



## UTLA protests reckless posting of flawed database

UTLA is protesting in the strongest possible terms the *L.A. Times'* reckless and destructive posting of a “value-added” database naming 6,000 teachers and purporting to rate their effectiveness.

Scholars and researchers across the country agree that the value-added methodology is too unreliable and unstable to justify identifying individual teachers as “effective” or “ineffective” based solely on their value-added score. It is the height of journalistic irresponsibility to make public these deeply flawed judgments about a teacher’s effectiveness.

The database will cause chaos at school sites, as parents scramble to get their children into classes taught by teachers labeled as “effective” by a *newspaper*—not by education professionals or the parents, teachers, and principals who have worked with these teachers. It could also have a long-lasting impact on the careers of teachers who the *Times* labeled as “ineffective” based on just one measure. Even the *L.A. Times* admits that teacher effectiveness must be based on multiple measures.

UTLA attorneys investigated the possibility of filing for an injunction against the *Times*, but because teachers are public employees, we could not prevent the newspaper from posting the information.

See [utla.net](http://utla.net) for additional information and resources on “value added”.

### HOW YOU CAN FIGHT BACK

#### **Cancel your subscription or stop purchasing the L.A. Times**

Call (213) 237- 5000. After you cancel, please call UTLA at (213) 487-5560 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Monday-Friday) and let us know you cancelled your subscription.

**Protest at the L.A. Times building on September 14** Join your colleagues for a demo on Tuesday, September 14, from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. to show your frustration with the *Times'* inaccurate and irresponsible journalism. (more details to come)