

STRIKE AUTHORIZATION VOTE FAQ

What is a strike authorization vote?

A strike authorization vote is how UTLA members give the UTLA Board of Directors the authority to call a strike in the future, if necessary. It means we are preparing ourselves by keeping all options on the table to win the contract we deserve.

Does a “yes” vote mean we automatically go on strike?

No. A “yes” vote simply authorizes the UTLA Board to call a strike if all legally required steps are exhausted and LAUSD still refuses to agree to a fair contract that meets the needs of educators and students.

If we vote yes, when could a strike happen?

There's no set date. It will depend on:

1. How long the legal process of mediation and fact finding take.
2. Whether or not LAUSD negotiates fairly for a contract to avoid a strike.

Why do we need to take this vote?

A strong strike vote shows LAUSD that educators are united and ready to act. It increases our leverage at the bargaining table and can push the district to settle without a strike. Ultimately, it gives the UTLA Board the authorization to call a strike if LAUSD leaves no other option.

What percentage of “yes” votes do we need?

Fifty percent plus one of UTLA voters voting yes technically gives the UTLA Board of Directors the authority to call a strike. However, to send a clear message to the district and put ourselves in the strongest position to win the contract we deserve, we need much more than the minimum – we need an overwhelming majority.

What should members know before voting?

A high-participation strike vote is about unity, leverage, and readiness. It is a demonstration of UTLA’s power and an opportunity for LAUSD to witness our strike-readiness and choose to settle a fair contract.

What do we tell members who are hesitant?

UTLA members have a choice. We can either increase the pressure on LAUSD to win what you deserve or we can settle for the 2.5% and 2% raises (with a 1% bonus) that LAUSD is offering. A “yes” vote is increasing pressure. A “no” vote means accepting just 2.5% and 2% raises over the next two years (with a 1% bonus). As 37,000 educators, we can win more if we stay united and vote yes.