

Chapter Talking Points

May 9, 2022

Info for chapter leaders

Note for next week: Special UTLA Area meeting on May 18

This month's course of action to launch the Beyond Recovery Contract Campaign

At the Area Meetings held on April 27, we discussed 4 things we must do in the next month in order to launch our Beyond Recovery Contract campaign on a solid foundation – Campaign in School Board District 2, confirm Chapter Chairs, start parent outreach and sign up non-members.

1. Recruiting members to phone bank and canvas for Rocío Rivas in School Board District 2

If every chapter recruits 3 members to do phone banking and 3 members to canvas we will have enough conversations to win.

UTLA members can **sign up here at** <https://www.mobilize.us/utla> to phonebank from home any Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, and to join canvassing any Saturday or Sunday through June 5.

Here is a copy of the **presentation on this campaign** that we used at the area meeting, which may help you in meetings with your coworkers. <https://vision.utla.net/s/BD2-Presentation-Spring-2022.pptx>

2. Confirming Chapter Chairs in every UTLA Chapter for 2022-23

Uncontested nominees have been notified via email that they must submit

the **NOCCE** (Notice of Chapter Chair Election) form (which can include up to 3 Vice Chairs for chapters with over 80 members, and 2 Vice Chairs for all other chapters).

For contested Chapter Chairs (more than one self-nomination form submitted), the UTLA Chapter Chair Election Rules and process were sent to the current Chapter Chairs.

For unfilled Chapter Chair positions, the first person who submits the NOCCE form after April 8 will be the chapter leader.

3. Parent Outreach on the Beyond Recovery contract campaign: Leafleting any day in the week of May 9

In the build-up to our 2019 strike parents, students, and UTLA educators built the most powerful movement in public education that this city and this state had seen in decades. We know that our strike victories would never have happened without the support of parents and students. And we know that we would not have gotten that support if UTLA members had not actively reached out: leafleting, holding parent meetings, making phone calls, and more. We can do it again.

With the increase in state and federal funding being temporary, we have to move now to build that parent and community support.

There are two things we can do this month to start a dialogue with parents in every school: parent leafleting and parent chapter meetings.

PARENT LEAFLETING ANY DAY IN THE WEEK OF MAY 9

Leaflets were distributed at pickups last week for morning or afternoon leafleting to parents at your school site any day in the week of May 9. You can also find the flyer [here](#).

The leaflet highlights the core issues of our Beyond Recovery Platform as an introduction to parents.

If you are able to have a good conversation, you should get that parent's contact info so we can start our list building. We will provide a contact sheet and there will also be a QR code on the leaflet that they can scan with their smartphone to get to an online contact sheet.

PARENT_CHAPTER_MEETING

The leafleting is the start of our dialogue with parents. We will build on that with parent meetings at each chapter for deeper discussion and to build connections with parents that will be ongoing and two-way, as we did in the last contract campaign.

The meeting this month can be small or it can be large. Even a small meeting of parents can get the movement started at your school. You can work with your Chapter Action Team and other members at your school to reach out to parents that they have relationships with. If you have relationships with the PTA or other parent formations, you can reach out to them. You can hold it face to face or on Zoom.

Here is a presentation you can use to help with the discussion of the Beyond Recovery Platform <https://vision.utla.net/s/Parent-Meeting-Presentation-Beyond-Recovery-Spring-2022.pptx>

The presentation provided here can help but what is most important is for you and your colleagues to have a discussion with parents, so you should be sure to make the meeting your own.

The presentation has a link to a google form where parents can provide their contact info. The form sends their contact information to the UTLA data team so we can build a citywide list, but we will send the list for your chapter back out to you so you have it, which is most important. We may also send parents district-wide updates, and as we are doing our parent organizing as a coalition with Reclaim Our Schools Los Angeles, they will also get information from the coalition and be able to plug into citywide coalition work.

Again, the most important relationships are the ones you build at your chapter, so your follow-up with parents later in the campaign with updates and for more dialogue will be critical. This list building will help us all do that.

It will be important to report back when you have the meeting at this link: <https://vision.utla.net/pmreport>

4. Signing up all non-members in every chapter

Updated chapter rosters have been emailed to every chapter email so that Chapter Chairs can download and print them. Non-members are in red.

You can **provide non-members with this link** to the membership application: <https://bitly.com/3vmXIVx>

You can **use these talking points** to help you with the conversation

We face both crisis and opportunity. The teacher shortage and desperate needs of educators are getting more attention in the media. There is support for major improvements, and we benefit from the strength that we built as a union in our last contract campaign and strike. LAUSD has received billions of dollars in new federal and state funding and is projected to close the year with unrestricted reserves in excess of \$3 billion. There is money for our demands. At the same time, we face an LAUSD that is already proposing the underfunding of our healthcare fund — which will lead to cost increases in the coming years if we don't fight back.

As the school year moves towards a close, taking the 4 steps above is critical to our success as our contract campaign moves forward.

Save the Date: UTLA 2022 Leadership Conference, August 5 - 7

- The 2022 Leadership Conference will be held in-person August 5 through 7 at the Bonaventure Hotel in downtown Los Angeles. Please save the date and plan to attend this important event. If you haven't sent your Notice of **Chapter Chair Election**, send it in as soon as possible so you can be eligible to attend the Leadership Conference.

Talking points for chapter meetings

Healthcare: Unions demand multi-year agreement with increased investment; LAUSD sticks to funding freeze

- In response to the district's proposal to freeze healthcare funding at 2017 rates, the eight LAUSD employee unions presented a counterproposal this week for a multi-year healthcare agreement with increased funding.
- With the cost of healthcare going up every year, **LAUSD's freeze would mean that there would not be enough money to maintain current healthcare plans without monthly premiums from employees or cuts to healthcare coverage.**
- During the negotiation session, district officials gave lip service to the critical importance of recruiting and attracting staff and said they want to be the "employer of choice," yet they refuse to acknowledge how important sustainable health care is to employees or give a rationale for their attempt to underfund employee coverage.
- Because the LAUSD School Board votes on employee healthcare, **the stakes just went up higher in the School Board races on June 7.** All UTLA members, whether you live in Board District 2 or not, need to help elect an ally — Dr. Rocío Rivas — to the board.

- The next negotiation session on healthcare is May 11.

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LAUSD SCHOOL BOARD PRIMARY JUNE 7

Voting under way for School Board

- With at-home ballots dropping now, it is crucial we have all hands on deck to help elect Dr. Rocío Rivas to LAUSD School Board.
- With LAUSD refusing to fully fund our healthcare, we need pro-educator School Board members we can count on.
- **Early voters could make all the difference in this campaign, and they need to hear directly from educators about who we think is the best choice for School Board. Voters listen to educators.**

Phone Banking

Via Zoom

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays 4 - 8 pm

Neighborhood Canvassing

In person every weekend

Saturday 10 am - 2pm

Sunday 11 am - 3 pm

[Sign Up to Phone Bank](#)

[Sign Up to Canvass](#)

Beyond Recovery campaign: Parent leafleting & negotiations next week

- The fight to take our schools Beyond Recovery enters a new phase this week, **when negotiations with LAUSD officials begin on May 12** and UTLA **educators leaflet parents** and meet with families to connect on our contract demands.
- **Our proposals will put LAUSD’s historic reserves where educators, parents, and community members know they need to go:** a significant salary increase for educators, lower class sizes and caseloads, increases in staffing and student supports, and addressing community issues that affect education.
- The complete package of proposals — developed from the Beyond Recovery Platform that was approved by a 96% yes vote of members — will be posted next week.
- **The new, expanded UTLA Bargaining Team of 80-plus members will be at the table with LAUSD.** The expanded Bargaining Team creates a direct line of communication between Chapter leaders and the Bargaining Team and builds a team representative of UTLA members’ diverse job specialties and grade levels.

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LA educators’ picks for the June 7 ballot

The UTLA House of Representatives — the largest policy-making body of our union — voted overwhelmingly to endorse the following candidates in the June 2022 primary.

Ballots began dropping last Friday — VOTE ASAP

- **Dr. Rocío Rivas** for LAUSD Board of Education Member for District 2
- **Kelly Gonez** for LAUSD Board of Education Member for District 6
- **Greg Good** for Los Angeles City Council in District 11
- **Hugo Soto-Martinez** for Los Angeles City Council in District 13
- **Danielle Sandoval** for Los Angeles City Council in District 15
- **Henry Stern** for Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors in District 3
- **Karen Bass** for Los Angeles Mayor

Check out additional endorsements from our state affiliates:

- [CFT Voter Guide](#)
- [CTA Voter Guide](#)

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UTLA calendar

May 11: Board of Directors meeting

May 12: Contract negotiations begin with LAUSD

May 18: Emergency Area meetings

June 1: House of Representatives meeting

Other union meetings and events

May 9: Stonewall Scholarship deadline to submit entries - [Flyer](#)

May 16: UTLA/NEA SCC meeting

May 21: UTLA Virtual Retirement Celebration