

Chapter Talking Points

October 4, 2021

Info for chapter leaders

Report back on your Chapter Issue ID meeting before 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

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

97% YES: UTLA members approve agreement

- UTLA members have overwhelmingly approved the tentative agreement reached with LAUSD in September. Over three days of voting from September 30 to October 2 conducted by Integrity Voting Systems, 15,791 ballots were cast, with 97% Yes ballots (15,344 ballots) and 3% No (447).
- The agreement members approved is a time-specific agreement to secure health and safety protocols, working conditions during the pandemic, and a salary increase for all members.
- Now we build toward 2022, when our full contract with LAUSD expires. In full contract bargaining, we can bring forward any issues that we want to improve at LAUSD — pay, class size, student supports, and more. We want our bargaining team to be at the table with a full set of proposals and the full support of 34,000 UTLA members well before our contract expires.
- An ambitious, democratically developed bargaining platform is how we build power and win for our schools, our students, and our profession.

Has your school held a Chapter Issues ID meeting?

- Be sure to attend your chapter meetings and be ready to engage and collectively identify issues for negotiations. 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 your chapter? If your chapter has not held a Chapter Issues Identification meeting, reach out to your chapter leaders about organizing a meeting to talk with colleagues about your school's priorities.

Ask a parent to the Reclaim Our Schools LA Town Halls in October

- The community coalition Reclaim Our Schools LA is holding three town hall meetings for parents, students, educators and community leaders to talk about everyone's vision for the future of Los Angeles schools as part of UTLA's development of a bargaining platform. All UTLA educators are encouraged to attend and to invite parents at your school to join a town hall.
- **October 16, 10 am to noon:** South LA & Harbor (Board Districts 1 & 7)

- **October 23, 10 am to noon:** San Fernando Valley, West and East (Board Districts 3 & 6)
- **October 30, 10 am to noon:** East LA thru Mid-City, Hollywood, West LA (Board Districts 2, 4, & 5)

[Sign up for a Community Town Hall](#)

[Download Town Hall flyer in English](#)

[Download Town Hall flyer in Spanish](#)

Special Education Issue ID Meetings

- Two sessions are still available to draw out issues that Special Education professionals care about and want to uplift in the full contract campaign. The sessions are specific to the UTLA Areas, and the two available options (B or C) are for educators in West, Central, South, Harbor, and North.

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

October 7, 4PM

Register in advance: https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJcof-utqi0sHNPQobVILKRwcQUct_ffW23E

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

October 7, 5:30 PM

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

National #TeachTruth Day of Action on October 14

- On George Floyd's Birthday — October 14 — educators across the country will teach the truth about structural racism and other forms of oppression as a kickoff to the 2021-2022 "Black Lives Matter at School Year of Purpose."
- **Why we must act now:** As of September 25, 2021, there are eleven states — Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Iowa, New Hampshire, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Texas, Tennessee, and Utah — that have passed restrictions on racial justice education in public K-12 schools. To date, at least two dozen other states have introduced legislation that would require teachers to lie to students about

structural racism and other forms of oppression.

- Organizers of the #TeachTruth Day of Action are calling on all educators who favor truth, racial justice, and equity to publicly declare that they will teach lessons about structural racism and oppression.

[Make the Pledge to #TeachTruth on October 14](#)

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

Oct. 6: PACE/Elementary/Secondary meetings

Oct. 20: Area meetings

Oct. 27: House of Representatives meeting