

UTLA Secondary Update

By Gregg Solkovits, UTLA Secondary Vice President

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September 2008

June 6th Protest: We had an *outstanding turnout! More than 80% turn out from members and record parent/community participation! Thanks to all the hard work of chapter chairs and other members at their sites! Job well done!!*

Buy-Back Days Update: *The district continues the assault upon our membership. They have decided that the following expenditures are more important than offering our members paid professional development days:*

- Coaching Program 7.3
- Day to day Sub 5.0
- Professional Development –Office of Instruction 5.5
- Learning Teams Contract 3.6
- Indirect Support 1,3
- Flexibility Transfer to Special Ed 4.1

Total Expenditures \$27.0 MILLION

Chapter Chair Trainings : The next training for new chapter chairs will be September 18th at UTLA. Please go to the web site or call Stacy in Professional Development for more information and to register.

Child Abuse: Please familiarize with the District's Child Abuse Reporting Bulletin, "Bulletin No. Z-10" and California Law which states that there is an obligation of reporting if.... "has knowledge of or observes a child whom the employee knows or reasonably suspects has been the victim of child abuse or neglect..... **shall** report the known or suspected instance of child abuse to a child protective agency immediately, or soon as practically possible by telephone.(Penal Code Section 11166).

Negotiations Update: The district continues to stall at the table. Please check the UTLA Web-site for the truthful contract updates.

Next scheduled
Secondary Committee* Meeting

UTLA Building
Room 817
4:15 pm

Bring questions and concerns

*every UTLA member is welcomed to attend

UTLA Bilingual Education Committee Annual Conference: "Language and Justice for All" will be held on October 17th – 18th at UTLA. There will be guest speakers workshops, music and more plus the opportunity to earn to salary point. Call Stacy Baskin in Professional Development for details.

Short Takes

Third Interim Financial Report: This includes the budget projection for 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10. The district will end 2007-08 with a positive balance; the general fund regular program balance is projected to be \$518.5 million. The district has proposed furlough days, the elimination of buy back days, elimination of the TIIG Urban Classroom Teacher program and potential RIF's of counselors all of which are cuts to our pay and our members. There is also a plan to increase class size in the out years (2009-10 and 2010-11). We will be fighting back!

Textbook Adoption: The process of the next textbook adoption will begin soon. This year it will be for Language Arts. Please go to the web site or call Rosa Beasley at (213)368-6227 if you would like to participate.

Retirement Information: Most information can be found in the Human Resources website at www.teachinla.com/retirement. Up to 10% retirement bonus payment... contact Mary Davis at (213)241-5213.

Or email at mary.davis@lausd.net. For general information contact CalSTRS at www.calstrs.com or call (800)228-5453.

Charter Schools: The UTLA Taskforce on Charter Schools has been reconvened and the first meeting is scheduled on May 14, 2008. The Chair is Julie Washington and assigned staff liaisons are Tom Alfano and Rodger Scott. On May 15, 2008 UTLA will hold the second **Prop.39** chapter chair meeting. The following schools are still scheduled to be co-located:

Angeles Mesa ... ES View Park Elementary

Braddock ES... Celerity Trioka

Calvert ES... Ivy Academia

Grant ES... Magnolia Science #5

Hobart ES... Synergy Middle School

La Salle ES... Crescendo Charter Preparatory- Central

Locke HS... Green Dot (conversion school)

Logan ES... LA Leadership Academy

Selma ES... Los Feliz

Sunrise ES... KIPP LA

Westminster ES... Magnolia Science #3

Sign Up for UTLA Secondary News: We are in the process of setting up a UTLA Secondary E-mail list, so that we can communicate more effectively with secondary teachers and health and human services personnel. If you are interested in receiving UTLA Secondary news electronically, send your name, school, e mail address, and the best phone number to contact you with, to gsolkovits@utla.net.

Innovation Division: Crenshaw HS has voted to join the division, they will partner with the Urban League and the Bradley Foundation. Westchester HS also has voted to join and they will be partnering with Loyola Marymount. Additional schools are expected to vote in February. See the UTLA website for details.

Class Size Issues: Please stay in touch with your chapter chair regarding your class sizes. By norm day, class sizes **MUST** be leveled out, and within contract limits. If they are **NOT**, contact your area's UTLA professional staff member, or e mail Secondary VP Gregg Solkovits at gsolkovits@utla.net.

Non-Mandated Assessments: All agreements from last year are still in effect! The details of the agreement were published in the September 2006 edition of the United Teacher Newspaper. There are two official Memorandums associated with this agreement. Mem-2554 which outlines the purpose and appropriate use of periodic assessments and Mem-3275.0 which outlines the changes to the periodic assessment schedule in language arts and mathematics. **Assessments are not to be posted with teacher or student identification. They are also, not to be used to evaluate teachers. If this is happening at your site please email, fax or call me.**

SB1209 is new legislation that goes into effect January 2007. Any teacher who holds a professional clear credential (which has to be renewed every five years) will only have to pay the fee to renew. The 150 clock hour requirement to renew has been **eliminated**.

Thanks to UTLA Elementary Vice President Julie Washington for her assistance on this newsletter!!