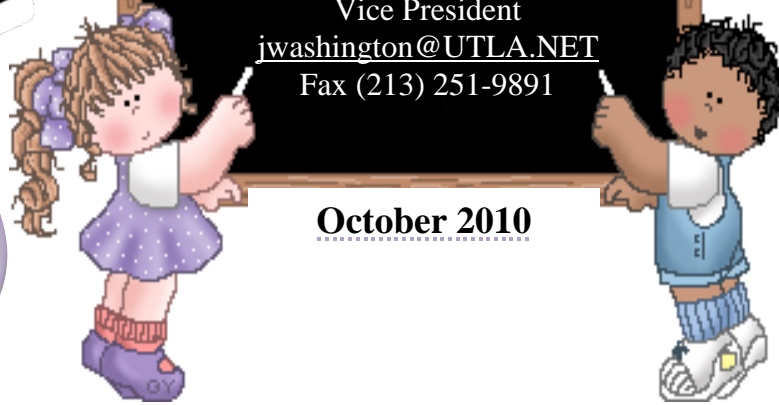




**Elementary News**  
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**October 2010**

**HealthCare**

Open enrollment will be in the month of November. Please pay particular attention as there are some changes.

**Walking for Rigo**: On November 8<sup>th</sup>, UTLA will join the community/family planned vigil for our beloved Rigoberto Ruelas. Preliminary plans are to meet at Beaudry after school and we will walk to the LA Times. We are encouraging your participation in a show of solidarity with the community and family of Miramonte Elementary School in honor of this “effective” teacher. Rigoberto is an example of all classroom teachers that touch the lives of students and their families in ways that will never be measured by a test score. Please join us. Visit our website at [www.utla.net](http://www.utla.net) soon for more details.

**Race to Nowhere (a film by Vicki Abeles)**: UTLA’s Elementary Committee is hosting a screening of the new documentary “Race to Nowhere”. The showing is Thursday, November 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM at the UTLA building in the auditorium. This film highlights the pressures faced by American schoolchildren and their teachers in a system and culture obsessed with test-taking, competition and the pressure to perform. RSVP is required. Contact Rosa Beasley at (213) 637-5146 or [rbeasley@utla.net](mailto:rbeasley@utla.net) by November 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Flushing Logs**: Are you still being asked to flush your drinking fountain? UTLA strongly objected when the District issued the instructions for teachers and HHS employees to be responsible for flushing the drinking fountains and maintaining a daily flushing log. The current memorandum issued does not specifically call for teachers and HHS professionals to perform this task. UTLA believes that this duty is outside the scope of the duties required under Article IX, Sections 4.0 and 4.2. If you have been told to flush, please do the following:

1. Ask your administrator to issue the directive in writing.
2. Comply with the directive
3. Notify your chapter chair
4. Fax the directive to UTLA at (213) 637-5160

**Next scheduled  
Elementary Committee\***

**Meeting**  
November 3<sup>rd</sup>

UTLA Building  
Room 815  
4:15 pm

Bring questions and concerns

\*every UTLA member is welcomed to attend

**Health Benefits**: There are a few changes in the Health Benefit plans. The 80/20 EPO Anthem plan will be fully funded for Medicare Retirees, who remain enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B. This means Medicare would continue to pay 80% and Anthem would pay the remaining 20%. This does not apply to Early Retirees (those under age 65). RX drugs prices are increasing at Kaiser. All Actives and Retirees will pay the same co-pay for drugs. For 30 day supply, generic will cost \$10, and name brand will cost \$20. For maintenance drugs (up to 100 day supply) generic will cost \$25 and name brand will cost \$50. There are no other changes for Kaiser Medicare Retirees, beyond drug costs. There were two mandated changes to the Seniority Plus plan for 2011: 1) the plan will now include a \$3,400 out-of-pocket maximum. Prior to 2011 there has been no out-of-pocket maximum. 2) The plan will now provide 100% coverage for preventive services (no co pay). Prior to 2011 there has been a \$5 co pay required. For lack of participation and cost savings, the EAP program will be discontinued in its present form.

**Teacher Effectiveness Committee:** The Teacher Effectiveness Committee headed by David Goldberg, has been meeting diligently to develop a teacher effectiveness plan and evaluation model to present to the District. UTLA strongly believes that a quality teacher effectiveness plan supports improved teaching and learning. Systemic reforms of the current Stull Evaluation process will support teachers throughout their careers. This reform effort will include your participation by completing the online survey. We urge all members to give their views on the recommendations to help shape the UTLA policy on teacher evaluation. No reform of evaluation will take place before it is negotiated. The deadline to participate is November 1. The committee includes a membership of UTLA Officers, Directors, UTLA Staff, school based teachers, PAR, NBC Support Network, WestED, AALA, UCLA, CTA, and AFT.

**2010 Negotiation Issues Survey:** Kudos to 304 schools that participated in the Negotiation Issues Survey! You let your voice be heard and your wishes known. The top three Contract articles that you thought should be reopened in upcoming negotiations were: 32%- Mandated Scripted Curriculum (Article XXV), 27%-Professional Development (Article IX-B), 25%- School Reform (New article to be added to CBA). "Together we are better!" **YOU ARE UTLA!**

**Chapter Chair Trainings: Stull Evaluations** - Thursday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010 4pm to 6:30pm. **Budget** - Saturday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010 9am to 12pm. **Conference Memo, Letters of Reprimand, Written Document & How to Respond** - Thursday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010 4pm to 6:30pm. **Organizing My Chapter/Special Education Issues** - Thursday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010 4pm to 6:30pm. **School Site Councils** – Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 2011 4pm to 6:30pm. Many thanks to Carl Joseph who worked very hard with me to schedule and prepare for these trainings.

#### Left Over's

**Stull Evaluation Process:** Article X (Evaluation and Discipline) is very explicit with regards to the purpose, frequency and who is the evaluator. Section 4.0 outlines the establishment of objectives and states that the objectives are to be mutually agreed upon. For more information attend the next Stull training.

**School Give Away:** On August 25<sup>th</sup> six school board members voted in favor of the Yolie Flores motion which puts almost a third of LAUSD schools up for bid. Board member La Motte was the sole vote against the motion. UTLA has begun setting up support systems for the targeted to schools to create design teams that will put forth school change plans. Schools will be visited by UTLA teams which will make the initial contact. UTLA will host a meeting for PI 3+ schools for an orientation. Superintendent Cortines is scheduled to attend and will answer questions. Please check the UTLA website for the latest information.

**Negotiations Update:** UTLA and LAUSD negotiated all summer in an effort to restore class size and re-employ as many of our members as possible. Talks fell apart because of the volatility of the state budget. Of the 1800 RIF'd members who signed up for substitute work almost 150 have been rehired and an additional 600+ are in long term substitute positions.

**No furlough days have been negotiated.**

Please check the UTLA website for truthful updates.

**Health & Benefits:** The HBC and the subcommittee worked all summer to squeeze the providers for the absolutely best packages. Kaiser was most disagreeable and they are now the highest priced plan. The committee was mindful of maintaining continuity of care and containing out of pocket expenses. Please be aware there are some significant changes for a minimum number of members. There will be an article in the September issue of the UT giving details and we will have an open forum for members to ask questions and share concerns. As always check the UTLA website for more information.

**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).

**Retirement Information:** Most information can be found on the Human Resources website at [www.teachinla.com/retirement](http://www.teachinla.com/retirement). Contact Mary Davis at (213)241-5213 or email at [mary.davis@lausd.net](mailto:mary.davis@lausd.net). For general information contact CalSTRS at [www.calstrs.com](http://www.calstrs.com) or call (800)228-5453.