

# Chapter Talking Points

*May 16, 2022*

## Info for chapter leaders

### Area meeting this Wednesday

Plan to attend the Area meeting this Wednesday, May 18. We will discuss our bargaining proposals that were presented by the expanded Bargaining Team on May 12 and our immediate work to build our contract campaign, including parent outreach, chapter organizing and our campaign to win in School Board District 2. Be sure to attend or have someone representing your site.

Registration links are [here](#).

---

### Course of action to launch Beyond Recovery Contract Campaign

At the Area Meetings held on April 27, we discussed 4 things we must do 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**

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 & CHAPTER MEETING**

If your site was not able to leaflet parents last week, plan to do so this week. You can 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.

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:**

- **ENGLISH VERSION:** <https://vision.utla.net/s/Parent-Meeting-Presentation-Beyond-Recovery-Spring-2022.pptx>
- **NOW ALSO IN SPANISH:** Click [here](#)

**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.**

---

## **New Chapter Chair Orientation**

**Wednesday, June 1, 4:30 PM**

The UTLA New Chapter Chair Orientation will provide new chapter chairs with a brief overview of important roles, responsibilities, and support systems for UTLA Chapter Chairs, including key sections of the contract, the basics of representation, how to organize your chapter, the important role of the chapter chair in the overall UTLA structure and more. This orientation is provided as a bridge to give new Chapter Chairs what they will need until going through the more in-depth Chapter Chair trainings provided at the Leadership Conference and through out the year.

**Register in advance for this meeting:**

[https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcvcO-tqj8tGN3\\_ddk9kKojRzh-XG-9TPDJ](https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcvcO-tqj8tGN3_ddk9kKojRzh-XG-9TPDJ)

---

## **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**

---

### **Calling out hate crimes and racialized terror**

Our communities continue to reel from the gun violence in Orange County and in Buffalo, which was one of the most deadly racist massacres in our nation's recent history.

Across Los Angeles, in classrooms and workplaces, educators and students are grappling together with the hate crimes and racialized terror that communities across the country face. As educators, we must commit to dismantling and disrupting all systems of oppression, and we must resist the normalizing of these violent attacks.

As we continue to make space for our students to process these events, we must create space for each other as colleagues. This is a time to check in with each other, to reach across the hallway, to bond no matter what background we come from.

We call out all elected leaders and other forces who have enabled white nationalism and a new generation of people radicalized by racist screeds and disinformation.

We uplift the community of Orange County. We uplift the community of East Buffalo, who, in the midst of their grief, marched through the streets on Sunday to call out the hypocrisy of paying attention to their community only after an unspeakable act of violence. The community has suffered racism and segregation for decades that have impacted their education, job opportunities, housing, and even life expectancy.

There is no path forward that does not center these communities' pain and their voice.

---

## **UTLA members lay out ground-breaking demands for Beyond Recovery contract campaign**

Three years after the historic UTLA strike in 2019 where educators marched with parents and the community in the streets of LA, we have officially launched our new contract campaign with parent leafleting at school sites and the official start of negotiations.

**Last week, the expanded UTLA Bargaining Team of 80-plus UTLA members presented our ground-breaking package of demands to the district.** The proposals were shaped from the Beyond Recovery platform endorsed by a 96% Yes vote of UTLA members.

This is UTLA's most ambitious bargaining platform to date, built to meet the needs of students, educators, and communities beyond recovery.

The demands include:

- 20% salary increase over two years so the district can find educators willing to work in the most expensive city in the country
- universal class-size reduction across grades and school types to offer students more personalized instruction
- Improved services for Special Education including enforceable class size caps and caseload caps.
- increased staffing and reduced caseloads for counselors, PSAs, PSWs, and school psychologists to meet the social-emotional needs of students
- tangible commitments from the district to help address food and housing insecurity and environmental issues that impact LAUSD families and students' readiness to learn, including greater access to Section 8 housing
- Increase in arts educators, physical education and programs serving the whole child.
- competitive salaries for school nurses so LAUSD can provide a nurse in every school 5 days per week
- more power for local school leadership councils over budget, professional development, and other local school decisions.
- expansion of Community Schools and the BSAP initiative

Read the [summary of proposals](#) and the [full package](#)

---

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

- All eight LAUSD employee unions met with the district last Wednesday for ongoing healthcare negotiations. The district did not present a good-faith counteroffer to our proposal for a multiyear agreement with the funding necessary to maintain high-quality healthcare. Instead, the district stuck to their original offer of freezing healthcare funding at 2017 levels.
- In place of a commitment to adequately fund our current healthcare, the district suggested a list of cuts, such as higher co-pays, higher deductibles, changes to dependent coverage, and increasing the years of service and age required to qualify for retiree health benefits

- District officials claim they want to be the “employer of choice” in the region, yet they refuse to acknowledge how important decent healthcare is to recruiting and attracting the staff our students need in our schools and worksites.
  - All eight unions stand in solidarity. We will present a unified front at the next LAUSD School Board meeting to demand that our healthcare be fully funded and that the health and well-being of employees and families be prioritized.
- 

## LAUSD SCHOOL BOARD PRIMARY JUNE 7

### **3 weeks to lift up the vote for Rocio!**

- Polls consistently show that voters overwhelmingly trust educators. When a voter hears you are an educator, they are ready to listen because they value you and the work you do in public schools.
- We need to have more conversations with voters to win an ally on the LAUSD School Board: Dr. Rocío Rivas.
- Encourage your chapter to sign up for a chapter canvassing day between now and June 5.

**ALSO: Vote today— don’t delay! Last day to vote is June 7.** Registered voters should have already received their ballots in the mail.

#### **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](#)

---

## 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](#)
- 

## UTLA calendar

**May 18:** Emergency Area meetings

**June 1:** House of Representatives meeting

### Other union meetings and events

**May 16:** UTLA/NEA SCC meeting

**May 19:** Rainbow Social organized by the UTLA Equity Team — registration [here](#)

**May 21:** UTLA Virtual Retirement Celebration