

# Chapter Talking Points

May 23, 2022

## Info for chapter leaders

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

These are the 4 most critical things to do in the coming days to launch our Beyond Recovery Contract campaign on a solid foundation.

#### **1. Recruit 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. Confirm 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. Encourage all members to take the Educator Shortage Survey**

The new UTLA Educator Shortage Survey launched this week. The survey takes less than 5 minutes to complete.

We need every member's feedback — a huge response is critical as we organize to win a 20% salary increase, better working and learning conditions, and other measures that will address the severe staffing crisis in public schools.

If a member did not receive the survey, share this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/S2RFQNY>

### **4. Build your school's Chapter Action Team**

Winning our Beyond Recovery contract demands is possible only if every single UTLA chapter is well organized, active, and ready for the fight. A Chapter Action Team — CAT, for short — is a team of member leaders at the school site who take responsibility for working with 10 members.

With the new communication structure around bargaining — where chapter leaders get updates after every session from your cluster leader — you need a team to get that info back to members. Your Chapter Action Team will help make sure that every member in your chapter understands what is happening at the bargaining table and ensure that member is part of our campaign of escalating actions to pressure the district to agree to our demands.

CAT recruitment best practices were discussed at the May Area meeting. You can also reach out to your Area rep for guidance.

CAT Recruitment Form to ID

members: [https://www.utla.net/sites/default/files/catformfillable\\_202122\\_final\\_2022.pdf](https://www.utla.net/sites/default/files/catformfillable_202122_final_2022.pdf)

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## Registration open for 2022 Leadership Conference

After two years, we will be back together for an in-person UTLA Leadership Conference from Friday, August 5, through Sunday, August 7, at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel in downtown LA.

Every Chapter Chair should be part of this conference — this is how we get organized and ready for the fight. The conference will cover:

- the educator shortage crisis and the details of our contract proposals to address the root causes, including low pay and lack of support and resources for educators, students, and families.
- our campaign in the context of the nationwide upsurge in worker organizing and labor movement victories, inside and outside of education
- our action plan for the new school year to leverage our power to win our contract demands.

**Register ASAP to save your space: [UTLA Leadership Conference registration](#)**

Questions can be emailed to [leadershipconference@utla.net](mailto:leadershipconference@utla.net). COVID safety protocols will be followed and can be found on the registration website.

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## 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)

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## **Talking points for chapter meetings**

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### **Final weeks to lift up the vote for Rocío!**

- Mail-in ballots have arrived. Voting has begun. The time is NOW to sign up to dial or door knock for our candidate for School Board District 2, Dr. Rocío Rivas.
  - Rocío recognizes the severe educator shortage, and she supports educator pay raises and quality healthcare coverage.
  - Rocío will fight with us to stop school closures and protect neighborhood schools.
  - Rocío supports our Beyond Recovery platform.
  
- Victory depends on educators making personal contact with voters. Sign up today to campaign for Dr. Rocío Rivas.
  
- Door knocking is more fun in a group. Encourage your chapter to sign up for a chapter canvassing day between now and June 5.
  
- ALSO: Vote today — don't delay! The 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 - 2 pm

Sunday 11 am - 3 pm

[Sign Up to Phone Bank](#)

[Sign Up to Canvass](#)

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## **Contract campaign update: UTLA rejects extended school year**

- Last Thursday, the expanded UTLA Bargaining Team met with LAUSD and answered their questions about seven of the 23 articles in our package of proposals. We provided responses and explained the need for each of the proposals discussed. LAUSD has not yet provided a response to our proposals.
- The UTLA Bargaining Team also made a [formal proposal rejecting the district's extended school year](#) idea. Our proposal on the calendar does not include a longer year, does not include any "Accelerated Days," and protects our Thanksgiving, Winter, and Spring Breaks. The district did not respond to the proposal yet.
- **From Bargaining Team Member Beth Clark, Westminster MTES ES:** "We are all exhausted and traumatized from the last two years. We see it in educators, our students, and our families. So many of our students have suffered COVID trauma in their families; some have had to say goodbye over Zoom or behind glass. LAUSD should invest money in supporting their mental well-being, not laying on more work."

These extra days will do nothing to improve academics. Our concrete proposals will do that and more.”

- Special Education teachers provided an in-depth review of our proposals to improve the working and learning conditions in Special Education. We described in great detail our proposals to provide more time for IEPs, implement enforceable class size and caseload caps, protect baseline assistants from reassignment, ensure the necessary supports for educators and students in expanded inclusion schools, and more.
- **From Bargaining Team Member Debby Schneider Solis, Arminta ES:** “As a special education teacher, I think it is important for LAUSD to hear directly from those of us who have been struggling under the severe underfunding of our program. We told them clearly that LAUSD has to do better for special education teachers and students. All students have individual needs. Our proposals ensure that teachers will be given the tools and supports they need for students to succeed inside and outside of the classroom and not to be excluded because of those needs.”
- We are scheduled to meet with the district once a week for the next two weeks. Our next bargaining session is Thursday, May 26. Proposals are posted on [utla.net](https://utla.net) under Current Bargaining.

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## UTLA calendar

**June 1:** House of Representatives meeting

**June 1:** New Chapter Chair orientation

**August 5-7:** UTLA Leadership Conference