

UTLA BARGAINING



February 16, 2009

Why I'm Joining the Boycotts

UTLA members are taking a stand against layoffs, class-size increases, health care cuts, and excessive testing of our students by boycotting faculty meetings and periodic assessments. As the struggle heats up, members share their feelings about the boycotts and tell us why they are joining the fight.

We need to meet the needs of our students by letting our students learn and not just rushing them to the *next assessment*. We need our academic freedom.

Karen Ticer-Leon
Tweedy Elementary

I'm boycotting the periodic assessments because 1. the District needs to stop spending millions of dollars on these non-mandated, duplicative assessments and 2. teachers working together can make more authentic assessments and should be in charge of deciding when, where and how to assess. I am boycotting faculty meetings because the District is disrespecting teachers so I don't feel I should give the District my personal time for free.

Anne Zerrien-Lee
Esperanza Elementary

I am boycotting Periodic Assessments because teachers and our communities need to take back our curriculum! Corporate tests, coupled with mandatory curricula

destroy our professional initiative and substitute top-down pacing plans for teachers' judgment.

David Rapkin
Youth Opportunities Unlimited Alternative HS

Teachers can't be expected to take cuts in pay and benefits in order to maintain a superstructure that oppresses them in the name of raising test scores. When the tests began, we were told they were practice tests. Instead, they have evolved into a teacher evaluation stull. We never agreed to that.

Mary Clare Curtis
White Middle School

I'm joining because standing shoulder to shoulder with my brothers and sisters is the only way I know to have an impact.

Caitlin Casement
Valley West

I'm joining the boycotts because it is criminal that LAUSD is spending \$150 million on periodic tests that have numerous errors and don't always match what we're teaching.

Marina Salas
Hoover Street Elementary

My special ed RSP students should not be taking these tests as they are not able to keep up with the fast pace of the pacing plan.

Wendy Legacki
Mt. Washington Elementary

If a person doesn't speak up then that person has no right to complain.

N. Gatchalian
North Hollywood HS

**There is strength in our numbers!
Keep up the boycotts to keep up the pressure!**

No contract will be signed without a "no reprisal agreement" that will remove any boycott reprimand from your file.

Visit www.utla.net for the latest information on the boycotts