



Chapter Talking Points

August 20, 2019

Info for chapter leaders

- **First Area meetings of the new school year: AUGUST 28**

The first area meeting of a new school year is always important but this year's first area meeting is vastly more important since, in addition to everything else, we are also facing contract re-openers, healthcare bargaining, and the implementation and enforcement of new contract victories won during the strike. Here are some of the key items that will be discussed:

- Updates on contract re-openers, Schools and Communities First initiative, School Board, and charter legislation.
- In-depth discussion of contract enforcement, including tools such as an electronic report form to track and fight around any non-compliance issues, class size charts, and more.
- Chapter power forms for membership, PACE, CAT's, and Local School Leadership Councils.
- Important materials for first parent meetings of the year.

All Chapter Chairs must make an effort to attend this area meeting. However, if you are unable to attend, please send a representative to ensure that your school has all the information, tools, and materials necessary for upcoming and ongoing action.

Talking points for chapter meetings

Welcome back to the 2019-2020 school year

- We hope you had a restful summer and are ready for the challenges and the opportunities we will encounter this school year. We now use the power of our strike to push a bold new vision: [Our New Deal for Public Schools](#). Read more in [UTLA Officer's welcome message](#).

LAUSD School Rating System

- UTLA has opposed the School Performance Framework since over a year ago when it was first brought forward by Nick Melvoin and Kelly Gonez and approved by the School Board. The Framework would unacceptably rate schools on a scale of 1 to 5, and is based heavily on test scores while ignoring the many complexities that add up to a school's performance. We described it at the time as a system to "starve schools, then rate schools, then flip schools to charters." The development process has been difficult to access and UTLA and parents have raised many concerns and controversies during the process.

During the strike, we stated explicitly that Portfolio Plan 1.0 (which our strike killed) was based on several linked ideas that foreshadowed portfolio plans in other states – this rating system, together with “unified enrollment” that would eventually include charters, networks of schools, and abuse of an equity index. While we killed Portfolio Plan 1.0, this emergence of the rating system means that they may be coming up with Portfolio Plan 2.0, which we will continue to oppose.

UTLA action calendar

August 28: Area meetings

September 4: PACE meeting

September 11: Board of Directors meeting

September 18: House of Representatives meeting