

FACULTY MEETING BOYCOTT Q&A



Why are we launching boycotts?

LAUSD is sitting on \$5.12 billion in reserves while they refuse to bargain in good faith with us to improve class size, fully staff schools, or give educators the pay raise we need to attract and retain staff. By once again demonstrating our ability to act collectively when we need to, we maximize the pressure on LAUSD to come to an agreement on our Beyond Recovery demands.

When are the boycotts?

UTLA members will boycott all afterschool faculty meetings (and similar meetings held after the instructional day) starting the week of April 10 and will continue boycotting until we get a fair contract or the school year ends. The boycott must have 100% participation to compellingly demonstrate our unity and commitment to achieving a fair contract.

What type of meetings are we boycotting?

We are boycotting all after-school meetings, including faculty, grade level, and department meetings. At this time, UTLA is excluding from the boycott after-school parent conferences and participation by elected UTLA members on various site-governing councils, including Local School Leadership Councils. UTLA is NOT calling for boycotts of period-by-period faculty meetings (which occur in secondary schools) or other meetings that occur within the traditional school day.

What should we do in place of the faculty meetings we are boycotting?

Chapters will have different ideas on this, but all school sites should hold quick, ten-minute, meetings in the school parking lot or on the sidewalk — a highly visible location where you will be seen by parents and probably administrators. Check in with your chapter chair at that meeting so you are certain to be counted as honoring the boycotts.

I have a productive relationship with my administrators. Will these actions harm that?

The boycotts are not actions against any individual principal or administrator; they are a demonstration of our power to LAUSD and that we will not tolerate the district's unlawful behavior toward us.

What are the risks of participating in the boycotts?

As boycott activities intensify, it is possible that you could be subject to discipline, such as a letter of reprimand. Such discipline would be yet another violation of state law by the district, but sometimes risks need to be taken for progress to occur. Our greatest protection comes from every one of us participating in the boycotts. If the district does issue discipline, we need to ensure that they have to do it to 35,000 UTLA members.

As an out-of-classroom member, should I join the boycotts?

Absolutely! You are a member of UTLA and we need every member to join the effort to send a strong message to LAUSD that the district needs to offer us a fair contract.

I am a probationary teacher. Can I participate in the boycotts?

Yes. You have the same rights as all other UTLA members in this contract campaign and you have the same responsibilities to your colleagues in your union to protest the district's unlawful actions. In March, thousands of probationary employees participated in the solidarity strike with SEIU 99, which was protesting the district's unlawful actions against them.