

# Chapter Talking Points

*April 12, 2021*

## Info for chapter leaders

### Area meetings April 14

- Area meetings are scheduled for this Wednesday, April 14. With several schools reopening this week and others soon to follow, it is imperative that we meet to discuss any issues related to safety conditions and protocols and the enforcement of our agreement. Be sure to attend this meeting or have a representative from your site attend.
- Below are Zoom links for all Area meetings. Links will also be emailed individually by Area on Monday afternoon.

#### Links to join:

##### **EAST AREA - April 14 at 4:00 PM**

[https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYvdeGurDsiGdP3XGoHB9mBFSVCOwUxkUj6](https://zoom.us/join/https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYvdeGurDsiGdP3XGoHB9mBFSVCOwUxkUj6)

##### **HARBOR AREA - When: April 14 at 3:30 PM**

[https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlkdumgrjlrH937IsZEA6eGrD5\\_wiJI2DH9](https://zoom.us/join/https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlkdumgrjlrH937IsZEA6eGrD5_wiJI2DH9)

##### **WEST AREA - April 14 at 4:00 PM**

[https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJllc-usrTwjG9ayiz-d3Me9k0pM8CSQ2bQT](https://zoom.us/join/https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJllc-usrTwjG9ayiz-d3Me9k0pM8CSQ2bQT)

##### **NORTH AREA - April 14 at 04:00 PM**

[https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYtfuqhplotGdFJFGjOZcwiEDQIxSzlqA01](https://zoom.us/join/https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYtfuqhplotGdFJFGjOZcwiEDQIxSzlqA01)

##### **SOUTH AREA - April 14 at 04:00 PM**

[https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0tduCpqjwpG92f5OiElmK36ILAYTrEBAHP](https://zoom.us/join/https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0tduCpqjwpG92f5OiElmK36ILAYTrEBAHP)

##### **CENTRAL - April 14 at 04:00 PM**

[https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlqfuGrrTloH9fJn7rfDdc9Nf5U15iNolie](https://zoom.us/join/https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlqfuGrrTloH9fJn7rfDdc9Nf5U15iNolie)

**VALLEY WEST - April 14 at 4:00 PM**

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYudeuqpszstGd3WM6aoQqHY1haouaNkxt2Z>

**VALLEY EAST - April 14 at 4:00 PM**

[https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAqcOyhrTgvHdAEZknBnR\\_Pu3V9rUoOaU\\_e](https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAqcOyhrTgvHdAEZknBnR_Pu3V9rUoOaU_e)

**ECE - April 15 at 05:30 PM**

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJEud--pgDMpHNzaf1xYekXfJnbkT6Otyw4i>

## COVID-19 Compliance

As schools reopen this week, it is up to us to ensure that the safety measures we won for our members and students are implemented and enforced. The three main elements of our enforcement program are 1) the Covid-19 Compliance Task Force, 2) Walk throughs before campuses re-open to confirm that the safety elements are in place, 3) Reporting and attempting to resolve safety deficiencies.

1. **The Covid 19 Compliance Task Force:** To address issues related to COVID 19 safety at the school site as they arise.

- Chapter Chairs, if you have not done so already, please confirm that you will be on the Task Force at your site, or identify your designee at this link [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc\\_VqQtc\\_OSTIbm28yb8N\\_02RWqQ9ZLI5fULZ16Y9LMtwlyXQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc_VqQtc_OSTIbm28yb8N_02RWqQ9ZLI5fULZ16Y9LMtwlyXQ/viewform)

Here is a sample agenda for the first task force meeting [https://www.utla.net/sites/default/files/sample\\_agenda\\_for\\_first\\_covid\\_task\\_force\\_meeting1.pdf](https://www.utla.net/sites/default/files/sample_agenda_for_first_covid_task_force_meeting1.pdf)

2. **Walk Throughs to Confirm Safety Protocols:**

- One week before, as part of initial Covid 19 Compliance Task Force meeting
- Walk through the entire campus, each room and building.
- Use the checklist to confirm each safety element is in place [https://www.utla.net/sites/default/files/chapter\\_enforcement\\_checklist4-21.pdf](https://www.utla.net/sites/default/files/chapter_enforcement_checklist4-21.pdf)

- Request that the Principal fixes any deficiencies and submit the UTLA Chapter Chair Safety Violation Report Form to the principal to document the request
- Do a confirmation walk through on your first day back (the day before students arrive) to make sure all deficiencies have been corrected

### 3. UTLA Chapter Chair Safety Violation Report Form

[https://www.utla.net/sites/default/files/utla\\_safety\\_violation\\_report\\_form.pdf](https://www.utla.net/sites/default/files/utla_safety_violation_report_form.pdf)

- Use this form to document and report safety deficiencies to your principal and, if it is not resolved, to your UTLA Area Rep.
  1. Mark the category of the deficiency
  2. Provide a more detailed description of the deficiency.
  3. Request a remedy
  4. Document when you provided the notice to the principal (when you submitted this form). Fill out the form, and submit it to the principal via email
  5. if the principal does not resolve the issue in a timely manner, call the district hotline and document on the form the date and time that you did that
  6. If the issue is still not resolved in a reasonable period of time, call your UTLA Area Rep and provide them with the violation report form

If the issue is not resolved your UTLA Area Rep will contact the district but also work with you to develop a plan to take action with your coworkers. That might involve protest, picketing, and parent outreach. We will want to discuss strategy together before taking action.

- **Forms:**

Chapter Safety Checklist

[https://www.utla.net/sites/default/files/chapter\\_enforcement\\_checklist4-21.pdf](https://www.utla.net/sites/default/files/chapter_enforcement_checklist4-21.pdf)

Special Services Safety Checklist for Special Ed, RST, HHS, DIS, Arts and PE Itinerants (pending ratification by affected UTLA members)

[https://www.utla.net/sites/default/files/special\\_categories\\_safety\\_checklist\\_2021.pdf](https://www.utla.net/sites/default/files/special_categories_safety_checklist_2021.pdf)

Confirm Covid-19 Task Force Representative

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc\\_VqQtc\\_OSTIbm28yb8N\\_02RWgQ9ZLI5fULZ16Y9LMtwlyXQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc_VqQtc_OSTIbm28yb8N_02RWgQ9ZLI5fULZ16Y9LMtwlyXQ/viewform)

Sample First Covid-19 Compliance Task Force Agenda

[https://www.utla.net/sites/default/files/sample\\_agenda\\_for\\_first\\_covid\\_task\\_force\\_meeting1.pdf](https://www.utla.net/sites/default/files/sample_agenda_for_first_covid_task_force_meeting1.pdf)

UTLA Chapter Chair Safety Violation Report Form:

[https://www.utla.net/sites/default/files/utla\\_safety\\_violationt\\_report\\_form.pdf](https://www.utla.net/sites/default/files/utla_safety_violationt_report_form.pdf)

## Rebuild your Chapter Action Teams Now

- As we commit to enforce the agreement on a safe return and hybrid instruction, it is essential that we build our capacity for collective action at every structural level of the union, including having a Chapter Action Team (CAT) at every school and well-functioning clusters in every area.
- We have to be ready to fight in the near future for more funding from the state and federal governments, more staffing and special education support in future bargaining, and a healthcare agreement beyond 2021. CATs are an essential component of this fight. Your team facilitates communication between all members in the group and will help you respond quickly when necessary to take action. If you haven't finished putting your team together, this is the time to do it.

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## Talking points for chapter meetings

### Protocols for a safe physical return

- This week, the first group of school campuses in LAUSD will reopen their doors to students and staff after more than a year of virtual learning. Our agreement requires LAUSD to implement significant safety protocols to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Last week, UTLA chapter leaders and steering committees met to cover strategies for a safe return and enforcing the agreement, which has some

of the highest safety and health standards in the nation.

- The three main elements of our enforcement program are 1) the COVID-19 Compliance Task Force, 2) walk-throughs before campuses reopen to confirm that the safety elements are in place, and 3) reporting and attempting to resolve safety deficiencies.
1. **Every school must have a COVID Task Force that meets weekly.** The UTLA chapter chair or designee serves on that task force, along with the school nurse, plant manager, principal (COVID 19 compliance officer), and other staff union representatives. Even if there are no urgent issues, the task force should meet every week.
  2. **Chapter leaders are encouraged to do a campus walk-through one week before a physical return.** Your chapter leaders have a safety checklist to make sure all elements of our safety protocols are in place before schools open, and there should be another walk-through the day before students return to make sure any issues and deficiencies have been corrected.
  3. **Issues should be reported quickly, with the goal of finding collaborative solutions and resolving problems swiftly** so that we can all feel confident in the safety of our school campuses. Most issues will likely be resolved at the school site level but there is a process for higher level action if needed. Once schools are up and running, the safety checklist should be reviewed every day to make sure every safety element is in place in your school.
- These circumstances are new to all of us and we should be patient with each other and with our students. We all might need to be reminded about distancing and appropriate protocols. “There will be bumps in the road, but this past year has shown just how resilient our learning communities are,” UTLA President Cecily Myart-Cruz said. “As always we will have each other’s backs and stand together for all the complications, hurdles, and joys that will come with returning to our classrooms and workspaces.”

## **94% Yes: Members approve sideletter agreement on special services**

- UTLA members who deliver specialized student services have voted to ratify the agreement with LAUSD on safely delivering specialized student services in a hybrid environment, with 94% Yes ballots cast and 6% No. The voting was

conducted by Integrity Voting Systems April 7 through 9.

- The tentative agreement includes safety and working conditions that will allow each specialized group to do their work, including conducting assessments and safely providing services at multiple school sites. The sideletter also provides additional specialized PPE equipment, a clearly defined workspace that must be assigned no less than 48 hours prior to being expected to physically return to work, and guidance on carrying out primary and necessary job duties.

[Agreement on Specialized Services](#)

## Special Education: Fulfill the Promise

- UTLA is a proud partner in a new coalition of educators, parents, and unions driving a national civil rights campaign for Special Education, [Fulfill the Promise](#), to demand that all students with disabilities receive the needed supports and services.

As we go from global pandemic to recovery in our schools, now is the time for the federal government to fulfill the promise made in 1975 to America's students to fund the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act at 40% and to provide a free and appropriate education for all students with disabilities.

- The coalition is circulating an open petition urging President Biden and Education Secretary Cardona to take action for sustained, permanent funding of IDEA. **Sign the [Fulfill the Promise petition](#) to add your voice.**

## Chapter Chair elections

- Nominations are now open for UTLA Chapter Chairs for the 2021-22 school year. UTLA Chapter Chairs have a critical role in organizing each school site, especially during a pandemic. For UTLA members interested in the position of UTLA Chapter Chair, here is the correct [self-nomination form](#) to submit before April 30. From May 3 to 7, an email will go out to uncontested Chapter Chair candidates to notify them that they are uncontested and they are the new upcoming Chapter Chair. The uncontested Chapter Chair must submit the fillable [Notice of Chapter Chair Elections \(NOCCE\) form](#) to be official. For

contested elections, an email with instructions will be sent to the Election Committee at the school site to conduct a Survey Monkey poll.

- Nominations are also open for UTLA Special Category Chapter Chairs. UTLA members who are interested should complete the fillable [Special Category form](#) before April 30.

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## **UTLA calendar**

**April 14:** Area meetings

**April 21:** PACE/Elementary meetings

**April 28:** Board of Directors meeting