



Chapter Talking Points

December 17, 2019

Info for chapter leaders

First Area meeting of 2020 on January 22

- The Area meeting on Wednesday, January 22, will set the tone for the new year. In addition to contract and healthcare bargaining, we will discuss the launching of the second phase of the School Board campaign with neighborhood and precinct walks and move to the second phase of the campaign for the Schools and Communities First initiative. Be sure to attend or send a representative.

Second BOE campaign training & SCF overview on January 10

- If you missed the training session on December 7, there will be a second session on Friday, January 10, at UTLA, from 9 am to 12 noon. We will prepare for the launch of the 2nd phase of the School Board Campaign, review the recruitment plan, and train leaders on chapter-based neighborhood walks and other elements of our School Board campaign. There will also be information about the Schools and Communities First initiative. Please RSVP to jam@utla.net.

Message from the UTLA Elections Committee

- An email is going out to all members this week regarding information about the UTLA elections, candidates, ballots, etc. Please note that a single set of all the election flyers relevant to your Area will be sent to you at your home address. Please share them with your staff.

Talking points for chapter meetings

If you haven't signed the Schools and Communities First petition, do so now

- **Talk to your Chapter Chair to sign the SCF petition now.** The Schools and Communities First initiative applies to large corporations only and completely exempts all residential properties, homeowners, renters, and small businesses. The SCF initiative closes corporate tax loopholes to reclaim millions of dollars in funding that should have never been taken away from our children's education and local communities.

- The Schools and Communities First initiative is about tax fairness, not tax hikes. It has the support of hundreds of labor, community, senior, faith, health, housing and education organizations, school boards, elected officials, presidential candidates, and small businesses. See the [list of SCF supporters](#).

Our BOE candidates will fight for our schools

- We will put our BOE campaign in high gear starting early in 2020 with precinct and neighborhood walks. George McKenna, Scott Schmerelson, Jackie Goldberg and Patricia Castellanos are “our” candidates, regardless of where we live. We all need to contribute in whatever capacity we can— voting, phone banking, precinct walking, talking to family and friends— to get our four candidates elected.
- Visit our campaign website www.lateacherschoice.org for more information, including phone banking and precinct walking schedules.
- **See your Chapter Chair to determine if you are one of the 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.

Conference for Racial and Social Justice

- The UTLA Racial Justice Task Force is sponsoring a conference, “Teaching for Black Lives in Segregated Times,” for UTLA members on February 1, at UTLA, from 8 am to 3 pm. Patrisse Cullors, co-founders of Black Lives Matter, and Stacy Davis Gates, VP of the Chicago Teachers Union, will speak. **Go to <http://bitly.com/UTLAConference> to register.**

Have a safe and happy holiday break and New Year

- Enjoy the holidays with family and friends. Be proud of the accomplishments in 2019: our strike, our contract wins, the charter accountability legislation, the election of Jackie Goldberg to name a few. Come back rested and ready to face new challenges in 2020: bargaining contract reopeners and healthcare, taking back the School Board with the BOE elections, qualifying and passing the Schools and Communities First petition.

UTLA action calendar

January 9: Citywide Steering Committee meeting
January 10: BOE campaign training and SCF overview
January 22: Area meetings
January 29: PACE meeting
February 1: Conference for Racial and Social Justice
February 5: Board of Directors meeting
February 12: House of Reps meeting