duty of ordinary care. Due to this special relationship, there was an affirmative duty on the Defendants and their employees, agents, and administrators to take all reasonable steps to maintain supervision of its students, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), during any and all school-sponsored curriculum activities, and to protect its students, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), against the foreseeable risk of harm from teachers such as Jeremy Yeh. This affirmative duty is based, in part, on the compulsory nature of education and the compulsory nature of school-sponsored activities that are a part of the education curriculum.

- 38. Defendants breached additional mandatory duties and are liable for Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.)'s injuries and damages pursuant to, but not limited to, the following statutes: Govt. Code § 12950.1; Cal. Civ. Code § 51.9; Cal. Educ. Code §§ 200-262.4, 32880-32882.1, 35294.10-35294.15, 44807, 49000, 49001; and Cal. Code Regs. Title 5, §§ 4900-4965, 5530, 5531, 5551. The aforementioned laws, statutes, and regulations were adopted to impose non-delegable duties upon public schools, including their employees, to take all reasonable steps to protect students. These statutes were intended to afford minor students, like Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), protection from sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assault, and battery, both on and off-campus. Defendants negligently exposed Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) to the foreseeable danger of sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assault, and battery by Jeremy Yeh.
- 39. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) are informed and believe, and thereon allege that Defendants, and each of them, breached their duty of care owed to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) because they failed to adequately supervise and monitor Jeremy Yeh, failed to reasonably supervise and monitor Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) while they were under Defendants care and control at school, and failed to enforce those rules and regulations necessary for Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.)'s protection and thereby directly caused the injuries and damages to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) as described herein.

Defendants' negligence also created a reasonably foreseeable risk of the type of injuries Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) sustained.

- 40. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) are informed and believe, and thereon allege that Defendants, and each of them, had actual or constructive notice of Jeremy Yeh's prior incidents of sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assault, and battery for a sufficient and reasonable time such that Defendants could protect and should have protected Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) from the same.
- 41. Defendants failed to exercise reasonable care in supervising Jeremy Yeh and Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.). Jeremy Yeh engaged in various unlawful touching, sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assault, and battery of Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) throughout several school years. After Jeremy Yeh's inappropriate actions were observed by Defendants' employees, staff and/or administrators, Defendants failed to take appropriate action to ensure that Jeremy Yeh would not have further opportunities to sexually molest, abuse, harass, manipulate, assault, and batter Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and other minor students.
- 42. Had Defendants performed their duties and responsibilities to investigate, hire, retain, supervise, and monitor its staff, employees, and students, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), both minors would not have been subject to the sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assault, and battery inflicted upon them by Defendants and Jeremy Yeh. Defendants knew or should have known that their failure to properly supervise, control, oversee, monitor and/or retain Jeremy Yeh, particularly his interactions with Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), would result in serious harm and injury to them. Instead, Defendants allowed Jeremy Yeh to repeatedly isolate Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) so he could sexually molest, abuse, harass, manipulate, assault, and batter them.
- 43. Due to these acts and failures to act, Defendants, and each of them, are liable for the injuries and damages to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) under California Education Code, section 44807, and California Government Code, including, but not

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limited to, California Government Code, sections 815.2(a), 815.4, 815.6, 820(a), and/or 835.

44. As a legal, direct, and proximate result of these tortious acts and omissions by Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) were severely injured in their health, strength, and activity. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) have suffered, and continue to suffer, great pain of mind and body, shock, emotional distress, physical manifestations of emotional distress including embarrassment, loss of self-esteem, disgrace, humiliation, and loss of enjoyment of life, and/or have incurred and will continue to incur expenses for medical and psychological treatment, therapy, and counseling. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.)'s injuries include, but are not limited to, post-traumatic stress disorder, adjustment disorder with mixed anxiety and depression, social anxiety disorder, major depressive disorder with moderate anxious distress, disruptive mood dysregulation disorder and self-inflicting harm. As a direct and proximate result of said acts, omissions, and negligence of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) have incurred economic and noneconomic damages and continues to incur these damages, the full nature and extent of which are not yet known to Plaintiffs, and leave is requested to amend this Complaint to conform to proof at the time of trial.

### SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

#### **NEGLIGENT SUPERVISION**

# AGAINST DEFENDANTS SAN BRUNO PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT AND DOES 1 THROUGH 125, INCLUSIVE

- 45. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) reallege and incorporate as if fully stated herein each and every allegation contained in the previous paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 46. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) were entrusted to the care of Defendants and their employees, including their teachers, *in loco parentis*. Defendants owe students, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), under their supervision a protective duty of ordinary care. Given this special relationship, there is an affirmative duty on Defendants and their employees, agents, and independent contractors to take

all reasonable steps to protect students in their care, custody, and control, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), from the foreseeable risk of harm posed by teachers, including Jeremy Yeh.

- 47. Defendants owed Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) a duty to provide reasonable supervision of them both, as well as to provide reasonable supervision of Jeremy Yeh, and to provide adequate warning to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and to other students and their families of Jeremy Yeh's known dangerous propensities. Defendants further owed Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) a duty to protect them against the foreseeable risk of sexual assaults committed upon children by its teachers, such as Jeremy Yeh, during or arising out of school activities. Defendants further had a duty to enforce policies, procedures, rules, and regulations that were in place for student protection including the prevention of sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assault, and battery of Defendants' students, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.).
- 48. While Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) were students at Defendants' Allen Elementary School, Defendants failed to exercise reasonable care in supervising Jeremy Yeh while he was employed by Defendants, and Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) while they were attending school at Allen Elementary School. Defendants knew or should have known of Jeremy Yeh's inappropriate conduct with, and/or attempts to get close with, and/or to groom Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), and/or other minor students, prior to molesting, abusing, harassing, manipulating, assaulting, and battering them and should have exercised reasonable care in supervising Jeremy Yeh. Defendants also knew or should have known of Jeremy Yeh's particular interest in Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), including that Jeremy Yeh was showing special attention to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), playing "tickle time" with Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), and encouraging Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) to skip recess and spend time alone with him in his classroom. Despite this knowledge and having received prior reports of Jeremy Yeh's

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inappropriate behavior, Defendants failed to adequately supervise Jeremy Yeh, failed to investigate his inappropriate behaviors, and deliberately took no action to prevent his inappropriate behavior or to discipline him.

49. Defendants knew or should have known that Jeremy Yeh was unfit to serve as a elementary school teacher Defendant SBPSD's schools. Prior to Jeremy Yeh's sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assault, and battery of Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), Defendant SBPSD knew or should have known, at least as early as the 2016-2017 school year, of Jeremy Yeh's propensity and proclivity to sexually abuse Defendants' students, and that Defendants knew Jeremy Yeh posed a threat to the safety of Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and Defendants' other minor students, but took no steps to prevent Jeremy Yeh's abuse. During the 2016-2017 school year, while Jeremy Yeh taught a first/second grade combined class at El Crystal Elementary School, multiple ECES students told ECES administrators that Jeremy Yeh had pulled down a female student's pants while hugging her and looked down the pants of another female student. Upon receiving the student reports, Defendant SBPSD and ECES administrators covered up and concealed Jeremy Yeh's inappropriate and abhorrent conduct, failed to document, investigate, or respond to prevent further incidents of sexual misconduct of minor students, and failed to comply with their mandatory duties to report suspected and known abuse of children to law enforcement and child welfare agencies. Compounding Defendant SBPSD's inaction, an ECES administrator who received the reports "reassured [Jeremey Yeh] that he is not a victim, rather the child is troubled" and disciplined the reporting students for "spreading rumors." These actions amount to ratification of Jeremey Yeh's misconduct and thus aided and abetted Jeremey Yeh to continue to sexually molest, abuse, harass, manipulate, assault, and batter Defendants' students, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and, at least fifteen (15) other female students. Defendants knew of Jeremy Yeh's inappropriate conduct with, and/or attempts to get close to, and/or to groom Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and had a duty to exercise reasonable care in supervising Jeremey Yeh. At a minimum, Defendants had a duty to and should have prevented Jeremy Yeh from being alone with female students, including

Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.). Even after observing and having actual knowledge of Jeremy Yeh's inappropriate sexual conduct, Defendants failed to supervise Jeremy Yeh around Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and other students. Defendants also permitted Jeremy Yeh to be alone with Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), which gave Jeremy Yeh the opportunity to sexually molest, abuse, harass, manipulate, assault, and batter them.

- 50. Defendants knew and had reason to know that Jeremy Yeh could not be trusted to behave appropriately around female students and that he posed a known and/or foreseeable risk of harm to students, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.). Defendants knew and should have known of Jeremey Yeh's prior and continuing pedophiliac tendencies and propensities to engage in inappropriate conduct with and to molest, abuse, harass, manipulate, assault, and/or batter minor students, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.). Defendants lacked adequate safeguards to prevent Jeremy Yeh's sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, assaults, and battery of Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.). Defendants' supervisory policies, procedures, rules, and regulations did not adequately provide for safety, security, and protection of students, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.).
- 51. Defendants were negligent in supervising Jeremy Yeh without any significant investigation or knowledge that he was fit to act in a position of trust with respect to students at ECES and at Allen Elementary School. The failure to adequately supervise Jeremy Yeh as a teacher constituted a breach of Defendants' duties. Any training aimed at preventing, detecting, or deterring the sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assault, and battery of students by teachers or other school employees was inadequate. Had Defendants properly supervised Jeremy Yeh, and taken reasonable steps to prevent sexual misconduct, Jeremy Yeh would not have been permitted the opportunity or able to molest, abuse, harass, manipulate, assault, and batter Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.).
- 52. Defendants' failure to adequately supervise Jeremy Yeh and other staff, employees and/or agents, who knew or should have known of Jeremy Yeh's misconduct, resulted in further

failures including their failure to report Jeremy Yeh's inappropriate conduct, to investigate his inappropriate conduct, to adequately respond to the reports of Jeremy Yeh's inappropriate conduct, to prevent further incidents of Jeremy Yeh's inappropriate conduct, to prevent future harm of additional students, and/or to discipline Jeremey Yeh in response to his inappropriate conduct. Defendants knowingly placed Jeremy Yeh in a position of trust whereby he would act as an authority figure to students, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.). Defendants negligently failed to prevent pre-sexual grooming, sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assault, and battery of Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.). Defendants also failed to ensure that their students and employees, agents, and/or representatives were properly supervised and properly trained in policies that would have prevented the acts by Jeremy Yeh. Defendants also negligently failed to adequately implement or enforce any district-wide procedures or policies aimed at preventing, detecting, or deterring the sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assault, and/or battery of its students by teachers, chaperones, volunteers, or other school employees, which would have enabled proper supervision of Jeremy Yeh and prevented the harm inflicted upon Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) by Jeremy Yeh.

53. Had Defendants properly investigated, hired, retained, supervised, trained, and monitored Jeremy Yeh's conduct and actions as a teacher, they would have discovered that he was unfit to be around children. By failing to adequately supervise, monitor, or investigate, Defendants allowed Jeremy Yeh to continue, unhindered, with his predatory conduct directed toward elementary-aged students, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.). Had Defendants performed their duties in this respect, Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) would not have been subjected to the sexual abuse and other harmful conduct inflicted upon them. Defendants knew or should have known that their failure to properly supervise, control, oversee, and monitor Jeremy Yeh in his interactions with students, especially when one-on-one with students, would result in serious harm and injury to Defendants' students who were under their care and control, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.).

- 54. Defendants are therefore liable for the injuries proximately caused to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) for their breach of mandatory duties, pursuant to Government Code § 815.6. (See, e.g., Educ. Code § 44808; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 5, § 5552.). These negligent, careless, and reckless acts and omissions of Defendants were a substantial factor and a legal cause of the damages and injuries sustained by Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.). As a result of the negligence of Defendants, Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) were sexually molested, abused, harassed, manipulated, assaulted, battered, and otherwise harmed by Jeremy Yeh.
- 55. As a direct and proximate result of said acts, omissions, and negligence of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) have incurred economic and noneconomic damages and continue to incur these damages, the full nature and extent of which are not yet known to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), and leave is requested to amend this Complaint to conform to proof at the time of trial.

### THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

#### **NEGLIGENT HIRING**

# AGAINST DEFENDANTS SAN BRUNO PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT AND DOES 1 THROUGH 125, INCLUSIVE

- 56. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) reallege and incorporate as if fully stated herein each and every allegation contained in the previous paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 57. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) were entrusted to the care and control of Defendants and their teachers *in loco parentis*. This special relationship between Defendants and Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) gives rise to a duty on Defendants to take reasonable steps to protect their students. Defendants had a duty to protect children in their care, custody, and control, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), from the known and foreseeable risk of harm by Jeremy Yeh.
  - 58. By virtue of the special relationship between Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and

Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and Defendants, and each of them, Defendants owed Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) a duty not to hire and/or then retain Jeremy Yeh as a teacher at ECES and Allen Elementary School, given his dangerous and known propensities to sexually molest, abuse, harass, manipulate, assault, and batter students. Defendants had a duty to their students to take reasonable steps to investigate and to ensure that unfit individuals were and/or are not hired as teachers or school employees with access to children.

- 59. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that Defendants did not adequately or properly investigate Jeremy Yeh and/or did not conduct a suitable background check of Jeremy Yeh prior to hiring him and/or prior to the time Defendants allowed him to teach at ECES and Allen Elementary School. Had Defendants done so, Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) are informed and believe, and thereon allege, that Defendants would have learned of Jeremy Yeh's pedophilic tendencies and his history of inappropriate behavior around minors, and/or simply his unsuitability and unfitness to be employed by Defendants.
- 60. Defendants knew or should have known that Jeremy Yeh was unsuitable and unfit to be a teacher at any school with minor children and/or responsible for supervising children, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.). Defendants failed to conduct an adequate and proper background investigation of Jeremy Yeh prior to hiring him and/or allowing him to serve as a teacher at ECES and Allen Elementary School, which created a known and/or foreseeable risk of harm to Defendants' students, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), to whom Defendants owed a duty to protect.
- 61. Defendants were negligent in allowing Jeremy Yeh to serve as a teacher at ECES and Allen Elementary School and in allowing Jeremy Yeh to be placed in a position of trust and authority, and with access to children. Defendants therefore breached their duty of care by allowing Jeremy Yeh to serve as a teacher knowing he was a person who was unfit to be around children. The failure of Defendants to exercise reasonable care was a direct and proximate cause of the injuries and damages suffered by Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.).

62. As a direct and proximate result of said acts, omissions, and negligence of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) have incurred economic and noneconomic damages and continue to incur these damages, the full nature and extent of which are not yet known to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), and leave is requested to amend this Complaint to conform to proof at the time of trial.

### **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

#### **NEGLIGENT RETENTION**

# AGAINST DEFENDANTS SAN BRUNO PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT AND DOES 1 THROUGH 125, INCLUSIVE

- 63. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) reallege and incorporate as if fully stated herein each and every allegation contained in the previous paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 64. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) were entrusted to the care of Defendants and their teachers *in loco parentis*. This special relationship between Defendants and Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) gives rise to a duty on Defendants to take reasonable steps to protect their students. Defendants had a duty to protect children in their care, custody, and control, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), from the foreseeable risk of harm from teachers, aides, and/or school employees, including Jeremy Yeh.
- 65. Jeremy Yeh was unfit to serve as a teacher at any of Defendant SBPSD'S schools, including ECES and Allen Elementary School, where he would be in a position of authority around children, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.).
- 66. After Jeremy Yeh's inappropriate behavior at ECES and Allen Elementary School, and after Jeremy Yeh's inappropriate behavior was reported to school administrators, Defendants owed a duty to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) to investigate Jeremy Yeh, respond to reports of inappropriate conduct by Jeremy Yeh, and to take action to prevent further incidents of inappropriate conduct by Jeremy Yeh. Had Defendants performed any such

investigation, they would have learned of Jeremy Yeh's dangerous propensities and, at a minimum, should have prevented him from being alone with female students at ECES and Allen Elementary School, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.).

- 67. Over the course of his employment with Defendant SBPSD from 2016 through 2023, Jeremy Yeh repeatedly engaged in lewd sexual acts with minor students at ECES and Allen Elementary School, subjecting multiple victim students to ongoing sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulations, assault, and battery. To date, at least seventeen (17) female students were sexually molested, abused, harassed, manipulated, assaulted, and battered by Jeremy Yeh while he was employed by Defendants.
- 68. Administrators and other officials and employees of Defendants knew or should have known that Jeremy Yeh routinely engaged in grooming behaviors with Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and, at least fifteen (15) other female students, such as offering his classroom to them in the mornings and during recess to be alone with them. Administrators and other officials and employees of Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, knew or should have known that Jeremy Yeh encouraged Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) to spend time alone with him inside his classroom, which is a clear red flag and against Defendant SBPSD's own policies. Administrators and other officials and employees of Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, knew or should have known that Jeremy Yeh was contacting students outside of school via online gaming platforms and other applications. Administrators and other officials and employees of Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, knew or should have known that Jeremy Yeh engaged in a game with female students, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), called "tickle time" during which he would tickle the female students and while doing so, touch and grope their breasts, buttocks, pubic region, vulva, and genitalia. Administrators and other officials and employees of Defendants SBPSD and/or DOES 1 through 50, and each of them, knew or should have known that Jeremy Yeh awarded "points" to only female students, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), for completing random classroom activities, which when awarded allowed the female students to

- 69. Jeremy Yeh's grooming conduct towards Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) was open, obvious, and was known or should have been known to Defendants and their administrators and staff. Defendants knew or should have known that Jeremy Yeh posed a threat to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and other students, and that Jeremy Yeh sexually molested, abused, harassed, manipulated assaulted, and battered Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and other students, but nonetheless negligently failed to monitor and supervise Jeremy Yeh, or Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and other students to ensure their safety.
- 70. Defendants knew or should have known of Jeremy Yeh's sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assaults, and battery of Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) while they were under the control, supervision, and care of Defendants. Prior to his sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assaults, and battery of Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and, at least fifteen (15) other female students, Defendants' staff, employees, and administrators knew that Jeremy Yeh was sexually molesting, abusing, harassing, manipulating, assaulting, and battering Defendants' students, but they remained indifferent to it and negligently retained and negligently failed to supervise and monitor Jeremy Yeh as a teacher, and negligently failed to supervise students or take intervening action to ensure student safety. Defendants had a long-standing history and a pattern and practice of ignoring and/or mishandling reports of inappropriate sexual conduct and sexual abuse inflicted upon students by school staff members, and of failing to document, investigate, or adequately responding to reports alleging its employees engaged in sexual misconduct with students.
- 71. By continuing to allow Jeremy Yeh to serve as teacher at ECES and/or Allen Elementary School, despite having actual and/or constructive knowledge of his unfitness to remain in a position of authority over Defendants' students, Defendants knew or should have known of the risk of Jeremey Yeh grooming and isolating female students, Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), so he could sexually molest, abuse, harass, manipulate, assault, and batter them. Defendants' negligence was a direct and substantial factor in causing

Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.)'s harm. Defendants breached their duties to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) by retaining Jeremy Yeh. Defendants are liable for their failures to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) in retaining Jeremey Yeh as a teacher.

72. As a direct and proximate result of said acts, omissions, and negligence of Defendants, and each of them, Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) have incurred economic and noneconomic damages and continue to incur these damages, the full nature and extent of which are not yet known to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), and leave is requested to amend this Complaint to conform to proof at the time of trial.

### FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION

# FAILURE TO PERFORM MANDATORY DUTIES AGAINST DEFENDANTS SAN BRUNO PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT AND DOES 1 THROUGH 125, INCLUSIVE

- 73. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) reallege and incorporate as if fully stated herein each and every allegation contained in the previous paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 74. Defendants are liable for the acts and omissions of their employees, including Jeremy Yeh, acting within the course and scope of their employment. Gov. Code § 815.2. A public employee is liable for injury caused by their act or omission to the same extent as a private person. Gov. Code § 820. At all times herein, Defendants' employees, including Jeremy Yeh, were acting within the course and scope of their employment. Defendants, and each of them, had the responsibility and duty to adequately and properly investigate, hire, train, and supervise their employees and to protect students from harm caused by unfit and dangerous individuals hired as teachers, aides, and/or school employees. This cause of action is brought under Cal Gov't Code Sections 815.2-815.6 and 820, et seq.
- 75. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) were entrusted to the care and control of the Defendants through elementary school programs and their teachers and

staff *in loco parentis*. Defendants had a special relationship with their students, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), and had an affirmative and mandatory duty to protect minors from the foreseeable risk of harm from teachers. Defendants owed students under their supervision and control a protective duty of care. Due to this special relationship, there is an affirmative duty on the Defendants and their employees, agents, and independent contractors to take all reasonable steps to protect students, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), from the foreseeable, suspected, and/or known risk of harm posed by others, including Jeremy Yeh. This affirmative duty is based, in part, on the compulsory nature of education.

- 76. As to Defendants, Government Code § 815.6 provides: "Where a public entity is under a mandatory duty imposed by an enactment that is designed to protect against the risk of a particular kind of injury, the public entity is liable for an injury of that kind proximately caused by its failure to discharge the duty unless the public entity establishes that it exercised reasonable diligence to discharge the duty."
- 77. Defendants' employees, staff, and agents, including all agents working at ECES and Allen Elementary School during the schools' classroom hours, were under mandatory duties pursuant to the following enactments but failed to discharge their duties and failed to exercise reasonable diligence to discharge their duties: Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act (California Penal Code §§ 11164-11174.3). Under the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act (California Penal Code §§ 11164-11174.3), Defendants, by and through their employees and agents, were administrators, teachers, public school employees, and/or childcare providers, and were under a mandatory duty to report known or suspected incidents of sexual harassment or abuse of minors to a local police department, sheriff's department, or local child protective/welfare agency, pursuant to California Penal Code §§ 11164-11174.3, and/or not to impede the filing of any such report.
- 78. Defendants, by and through their employees and agents, as administrators, teachers, public school employees, and/or childcare providers, knew or should have known that Jeremy Yeh had sexually assaulted, abused, and/or harassed and/or caused harm and other

- injuries to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), giving rise to a duty to report such conduct under California Penal Code §§ 11164-11174.3. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that Defendants, by and through their employees and agents, as administrators, teachers, public school employees, and/or childcare providers, also knew, or should have known in the exercise of reasonable diligence, that an undue risk to minors, including Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.), existed because Defendants did not comply with California's mandatory reporting requirements.
- 79. By failing to report the continuing harassment and abuse, which Defendants, by and through their employees and agents, as administrators, teachers, public school employees, and/or childcare providers, knew or should have known, and by ignoring the fulfillment of the mandated compliance with the reporting requirements provided under California Penal Code §§ 11164-11174.3, Defendants created the risk and danger contemplated by the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act, and as a result, unreasonably and wrongfully exposed Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and other minors to sexual harassment and abuse.
- 80. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) were members of the class of persons for whose protection California Penal Code §§ 11164-11174.3 was specifically adopted to protect. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) were members of the class of persons that one reasonably anticipates might be threatened by Defendants', by and through their employees and agents, as administrators, teachers, public school employees, and/or childcare providers, failure to report child sexual abuse; and the harm suffered by Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) is within the general class of harms that one reasonably would anticipate might result from Defendants' failure to report child sexual abuse.
- 81. The acts, omissions, negligence and/or breach of mandatory duties of Defendants, by and through their employees and agents, as administrators, teachers, public school employees, and/or childcare providers, were a substantial factor in causing Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.)'s injuries, and the direct and proximate cause of the injuries and damages sustained by them. Defendants, by and through their employees and agents, as

administrators, teachers, public school employees, and/or childcare providers, did not make reasonable efforts or exercise reasonable diligence to perform its mandatory duties imposed under any statute, regulation, ordinance, code, or other applicable enactment. As a further, proximate result of the acts, omissions, negligence, and breach of mandatory duties by Defendants, by and through their employees and agents, as administrators, teachers, public school employees, and/or childcare providers, Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) have incurred the injuries and damages as set forth herein. Had Defendants, by and through their employees and agents, as administrators, teachers, public school employees, and/or childcare providers, adequately reported the abuse and harassment of Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and other minors as required by California Penal Code §§ 11164-11174.3, further harm to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) would have been avoided.

- 82. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants', by and through their employees and agents, as administrators, teachers, public school employees, and/or childcare providers, failure to follow the mandatory reporting requirements of California Penal Code §§ 11164-11174.3, Defendants wrongfully denied Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) the intervention of child protection services. Such public agencies would have changed the then-existing arrangements and conditions that provided the access and opportunities for the sexual molestation, abuse, and assault of Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) by Jeremey Yeh.
- 83. As a result, Defendants', by and through their employees and agents, as administrators, teachers, public school employees, and/or childcare providers, failure to comply with the mandatory reporting requirements of California Penal Code §§ 11164-11174.3 also constituted a *per se* breach of Defendants' mandatory duties to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.).
- 84. To the extent Defendants contend the mandatory duties placed duties on individual employees and not Defendants as a whole, Defendants are vicariously liable under Gov't Code \$815.2(a) for violations of the mandatory duties by Defendants' employees and agents, as administrators, teachers, public school employees, and/or childcare providers, acting within the

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course and scope of their employment with them. See Hoyem v. Manhattan Beach City School District (1978) 22 Cal.3d 508; Dailey v. Los Angeles Unified School District (1970) 2 Cal.3d 741. Government Code § 815.2(a) provides: "A public entity is liable for injury proximately caused by an act or omission of an employee of the public entity within the scope of his employment if the act or omission would, apart from this section, have given rise to a cause of action against that employee or his personal representative." Pursuant to Government Code § 820.8, a public employee is not exonerated from liability for injuries proximately caused by his or her own negligent or wrongful acts or omissions.

85. Defendants' employees and agents', as administrators, teachers, public school employees, and/or childcare providers, violations of their mandatory duties alleged in this Complaint make Defendants vicariously liable under Gov't Code § 815.2(a). The negligent failure to act by Defendants' employees and agents, as administrators, teachers, public school employees, and/or childcare providers, increased the danger of sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assault, and battery of Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.). Defendants are vicariously liable for four distinct reasons. Applying the multifactor analysis employed by California's Supreme Court in Thompson v. County of Alameda (1980) 27 Cal.3d 741 and by the California Court of Appeal in *Dutton v. City of Pacifica* (1995) 35 Cal.App.4th 1171 to evaluate public entity duty, the facts alleged herein establish that Defendants owed a tort duty of care to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.). It was foreseeable that Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.)'s sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assault, and battery would continue had Defendants' employees and agents, as administrators, teachers, public school employees, and/or childcare providers, not acted negligently for failing to report their sexual abuse. Such conduct constitutes deliberate indifference to the foreseeable results of such conduct. There is strong public and official policy devoted to preventing foreseeable risk of sexual abuse, especially sexual abuse of minors. Reporting Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.)'s sexual abuse imposed zero burdens on Defendants. The burden to do so was slight, while the risk of not doing so was significant. In balancing the relevant public policy considerations, there is no

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basis to forego imposing a legal duty on Defendants, by and through their employees and agents, as administrators, teachers, public school employees, and/or childcare providers, to do their mandatory job with respect to protecting minors from sexual abuse.

86. Further, as a result of the violations of the mandatory duties alleged in this Complaint, which were violated by Defendants' employees and agents, as administrators, teachers, public school employees, and/or childcare providers, acting within the course and scope of their employment, and in their professional capacity, with Defendants are vicariously liable under Gov't Code § 815.2(a) for their employees' negligence. See Hoyem v. Manhattan Beach City School District (1978) 22 Cal.3d 508; Dailey v. Los Angeles Unified School District (1970) 2 Cal.3d 741. Defendants have internal policies, procedures, and practices for when Defendants' employees and agents, as administrators, teachers, public school employees, and/or childcare providers, have obtained actual knowledge of sexual abuse of a minor such as Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.). Upon information and belief, Defendants' certificated employees and agents, upon hiring, must complete specific training on their mandatory reporting duties and thereafter must sign a document acknowledging that they will comply with their mandatory duties. Further, Defendants' certificated employees and agents, must complete specific training on their mandatory reporting duties on a yearly basis. Upon information and belief, these trainings are also required by State agencies. Defendants' employees and agents, as administrators, teachers, public school employees, and/or childcare providers, despite having actual knowledge of Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.)'s sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assault, and battery, failed to comply with these internal and/or State policies, procedures, and practices, by failing to report and/or document said sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assault, and battery. The direct and proximate cause of Defendants' employees and agents', as administrators, teachers, public school employees, and/or childcare providers, failures to comply with these internal policies procedures and practices ultimately led to Plaintiffs' continued sexual molestation, abuse, harassment, manipulation, assault, and battery. Defendants, by and through their employees and agents, as administrators, teachers, public school employees, and/or childcare providers, are

COMPLAINT FOR PERSONAL INJURIES AND DAMAGES: DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

### EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION

# VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA EDUCATION CODE §§ 200 ET SEQ. AGAINST DEFENDANTS SAN BRUNO PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT AND DOES 1 THROUGH 125, INCLUSIVE

- 98. Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) reallege and incorporate as if fully stated herein each and every allegation contained in the previous paragraphs of this Complaint.
- 99. California Education Code Section 200 *et seq.* provides for a private right of action for intentional discrimination on the basis of sex, which includes sexual harassment.
- 100. Section 220 of the Education Code Provides: "[n]o person shall be subjected to discrimination on the basis of . . . gender . . . in any program or activity conducted by an educational institution that receives, or benefits from, state financial assistance or enrolls pupils who receive state student financial aid."
- 101. The California legislature specifically declared its intent that an action under the Education Code shall be interpreted as consistent with Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 USC 1681, et seq. (Cal. Ed. Code § 201(g).) A plaintiff may maintain an action for monetary damages against a school district when the plaintiff alleges that she suffered severe, pervasive and offensive harassment that effectively deprived the plaintiff of the right of equal access to educational benefits and opportunities; the school had actual knowledge of the harassment; and the school responded with deliberate indifference. (Donovan v. Poway Unified School Dist. (2008) 167 Cal.App.4th 567, 603-09.).
- 102. The California legislature recognized that all pupils enrolled in the state public schools have the inalienable right to attend classes on school campuses that are safe, secure, and peaceful. (Cal. Ed. Code § 32261 (a); Cal. Const., art. I, § 28(c).).
- 103. Defendants SBPSD and DOES 1 through 125, inclusive, knew Jeremy Yeh was previously reported by his students to have sexually molested them, but nonetheless permitted Jeremy Yeh to have unsupervised access to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) for extended periods of time during which Jeremy Yeh sexually battered, assaulted,

molested, and harassed Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) during school hours on ECES and Allen Elementary School Campus'.

- 104. This type of sexual harassment is actionable because it is based on Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.)'s gender and was so severe and pervasive that it had detrimental effect on Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.)'s mental health and caused substantial interference with their ability to participate in or benefit from the educational programs, opportunities, and benefits owed to them.
- 105. Jeremy Yeh's sexual battery, assault, molestation, and harassment of Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) occurred on ECES campus and Allen Elementary School Campus during the time periods designated as educational hours for Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.). Defendants permitted Jeremy Yeh to have unsupervised access to Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) for extended periods of time during which Jeremy Yeh repeatedly sexually abused Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) and Defendants did not intervene.
- 106. On information and belief, Defendants SBPSD and DOES 1 through 125, inclusive, had actual knowledge of this ongoing harassment but failed to act to stop it. The failure to half harassment of which a school district is aware constitutes intentional discrimination. (*Franklin v. Gwinnet County Public Schools* (1992) 502 U.S. 112.).
- 107. Defendants' responsibility to address and respond to sexual harassment applies regardless of the potential application of any harassment prevention policy and regardless of whether a student has complained, asked the school to take action, or identified the harassment as a form of discrimination. (See U.S. Dept. of Education, Office for Civil Rights, Dear Colleagues Letter, Oct. 26, 2010.).
- 108. Defendants SBPSD and DOES 1 through 125, inclusive, failed in its responsibility to provide Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) an environment free from discrimination and harassment and Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) suffered severe psychological trauma as a result.
  - 109. Defendants SBPSD and DOES 1 through 125, inclusive, had control over Jeremy

4. For attorney fees and/or penalties pursuant to statute;

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| 1                               | 5.                           | 5. For costs of suit herein incurred;   |   |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---|---|
| 2                               | 6.                           | 6. For interest based on damages, as well as pre-judgement and post-judgement interest as |   |
| 3                               |                              | allowed by law;   |   |
| 4                               | 7.                           | 7. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.               |   |
| 5                               | <b>DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL</b> |   |   |
| 6                               |                              | Plaintiff JANE DOE (J.R.) and Plaintiff JANE DOE (K.M.) demand a trial by jury.           |   |
| 7                               |                              |   |   |
| 8                               | Dated:                       | I: March 3, 2025  | LO LAW, P.C.                                    |
| 9                               |                              |   | $M_{u}/uZ$                                      |
| 10                              |                              | Re  | OBERT W. THOMPSON, ESQ. ttorneys for Plaintiffs |
| 11                              |                              |   | nd  |
| 12                              |                              |   | ATTERMOLE LAW GROUP                             |
| 13                              |                              | M   | ASON M. MARTINEZ, ESQ. ttorney for Plaintiffs   |
| 14                              |                              | 11  | notiney for Figure 11.                          |
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