

# Chapter Talking Points

*March 28, 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](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](https://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.*

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## **Talking points for chapter meetings**

### **FAQ on Updated covid Protocols**

- *FAQs reflecting the March 2022 agreement approved by UTLA members have been posted on the web. Read a portion below or [click here](#) for full set of questions.*

#### **What is the testing protocol for Spring Break?**

All school-based staff and students will need to take a rapid antigen test at home (with tests provided by the district) no earlier than 48 hours before returning to school after Spring Break. All staff and students will be expected to upload any positive test results in the Daily Pass system.

#### **Can I enforce masking in my own classroom?**

All students and staff have the option of either wearing or not wearing a mask if they choose. A classroom-specific rule cannot be put in place and students can't be treated differently based on whether or not they wear a mask.

#### **What happens if COVID infection rates take a turn for the worse?**

We will continue to monitor COVID-19 numbers and, should conditions change for the worse, this agreement gives us the right to re-engage the district on additional safety protocols if necessary. The agreement states that UTLA and LAUSD must meet and consult on COVID data and the potential need for changes to protocols.

## **LAUSD dragging feet on healthcare negotiations**

- All eight LAUSD employee unions continue to negotiate with LAUSD on healthcare benefits.

LAUSD has proposed a one-year extension to our current plan, but we are committed to securing a multiyear agreement. In light of the prolonged pandemic and staffing shortages, a one-year extension is unacceptable. More than ever, workers need to count on reliable, affordable health care for the long-term, and LAUSD needs a strong healthcare package to retain and recruit employees.

**Unfortunately, the district has not been responsive and has cancelled the last two negotiation sessions.** Securing a healthcare agreement should be a priority for the district, and we hope they come to the next session prepared with a meaningful proposal.

LAUSD board members have been made aware of the need to reach an agreement, and we continue to reach out to them to ensure they put healthcare updates on their next meeting agenda to bring urgency to negotiations.

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## **Campaign to win begins for Dr. Rocio Rivas**

- UTLA endorsed Rocio Rivas for LAUSD School Board District 2 because Rocio is a staunch supporter of public education and she is the leader we need on the board.

As School Board member Jackie Goldberg's Research and Policy deputy, she's been instrumental in defeating the Student-Centered Funding scheme, exposing former board member Ref Rodriguez's campaign fraud, fighting the risk of school closures, and holding the charter industry accountable.

**Rocio is also the only Board District 2 candidate to support 100% all aspects of our Beyond Recovery platform**, which includes demands for a significant pay raise and fully staffed and resourced classrooms. **Now we kick off the campaign to win.**

- Remote **Volunteer Phone Banking** begins **April 19**. Sign up [here](#).
- In-person **Volunteer Canvassing/Door Knocking** begins **April 23**. Sign up [here](#).

***Help Rocio win and lift our Beyond Recovery Platform by signing up today***

**[VOLUNTEER: Elect Dr. Rocio Rivas, School Board District 2](#)**

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## **June 2022 Primary Endorsements**

- The UTLA House of Representatives — the largest policy-making body of our union — voted overwhelmingly to endorse the following candidates in the June 2022 primary.
  - **Dr. Rocio Rivas** for LAUSD Board Member for District 2
  - **Kelly Gonez** for LAUSD Board Member for District 6
  - **Greg Good** for Los Angeles City Council in District 11
  - **Hugo Soto-Martinez** for Los Angeles City Council in District 13
  - **Danielle Sandoval** for Los Angeles City Council in District 15
  - **Henry Stern** for LA County Board of Supervisors in District 3
  - **Karen Bass** for Los Angeles Mayor

UTLA official endorsements by the House of Representatives follow an intensive endorsement process, with recommendations made by UTLA's political action committee and Board of Directors.

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## **Alliance educators overwhelmingly authorize Unfair Practice strike**

- In a vote conducted this week of Alliance educators at four impacted schools, with more than 84% of staff voting, 77% voted to authorize a two-day unfair labor practice strike at Alliance

several schools in response to Alliance's continued refusal to collectively bargain. The strike date has not been set.

**A supermajority of educators at four Alliance College-Ready charter schools voted to unionize with UTLA three years ago,** However, the schools' leadership has yet to meet with the educators to [bargain for their contract](#) and instead has conducted an intense anti-union campaign. The California Public Relations Board (PERB) ordered Alliance to bargain with the educators for the third time in its most recent and final decision on February 28.

**Alliance schools and students deserve better.** The preference is for Alliance to agree to bargaining dates to begin negotiations; however, the union members are also prepared to engage in actions up to and including an unfair labor practice strike if they give them no other way to achieve the rights they have been repeatedly denied.

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## **Congratulations to Minneapolis educators for their hard-fought win**

- In a clear demonstration of the power of unity and collective action, Minneapolis educators settled their 14-day strike with a successful agreement that includes substantial salary gains, smaller class sizes, more mental health support for students, and layoff protections for BIPOC staff. We applaud their steadfast determination that brought about this win and visibly illustrates that when we fight together, we win!

"The collective action of our members has shown that strikes work," said Shaun Laden, head of the union's education support professionals unit. "We walked out united to change the trajectory of MPS and ensure that educators have a greater say in how we do our work," the union said. "This too has been achieved and will have impacts that improve our district for years to come."

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## **Stand in solidarity with Sacramento educators**

- On strike since last Wednesday, Sacramento educators are fighting for fully staffed classrooms, additional sick pay and retroactive COVID sick leave, increased pay for special education teachers with additional students, and a pay raise. **Show your support for their strike online #SacCitySolidarity and #SCTA4Students**

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## **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](mailto:webmaster@utla.net). Use RETIREMENT in the subject line.

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

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## **UTLA calendar**

**March 30:** Board of Directors meeting

**April 6:** PACE/Elementary/Secondary Committee meetings

**April 27:** Area meetings

### **Other union meetings and events**

**April 7:** Virtual Academy meeting

**April 8:** Capably Disabled Committee meeting

**April 21:** AFT 1021 Meeting

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

**April 23:** Financial Literacy 101 [Flyer](#)