

Chapter Talking Points

January 17, 2022

Info for chapter leaders

Hold Beyond Recovery Platform Chapter Meetings Now

- At the citywide meetings, Chapter Chairs voted overwhelmingly by 97% to endorse the Beyond Recovery Platform. This platform, developed by UTLA members over months of meetings and discussions, will form the basis for our bargaining demands in the upcoming full contract negotiations.

CHAPTER MEETINGS

Chapter Chairs should hold meetings to ensure that all members are familiar with the details and are prepared to endorse the platform in the all-member vote scheduled for February 16, 17, and 18.

At your meeting, be sure to let members know that you support the platform. Take a member poll, and report the results, including the number of people at the meeting, using this report form <https://bit.ly/chaptermeetform>.

MATERIALS AND LINKS

Here are the links to the materials you will need to help you conduct your meeting and answer member questions. Additionally, a website has been created <https://Vision.utla.net> which houses the links to all the materials. The password to the Chapter Chair section is utlastrong. Please use that website as a resource.

Campaign Website: <https://Vision.utla.net>

Chapter Meeting

PowerPoint: https://vision.utla.net/s/UTLAPPlatform_ChapterPresentation.pptx (will download)

Platform: https://vision.utla.net/s/UTLAPPlatform_Full.pdf

Platform Leaflet: https://vision.utla.net/s/UTLAPPlatform_Flyer.pdf

Chapter Meeting Report Back: <https://bit.ly/chaptermeetform>

Talking points for chapter meetings

The UTLA Beyond Recovery Platform

- Smaller class sizes and caseloads
 - Improved salaries and working conditions
 - Support for students' mental health and social needs
 - Updated tech for all students and staff
 - + more initiatives to address critical needs
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- **Our current struggle highlights the need to fight forward**

These last few years have been the most difficult many of us have faced as educators. Even though UTLA members fought for some of the strongest safety measures in the country, there are challenges. The work goes on — **collectively we continue our work to make schools as safe as possible and address critical return-to-school issues.**

However, we lose when we only play defense. We must do two things at once: work for safety in our schools and go on the offense with an ambitious set of demands for our contract negotiations that begin in a few months.

Our schools and communities — historically underfunded, targeted for privatization, and disproportionately impacted by the pandemic — need a comprehensive plan for pandemic recovery **and beyond.**

The LAUSD budget for 2021-22 is expected to increase by \$5.4 billion, with a projected unrestricted reserve of \$2 billion by the end of the school year. We have a historic opportunity to force LAUSD to allocate the significant increase in funding to win our priorities now .

You will be voting in February on the [Beyond Recovery Platform](#) — the first time UTLA members will vote on a democratically developed platform of demands before contract negotiations with LAUSD begins. Developed by UTLA members and community allies over months of meetings and dialogue, it addresses the urgent needs of our schools at a time when historic levels of funding are coming to school districts.

This pandemic merely pulled back the curtain on how issues in our students' communities impact our classrooms and workspaces while educators remain overloaded and undervalued — a crisis deepening the severe staffing shortage, just when we need more caring adults on campus to meet our students' academic and mental health needs.

Voting to endorse this platform is the first message that 35,000 educators will send in the campaign of collective action that it will take to transform our schools. Our profession, our students, our schools, and our communities are worth fighting for.

[Beyond Recovery: The Fight for LA Schools flyer](#)
[The Beyond Recovery Platform](#)

Latest FAQs on Spring Semester & COVID protocols

- We continue monitoring the fast-moving situation in our schools and workspaces. The FAQ page at utla.net/springfaq is updated regularly as new information emerges. Visit this page often to see the latest updates.

[FAQs on Spring Semester & COVID Protocols](#)

City of Angels

- Last week during staff meetings, UTLA members received a document entitled “Virtual Academy 2021 – 2022 Expectations & Procedures.” The expectations in this document are unacceptable and not manageable. UTLA is in communication with the district to clarify issues around the daily schedule, frequency of ROA submission and paperwork requirements.

Until then, **UTLA ADVISES ALL CITY OF ANGELS TEACHERS TO CONTINUE USING THEIR FALL SEMESTER SCHEDULES.** We will have our weekly UTLA lunchtime meeting on Thursday 1/20 at 11:00 am. See utla.net/events for the Zoom link.

UTLA/NEA – Representative Assembly Elections at the February 2 Area meetings

- A reminder to those who will register for a ballot by January 20 to vote in the UTLA/NEA RA Local Delegate election via Simply Voting. Voting will take place during the February 2 Area meetings between the hours of 4:00 - 5:30 pm. **Only members who register for a ballot by Thursday, January 20, will be eligible to vote in the election** (and in any runoffs, if necessary). Register for a ballot by January 20 at <https://www.utla.net/resources/nea-ra-elections>.

If you are not a chapter leader and would like to attend an Area meeting, please **contact your chapter chair after January 31 for the Zoom link. You are not required to attend an Area meeting to vote.**

CTA Conferences

- **Issues Conference, January 21-23**
<https://www.cta.org/event/issues-conference-2022>

Reconnect with fellow educators, reenergize your skillset and help strategize solutions to confront the challenges we are facing together.

- **Good Teaching Conference, January 27-30**
<https://www.cta.org/event/2022-gtcnorth>

Supports excellent teaching and learning practices for classroom teachers via

peer-to-peer instruction. offering a variety of diverse workshops focused on curriculum content areas for K-12 teachers.

- Both conferences are virtual, free and can provide Professional Development hours.

Black Lives Matter in School week of Action Jan 31-Feb 4

- **A week of action, a year of purpose.** Black Lives Matter at School is a national coalition organizing for racial justice in education. We encourage all educators, students, parents, unions, and community organizations to join our annual week of action during the first week of February each year.
- <https://www.blacklivesmatteratschool.com/>

UTLA calendar

Jan. 19: PACE/Elementary/Secondary meetings

Feb. 2: Area meetings

Feb. 9: House of Representatives meeting

Feb. 16-18: All-member vote on Beyond Recovery Platform