

Chapter Talking Points

September 27, 2021

Info for chapter leaders

Chapter Issue ID deadline extended to October 22

1. **Our full contract with LAUSD expires in June 2022 and we need to be ready for negotiations well before then.**

It is crucial that every chapter meet to involve all members in identifying the issues that we should fight for in our full contract campaign using this [Discussion Guide](#)

Identified issues must be reported back by chapter leaders through this online report form by October 22 so that they can be considered as the BOD develops the draft bargaining platform that will be presented to members for approval later in the year. [Online Report Back link](#)

Here is 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.

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

[Presentation as PDF](#)

[Discussion Guide](#)

[Online Report Back link](#)

2. **Get your chapter organized and ready – Recruit your Chapter Action Team (CAT) by the next Area Meeting on October 20.**

Chapter Action Teams (CATs) are committees of member leaders in each school / chapter who work with the Chapter Chair to make sure that every member is

engaged in the union. CAT leaders take responsibility for communicating consistently with about 10 members in order to build a strong union chapter that can hold principals accountable at the school site and contribute to holding the District accountable through Area and Union wide struggles like the contract campaign and the fight against the “Student Centered Funding” voucher scheme.

Here is a link to the [CAT recruitment training](#) that was presented to Chapter Leaders at the Area Meeting that you can review as you think about who you will recruit and how you will approach them.

Submit the names of those who have committed to join the CAT at your school/chapter to the UTLA office on this form https://www.utla.net/sites/default/files/catformfillable_202122_final.pdf

TA presentation from citywide meeting

- On Monday, Chapter Chairs attended a citywide meeting to discuss details of the Tentative Agreement reached last week in reopener bargaining and the upcoming ratification vote. To facilitate discussions with members, attached is the meeting presentation.

[Tentative Agreement presentation](#)

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.

Talking points for chapter meetings

Agreement reached on extended safety protocols and 5% pay raise

- UTLA has reached a tentative agreement in reopener bargaining with the Los Angeles Unified School District on extended safety measures, a 5% pay raise for educators, strategies for staffing the City of Angels online independent study program, learning continuity for students who must quarantine, and much more.

UTLA members will be voting on the tentative agreement September 30 through October 2. The UTLA Board and House of Representatives has overwhelmingly endorsed the agreement and recommend a yes vote. If approved, the provisions of the agreement would remain in effect until June 30, 2022. The agreement must also be approved by the LAUSD School Board.

Key elements:

- Continued regular testing of all students and staff, regardless of vaccination status, through at least December 17, 2021.
- Continued mandatory masking, indoors and outdoors, for all people on campus and continued use of MERV filters or equivalent air filtration systems for all classrooms until at least December 1, 2021.
- New LAUSD Quarantine Checklist of required actions by site administrators and the district when a student or employee tests positive for COVID-19 and/or students are quarantined.
- Students who must quarantine will have access to Zoom livestreaming for at least 50% of the instructional day, the timing of which will be determined by the teacher.
- For wildfire-related school shutdowns that last more than one day, classroom teachers will provide virtual instruction for students, unless the teacher is impacted by wildfire issues.

- UTLA members will receive a 5% ongoing raise along with a one-time \$2,000 stipend for this school year and a one-time \$500 technology stipend for last school year.
- Substitute educators required to quarantine during the 2021-2022 school year shall have the number of service days (100) required to qualify for healthcare in 2022-2023 reduced by the number of required quarantine days.
- To address severe shortages in the City of Angels online programs, all UTLA members (including members seeking reasonable accommodations) have the option to volunteer for temporary assignment to City of Angels. If additional teachers are needed, the district may temporarily assign some teachers who have been protected from displacement at overstaffed schools. All teachers assigned to City of Angels have return rights to their current school.
- Back to School nights will be virtual, and IEPs may be conducted virtually upon parent request.
- There will be no evaluation for permanent educators who have not received a below standard evaluation in the last five years.

Online member TA vote - September 30 through October 2

- The tentative agreement is subject to ratification by UTLA members. Voting will be over three days — from Thursday, September 30, to Saturday, October 2. The UTLA Bargaining Team, Board of Directors, and House of Representatives overwhelmingly endorse the TA and recommend a YES vote.
- Voting will be online and conducted by an outside company, Integrity Voting Systems. Keep an eye out in your non-LAUSD email address for an email from Integrity Voting Systems on Thursday and be sure to vote by the deadline on Saturday, October 2.

[Text of the Tentative Agreement](#)

[Tentative Agreement Summary](#)

[FAQ on Tentative Agreement](#)

Chapter Issue ID Meetings

- We have launched a unionwide process to build the platform and the power to win in full contract bargaining, which begins in 2022. LAUSD is receiving an

infusion of funding, including \$4.7 billion in relief funding, which they have until 2025 to spend.

- An ambitious, democratically developed bargaining platform is how we fight to invest that money in the long-term needs of our schools and our students. The three-step process:
 1. Identify priorities through deep member discussions along with town halls with parents and community organizations.
 2. The UTLA Board of Directors will use the feedback to develop a draft bargaining platform.
 3. All members will vote on the proposed bargaining platform *before* we start negotiations with LAUSD.
- Chapter Chairs are organizing chapter meetings in every chapter to identify the issues that are most important for us to fight for collectively. Be sure to attend your chapter meetings and be ready to engage. What pay, benefit, and working condition issues should we fight to address in our contract campaign? What issues, if fixed, would make the biggest difference in improving teaching and/or learning at our chapter? What fights for school improvements do you believe are most broadly and deeply felt by parents, youth, and community?

Chapter Chairs should report back on discussions **by October 22**.

Special Education Issue ID Meetings

- Three sessions have been set to draw out issues that Special Education professionals care about and want to uplift in the full contract campaign (read more above). The sessions are specific to the UTLA Areas, with two options (B or C) for educators in West, Central, South, Harbor, and North.

SPED MEETING A: Valley East, Valley West, East

September 30, 4:30 PM

Register in advance: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwuf-CuqDoiGdYroK3yBeYvUCve2cg0VXBI>

SPED MEETING B: West, Central, South, Harbor, North

October 7, 4PM

Register in advance: https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcof-utqj0sHNPQobVILKRwcQUct_fw23E

SPED MEETING C: West, Central, South, Harbor, North

October 7, 5:30 PM

Register in advance: <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYkde6qqjMsGtx5-B3ENRWBbSk27BwMUNtE>

CTA State Council election at the October 20 Area meetings

- A reminder to those who will register for a ballot to vote in the CTA Unexpired Term election via Simply Voting. Voting will take place during the October 20 Area meetings between the hours of 4:00 – 5:30 pm. **Only members who [register for a ballot by Monday, October 11](#), will be able to vote in the election** (and in any runoffs if necessary). If you register for a ballot and are not a chapter leader, please **contact your chapter chair after October 18 for the Zoom link to attend your Area meeting.**

UTLA calendar

Sept. 30: Board of Directors meeting

Sept. 30 - Oct. 2: Tentative Agreement approval vote

Oct. 6: PACE/Elementary/Secondary meetings

Oct. 20: Area meetings

Oct. 27: House of Representatives meeting