

Chapter Talking Points

August 23, 2021

Info for chapter leaders

Hold A Chapter Meeting To Help Identify Bargaining Goals

- This week, we should start full force to hold chapter meetings to identify bargaining goals. As we prepare for full contract negotiations to begin in the second half of the year – where we can bring forward any issues that we are collectively willing to fight for – UTLA is implementing a systematic process to seek deep member input in the development of the union’s bargaining platform. This is a 3 step process:
 1. Chapter leaders will lead meetings in every chapter to involve all members in discussions to identify the issues that we should fight for in our contract campaign. Identified issues will be reported back by chapter leaders through an online report form.
 2. The UTLA Board of Directors will analyze the issues identified, with an emphasis on root causes, and develop a draft bargaining platform to present to chapter leaders for additional review and input.
 3. The bargaining platform will be reviewed with members before it is put to a vote of all 34,000 UTLA members as the union’s bargaining goals, from which the UTLA bargaining team will develop more detailed proposals.

All of this will happen BEFORE we begin negotiations with LAUSD – so that we enter those negotiations united and organized behind our collectively identified demands.

Here are all the materials you will need to facilitate chapter discussions to identify important issues:

- A [PowerPoint presentation](#) on LAUSD funding and the UTLA bargaining platform development process that you can use to help get the meeting started. There are some sample talking points in the notes section that you can use. There is also a [PDF version](#) that can be printed to make it easier to have the notes at hand.

- Members should discuss [these 6 questions](#) in your chapter meeting.
- The [report back link](#) – for Chapter Chairs to report back on issues identified in the chapter discussion.

[Power Point Presentation \(will download\)](#)

[Presentation as PDF](#)

[Discussion Guide](#)[Online Report Back link](#)

Send in the Notice of Chapter Chair Election

- If you were the 2020-2021 Chapter Chair for your school or chapter, intend to continue as the chapter chair for the 2021-2022 school year, and are uncontested, you must submit a [Notice of Chapter Chair Election](#). There is no automatic extension of your assignment as chapter chair - you are required to submit the form via email to Princess Sykes at psykes@utla.net. You were informed by email if you have a contested or uncontested election.

If you are not intending to run, and no one from your chapter self nominated in the nomination window, please share this announcement with others at your site so that a chapter chair can represent your school. It is important that we receive this form as soon as possible to complete the election process for your chapter and officially record the name of the 2021-2022 Chapter Chair.

[Notice of Chapter Chair Elections](#)

Talking points for chapter meetings

School safety first

- Enforceable safety protocols should be in place at every school and worksite, including a COVID-19 Task Force, per our agreement with LAUSD for the return to traditional instruction for the 2021-2022 school year. Refer to the Sideletter and other documentation linked below and visit our [FAQ web page](#) for additional information. It is important that you report any violations or irregularities of these protocols to your Chapter Chair or representative on the COVID-19 Task Force so they can be quickly addressed.

- UTLA leaders are meeting with the district, pushing for necessary changes in the online academy. UTLA is also calling on the district to increase outreach, vaccination clinics, and testing in communities with low vaccination rates and high transmission rates.

[Sideletter on Return to Traditional Instruction for 2021-2022](#)
[FAQs on safety protocols, vaccination, quarantine and more](#)
[LAUSD Guidance on vaccine requirement](#)

Fighting the voucher scheme with a massive ad campaign

- Last week, UTLA launched a massive digital ad campaign that will continue until the LAUSD School Board votes on the Student Centered Funding proposal. The ad-buy will be featured on multiple digital platforms to educate our school communities about the nefarious impact that this change will have on our schools, if passed. The ad highlights the direct connection between the Board of Education’s move and the private money and billionaires involved with making this push, including former Education Secretary and multi-billionaire Betsy DeVos.

[Press release](#)
[Digital ad](#)

No on Recall

- The recall of Governor Gavin Newsom is a sneak attack on our jobs, wages, benefits and union. We can’t afford to allow wealthy anti-union special interests to seize control of California. The recall risks undermining the values we share as Californians and dramatically weakening our shared commitment to creating opportunity for all working people and families.
- Members are welcome to join the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor in calling fellow union members across the state and urging them to vote “No” on the recall. The phone banks will be done using your mobile phone through Zoom, so you can help get out our union message without leaving home!

Click [here](#) to volunteer

UTLA calendar

Aug 25: Board of Directors meeting

Sept. 9: Area meetings

Sept. 23: House of Representatives meeting