

Statement of Hail Ketchum regarding settlement with  
Newport-Mesa Unified School District and Corona del Mar High School

Sept. 9, 2009

I am very happy to know that, because of the trainings and oversight directed at Corona del Mar High School, no one else will have to go through what I went through last year. School principals and vice principals should offer protection to all students regardless of their gender or sexual orientation. Threats against women students along with hate speech against gay or lesbian students should not be tolerated under any circumstances. I hope that the new principal will take this responsibility seriously. I also hope that Superintendent Hubbard, Vice Superintendent Hinman and the Newport Mesa Unified School District board will educate themselves on their obligations and responsibilities under the education code and show that they care about the welfare of all their students. Additionally, I hope that other students at CdM will learn from my experiences that it is possible to stand up for what is right and to prevail.