

# Chapter Talking Points

April 26, 2021

## Info for chapter leaders

### COVID-19 Compliance

As more schools reopen, we need to continue to monitor and enforce the safety measures we won for our members and students. The main elements of our enforcement program are the Covid-19 Compliance Task Force and reporting and attempting to resolve safety deficiencies.

- **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\\_02RWgQ9ZLI5fULZ16Y9LMtwlyXQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc_VqQtc_OSTIbm28yb8N_02RWgQ9ZLI5fULZ16Y9LMtwlyXQ/viewform)

Here is a sample agenda for the first task force

meeting [https://www.utla.net/sites/default/files/sample\\_agenda\\_for\\_first\\_covid\\_ta sk\\_force\\_meeting1.pdf](https://www.utla.net/sites/default/files/sample_agenda_for_first_covid_ta sk_force_meeting1.pdf)

- **UTLA Chapter Chair Safety Violation Report Form**

Use this form to document and report safety deficiencies to your principal and, if it is not resolved, to your UTLA Area

Rep: [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)  
(UPDATED)

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\\_02RWg\\_Q9ZLI5fULZ16Y9LMtwlyXQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc_VqQtc_OSTIbm28yb8N_02RWg_Q9ZLI5fULZ16Y9LMtwlyXQ/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\\_violation\\_report\\_form.pdf](https://www.utla.net/sites/default/files/utla_safety_violation_report_form.pdf) (UPD ATED)

## 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.

## **Talking points for chapter meetings**

### **UTLA member survey on extended work year**

- Last week, members were surveyed on the extension of the 2021-2022 work year by ten days at full pay currently under consideration by the district. The district's initial idea is to split the time between planning and professional development for teachers and school staff, and time for students to process the trauma and anxiety they've experienced the past year and to work on learning fundamentals.
- The majority of members responding to the survey (75%) chose no extension as their most preferred option and 3 days as their second choice. Members were relatively evenly split between the three options on how to allocate days if an extension were necessary, with a bare majority (41%) choosing to start the school year earlier, end the second semester later, and maintain the three week winter recess as their most preferred option.

A change to the work year has to be bargained, and we'll be meeting with the district this week for this purpose. Members would vote on an agreement if one is reached with LAUSD.

### **85.6% Yes: Adult Education and CTE members approve sideletter agreement**

- Adult Education and CTE members have voted to ratify a sideletter agreement with LAUSD to safely return to campus in a hybrid model, with 85.6% Yes votes and 14.4% No votes among ballots cast. The voting was conducted by Integrity Voting Systems from April 21 through 23.

The tentative agreement is consistent with agreements made for other groups, in that it prioritizes safety and does not require simultaneous (in-person and online) instruction.

## LAUSD Superintendent Austin Beutner resigns

- Austin Beutner has announced his resignation effective June 30, when his contract expires. In a letter to the school board, he said he wishes to allow the new superintendent to welcome students in the Fall of 2021.

We hope the national search for a new Superintendent will focus on pro-public education candidates as part of a public process involving educators, parents, and community members.

This global pandemic has laid bare the deep inequities of our society and amplified the essential role public schools play in our communities. We must call for a superintendent who is committed to a robust, fully resourced public school system that serves all our communities equitably.

## April 30 deadline for Chapter Chair nominations

- 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.

## Release Days for Special Ed Teachers to Complete Assessments

- All Special Education teachers are encouraged to submit their written requests, as soon as possible, to their site administrators for two release days this second semester to complete federally mandated assessments for students on their caseload. Special Education teachers have access to a third release day this school year with no loss of pay. Refer to Section A, item 3, in our [Physical Return Sideletter for Special Education teachers, DIS providers, SHHS staff, and Arts & PE Itinerants.](#)

## UTLA calendar

**April 28:** Board of Directors meeting

**May 5:** House of Representative meeting