



Chapter Talking Points

November 5, 2019

Info for chapter leaders

Attend the last Area Meeting of 2019 on November 13

- It is essential that you attend or send a representative to the November 13 Area Meeting. We will be holding the advisory vote on whether to endorse Bernie Sanders in the Democratic Primary for U.S. President. We will also get into deeper details about the work that has to be done around bargaining, the School Board race, SCF, and the many other issues facing us. Materials will be available, including petitions for the School Board campaign and the Schools and Communities First Funding Act which will close commercial property tax loopholes and restore \$11 billion a year to schools and other community services.

Continue to get signatures for the School Board petition

- Work the rosters to identify members who are registered to vote in board districts 1, 3, 5, and 7 (marked in last column) and encourage them to sign the petition to commit to vote for candidates. **This is an essential first step in making sure our members vote.**

Continue monitoring contract compliance with the Chapter Power Checklist

- Continue reporting the state of contract compliance and any issues at your site on the [updated Chapter Power Checklist](#).

Talking points for chapter meetings

Electing the four candidates our schools need

- Our four School Board candidates—George McKenna, Scott Schmerelson, Jackie Goldberg, and Patricia Castellanos— will give us the school board majority we need to keep charter-backed candidates like Nick Melvoin from turning the School Board into a rubber stamp institution to validate the billionaires' latest privatization plans. There are 7 seats on the board. We need strong pro-public education, pro-teacher board members in at least 4 of those seats.
- **See your Chapter Chair to determine if you are one of the lucky 10,000 members who are registered in Districts 1, 3, 5, or 7. If so, sign the School Board petition now.** We are all counting on you to help us elect a School Board that will work for the benefit of our students, not a board beholden to the whims and schemes of billionaires and special interest groups.

Sanders can win – engage in possible Bernie Sanders Democratic Party primary endorsement

- Electability or the "ability to beat Trump" is one of the issues being considered by UTLA members as we engage in our six-week process of possibly endorsing Senator Bernie Sanders for US President in the Democratic Party primary election. Here are some stats:
 - Bernie leads by 3 points in New Hampshire, a key primary state
 - Bernie has the only campaign with more donations than Trump
 - Bernie is beating Trump by 7+ points in 26 polls
 - Bernie's campaign is the fastest to ever reach 1 million donors
- After the advisory vote, the UTLA House of Representatives will vote on the endorsement.

—Read the engagement timeline and [Why a Bernie Endorsement Matters](#)

We congratulate CTU and SEIU members on their victory

- After 11 days on the picket line, CTU and SEIU members walked back into the classrooms last Friday, November 1. The Tentative Agreement, subject to a ratification vote by CTU and SEIU members, calls for enforceable class-size caps, additional nurses and social workers, a ban on new charter schools during the life of the contract, pay raises, and more. The labor movement's ongoing fight for educational justice continues, but this battle was well fought and won.

"This is an unprecedented thing that happened, right, we have language in the contract regarding class size, we have language in the contract regarding staffing numbers and we've never, ever had that before. This is a tremendous victory," said CTU Financial Secretary Maria Moreno.

—Read more details at [CTU's website](#)

Rally for Justice, Immigrant Rights, & Equality

- On Saturday, November 9, the LA Fed is sponsoring [a rally to commemorate the historic fight against Prop 187](#), the racist ballot initiative passed by Governor Pete Wilson in 1994 that would have banned immigrants from schools and hospitals. The rally will be held at the Los Angeles State Historic Park, 1245 N. Spring Street from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. There will be free food, vendors, and live music. RSVP at www.thelafed.org/weareca .

UTLA action calendar

November 9: Rally for Justice, Immigrant Rights & Equality

November 13: Area Meetings