

Attention: All UTLA Chapter Chairs and Co-Chairs

Notice of UTLA Elections September 2011

A run-off election for the UTLA-NEA Vice President is being re-run (ballots to be mailed November 4, 2011), and an election to fill a vacancy for the AFT Harbor Area Board of Directors member is being conducted (voting at the Area meeting November 2, 2011).

As the official representative of UTLA at your school site, you play a vital and important role in assuring that the UTLA elections are conducted in a manner that is fair, and that you encourage the full and informed participation of all the UTLA members at your school.

As a UTLA Chapter Chair, you have the following rights:

- You have the right to endorse, or to refrain from endorsing, any candidate for UTLA office. You have the right to inform members at your school of your endorsement, provided that you do not use any UTLA resources to do so.
- You have the right to approve or deny permission for candidates to campaign at your work site. However, it is your duty to base your decision on reasonable grounds- such as scheduling issues or logistical concerns- rather than on partisan considerations.

As a UTLA Chapter Chair, you have the following responsibilities:

- It is your *responsibility* to assure that all candidates have a reasonable and equal opportunity to communicate with the members at your school, regardless of your personal decision to endorse or oppose any particulate candidate (s). For example, if you put one candidate's flyers in mailboxes, you need to do the same for all candidates.
- To help assure an informed membership, you should encourage candidates (or their representatives) to visit your school site during the election. You should also encourage your members to view the candidates' videos on the UTLA webpage and to read the candidates' statements in the United Teacher.
- Like all persons who act on UTLA's behalf, it is your *responsibility* to keep in mind the best interests of UTLA and its members, and to make sure everything that is done is fair and equitable, and does not give one candidate an advantage over other candidates, when acting in your official capacity as Chapter Chair.

If you have any questions about your rights and duties as Chapter Chair during these elections, please email them to: 2011elections@utla.net.

In Unity,

Martha Bayer
Co-Chair
UTLA Elections Committee

Mike Dreebin
Co-Chair
UTLA Elections Committee