

## 2026 Strike

# PICKET LINE DO'S AND DON'TS



## ✓ DO

- **Get people moving!** Picket lines should be set up so they move in circles and cover as many entrances as possible as well as the most visible locations around the school.
- **Picket in front of gates and parking lot entrances.** Keep the line moving and avoid physical confrontation. It's okay to make adults wait a little while to get in, though! Remember that what is most important is for people to be together and feel united — if you have a small staff at your school, you do not have to spread everyone out to cover all entrances.
- **Remain peaceful, calm, and orderly at all times.** Don't get involved in confrontations or debates. If someone wants to debate, ask them to step aside and talk.
- **Be creative and have fun!** Highlighting your occupation while at a picket line is a great way to contribute and raise spirits. Union musicians might come to play and get people dancing. Lively chanting can get attention and horn honks.
- **Make noise!** Make sure everyone knows you are there. Keep the energy level high.
- **Welcome and embrace those members who may not be on your regular staff who join your picket.** These could include itinerants or substitutes. There could be members of other unions who will join you as well.
- **Amplify your support with coordinated social media.** Post pictures on Facebook and Instagram and tag @UTLANow.
- **Talk to all truck drivers delivering to the school.** Tell them this strike has been sanctioned by Teamsters Joint Council 42 and ask them not to deliver during the strike.

## ✗ DON'T

- **Don't block the entrance for buses full of kids.** Be thoughtful about the kids waiting to get through; we are fighting for them. Be extra thoughtful about any kids with special needs who are being transported to school.
- **Don't argue with police.** If there is an issue that you cannot work out, contact your assigned UTLA staff person.
- **Don't threaten anyone crossing the picket line.**
- **Don't argue with parents or community members.** We should try to convince everyone to support our demands for better schools, but remember that emotions will be running high, so don't engage with someone who is arguing.
- **Don't use wooden picket sticks thicker than 2 inches x 1/4 inch** (if you are making your own mounted signs).
- **Don't listen to rumors.** Check with your assigned UTLA staff person or UTLA Area leadership if a rumor threatens to disrupt the picket line.

