

NEA Affiliate Vice President Rerun Election

CANDIDATE FOR NEA VICE PRESIDENT

Statement of M. J. (Mary Jan) Roberts

Dear UTLA Colleagues,

Last school year, you spoke loud and clear with your votes. You elected me by a vast plurality of the votes to serve as your UTLA National Education Association Affiliate Vice-President and I was honored to take on the challenge of representing you in these times of attacks on our profession. However, I have not been fully allowed to act on your behalf due to a challenge of that same election. Our current re-run of the election for the position of UTLA NEA Affiliate Vice President is being held through no fault of my own. This election is costing the union additional money; money that could be used to fight for members and our schools.

I am writing to remind you that my resolve to –

- Strengthen and promote dialog through strategic organizing
- Unite UTLA with others in the labor community, and
- Insure our voice and concerns are heard at the local, state and national levels

has not changed! **My priority is to get RIFed members back to work and to get displaced members promptly reassigned, so as to relieve overcrowded classrooms and to provide staffing for desperately needed student health and counseling.**

This November, I am asking you once again to cast a vote for change within our ranks. We need no more Status Quo officers. I am committed to stand side by side with you for the long haul. I will continue to give UTLA the best of me! When elected and certified to assume the position of UTLA NEA Vice President, I can assure you I will not use the position as a springboard into other political arenas. My commitment is to UTLA and its members. UTLA members want, deserve and need a hard working city-wide officer...LET'S MOVE UTLA FORWARD TOGETHER....

VOTE MARY JAN "M.J." ROBERTS – UTLA NEA VICE-PRESIDENT ... We can work together to make positive things happen for our students, public education, and our members who serve both. (Please return ballot prior to Thanksgiving holiday).

Endorsed by individual UTLA Officers, Area Chairs, General and Special Category Board of Directors, and the Latino Caucus, PEAC, United Valley Caucus, NewTLA, Women's Progressive Caucus and Adult Educators Caucus.



CANDIDATE FOR NEA VICE PRESIDENT

Statement of Ana Valencia

I ask for your vote as your UTLA/NEA Vice President.

When I first joined UTLA, I was drawn to our union because of its reputation as a fighting union for our members. I have served with a few presidents in UTLA and I have been concerned about the turn that our members' fortunes have taken in the last few years. It is a new day in UTLA and I ask for your vote in my effort to bring UTLA back to providing a strong voice and actions on behalf of our members.

You are on the receiving end of much negativity in the classroom based on district, state and federal actions from "leaders" who want to "reform" you and your school. You need a union that is committed to defending you against these attacks, wherever they may come from. In my activism in UTLA, I have served at every level of union leadership. I have gained invaluable experience and skills that I put to work every day on behalf of our members.

You do great work and put your heart and soul into your classroom for the children of this district. I do the same and want to be your voice at the local, state and national level.

Today attacks on many fronts in public education abound, most notably Public School Choice and tying teacher evaluation to test scores. The giving away of schools and teacher rights is appalling, all under the disguise of teacher reform. I have spoken out against the attacks and marched alongside you at the various demonstrations held at our schools, at the District, at the *Times*

and at Pershing Square. I've worked with school site plan teams, and gone door-to-door to inform parents of their rights. The battles continue.

Count on me to work with you, and for you to make sure our demands are heard and met.

Active in my own community as a school board member for the Norwalk-La Mirada District, where I work well with the teachers union, I bring broad and invaluable experiences that are otherwise absent in the UTLA leadership.

My service as a UTLA leader ranges from Co-Chair at City Terrace Elementary and Area Crisis Organizer, to UTLA Vice President and chairperson of committees such as Grievance Review, Constitution and Calendar Committees. Been elected delegate to CTA State Council, NEA/RA and AFT Conventions, founded the AFT's Hispanic Caucus, and have served you as spokesperson for education-focused initiatives and propositions, most notably Yes on 55, which provided badly-needed funding for school repairs, and No on 74-76, the Schwarzenegger attacks on public employee unions.

With a long record of union activism, **I am a strong voice for all members.** Please contact me at avalen5@aol.com

Re-Elect Ana Valencia for UTLA/NEA Vice President

