

Chapter Talking Points

March 21, 2022

Info for chapter leaders

Critical Elements of the Beyond Recovery Campaign

- At the March 16 Area meeting, we discussed 4 critical elements of our Beyond Recovery campaign that we are focused on right now, as we prepare for full contract negotiations. Those critical elements are:
 1. **Nominating and electing Chapter Chairs in every UTLA Chapter**

Self-Nominations are open until April 8th. If you or a colleague have not filled out the form to run for 2022-23 Chapter Chair in your chapter and intend to run, it is important to fill out the form at this link as soon as possible:

<https://bit.ly/ccselfnomination>

2. **Expanding support for the Beyond Recovery Platform - by finishing our platform review chapter meetings**

If your chapter has not yet held a meeting to review the Beyond Recovery Platform of bargaining demands that UTLA members have approved by a vote of 96%, you should do so in the next few weeks.

It will be important to discuss how these demands resonate with your chapter and, now that the Beyond Recovery Platform has been approved, it is important to make sure that members in every chapter have a solid understanding of the demands and are united to fight for it.

You can use this updated chapter meeting presentation

https://vision.utla.net/s/UTLAPlatform_ChapterPresentationMar2022.pptx

Report that the meeting took place and the results of the poll at this link <https://bit.ly/chaptermeetform>

3. **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 <https://bit.ly/memberrap>

4. **Building our campaign to win in School Board District 2**

UTLA has endorsed Rocio Rivas - a proven ally and supporter of the Beyond Recovery Platform - in School Board District 2.

To win, we will need chapter leaders and members from across LAUSD to volunteer for phone banking and canvassing.

Phone banking will begin on Tuesday, April 19th and can be done from home, over zoom every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday through June 7th.

Weekend canvassing will begin on Saturday, April 23rd and be held every Saturday and Sunday through June 5th.

You, and members in your chapter, can sign up for both phone banking and canvassing at vision.utla.net/action

- Finally, as we prepare for our full contract negotiations, with demands based on the Beyond Recovery Platform, there is nothing more important in setting the conditions for success than

building our foundation of chapter leadership and member and parent engagement.

You are the leaders of this important work.

TA Vote on Testing and Masking Protocol

- If any of the members at your site did not receive a link to vote, please have them go to www.utla.net/resent-ta-ratification-vote-link to request a new link.

Voting will be available **until 7 pm tonight**, Monday, March 21.

Talking points for chapter meetings

FAQ on New Testing and Masking Protocols

- **Is there going to be weekly testing for the rest of the school year?**

Yes, we won weekly PCR testing for all staff and students through the end of the 2021-2022 school year. The district initially had wanted to stop the regular testing program. The member poll taken last week showed overwhelming support for continued testing, so this was our top priority in bargaining.

Is the indoor mask requirement lifted for all staff and students?

Staff and students in ETK-12 programs and Adult Education programs will no longer be required to wear masks in schools. Additionally, staff working at non-school locations will no longer be required to wear masks. However, we were able to win continued indoor masking as a requirement for staff and students at Early Education Centers and for programs serving only students 4 years old or younger, which doesn't include ETK since 4-year-old

students in that program turn 5 during the school year.

Why doesn't the new agreement say that masks are still required in EECs and programs for other early learners?

The new agreement only covers changes to the provisions of the UTLA-LAUSD Reopener Agreement we won last September. Since the new agreement only addresses changes to the indoor masking requirement in ETK-12, adult education, and non-school environments, all other staff and students are still covered by the September agreement, which requires indoor masking. That means required masking continues for staff and students in EECs and other early learner programs.

Why did we agree to these changes if the UTLA poll showed that a majority of members support the masking requirement?

We fought to keep the current masking requirement for all staff and students but were only able to win it for the Early Education Centers and other early learner programs. This was our other top priority in bargaining, in addition to testing, because the younger students are not yet eligible for vaccination. We ultimately agreed to the broader masking changes because such a compromise was the only way we could win continuation of the weekly testing program for the rest of the current school year.

Can I make rules or insist that students in my classroom wear or not wear a mask, according to my personal feelings about the mask mandate?

No, you cannot create a classroom rule that your students must wear a mask in your classroom, nor can you insist that they not wear a mask in your classroom. Students have the option of either wearing or not wearing a mask if they choose.

Regardless of how you feel about the mask mandate, you cannot show any form of favoritism or animosity towards either group, students wearing a mask or those who do not. This includes

refusing to work individually with a student who is not wearing a mask. All students, masked or not, have a right to a positive experience in your classroom.

[UTLA-LAUSD MOU for Testing & Masking \(3-18-22\)](#)

[UTLA-LAUSD 2021-2022 Reopener Agreement \(9-21-21\)](#)

If working remotely with an RA, you must renew by March 31

- For a continuation of an accommodation based on a medical condition or disability, email disabilitymanagement@lausd.net and include a statement of the requested accommodation and supporting documentation indicating that there is a medical basis for your request. You must submit your request and all supporting medical information by March 31.

Nominations open for Chapter Chairs for 2022-2023

- **UTLA Chapter Chairs will have a critical role in organizing to win the Beyond Recovery platform through the upcoming contract campaign.** Chapter Chairs are the official representatives of UTLA members at school sites and serve as a vital link between the school and the broader union. In addition to keeping members apprised of union activities and policies and organizing school sites to action, Chapter Chairs also defend members' professional rights and help resolve conflicts with administration.

Self-nominations are now open for site-based and Special Category Chapter Chairs for the 2022-2023 school year. Any UTLA member in good standing can run for Chapter Chair; the deadline to self-nominate is April 8.

[Chapter_Chair Election info](#)

Matrix and staffing process for 2022-2023 school year

- Schools will follow the usual process for the matrix/staffing process and coordinator/dean selection in Article XI-A, Section 6.1 of the UTLA-LAUSD Contract. Chapter leaders will be sent a Matrix Checklist to ensure that all the procedures are followed.

Schools that prefer to continue with a virtual process for the matrix should reach out to their administrators.

All members currently assigned to the Virtual Academy have the right to return to their previous school location at the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year, and they retain their seniority position for the matrix and staffing process.

[UTLA_Chapter_Chair Matrix Checklist for 2022](#)

Save the Date - Saturday, May 22 for the UTLA 2022 Virtual Retirement Dinner Dance

- The 2022 Virtual Retirement Dinner Dance will honor all retirees from 2019-2020 through 2021-2022.

Please, let us know if you are retiring this school year, 2021 – 2022 by sending your name, employee number, retirement date, and non-LAUSD email address to webmaster@utla.net. Use RETIREMENT in the subject line.

More Information will be updated on the [UTLA website](#) as available.

UTLA calendar

March 23: House of Representatives meeting

March 30: Board of Directors meeting

Other union meetings and events

March 23: HHS Committee meeting

April 21: AFT 1021 Meeting

April 22: Ruben Salazar Scholarship contest deadline [Flyer](#)