

Chapter Talking Points

March 22, 2021

Info for chapter leaders

Tentative Agreement approved by an 89% member vote

- Once hybrid instruction begins, enforcement of the agreement will be key. You or your designee, will be part of your school's COVID-19 Compliance Task Force. The task force will meet weekly to address any issues with safety compliance. You can [use this checklist](#) to make sure that all safety procedures and protocols are in place at your school or place of work.
- As we learn more about the district's reopening plans, we will provide more information on the implementation of our safety protocols.

Rebuild your Chapter Action Teams Now

- As we commit to enforce the agreement on a safe return and hybrid instruction and continue to bargain over hybrid instructional models for special education, itinerants, and health and human services, 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

89% yes: UTLA members overwhelmingly approve agreement of safe return & hybrid instruction

- UTLA members have voted overwhelmingly to ratify the agreement with LAUSD on a safe physical return and hybrid instruction. Over four days of voting March 18 through 21 conducted by Integrity Voting Systems, 20,413 ballots were cast, with 89% Yes ballots (18,127) and 11% No (2,286)..

The agreement achieves all three of our safety criteria (LA out of the purple tier, vaccine access, and safety protocols) and establishes strict and enforceable safety procedures that are the highest safety standards in the nation. The CDC's recent shift calling for only 3 feet of physical distance in schools instead of 6 feet will not impact our agreement or any of the other protocols, including PPE, improved ventilation, and daily cleaning and disinfecting.

The district will need sufficient planning time to prepare for the return to schools. At this point, the district is tentatively planning for a mid-April physical return for TK-6 and an end of April-beginning of May physical return for grades 7-12. We are encouraging members to participate in the Employee Return Survey and Substitute Availability Statement, as the district will need this information to begin the process of considering accommodations requests.

As with any contract agreement, enforcement of the health and safety provisions will be key. Every school will have a COVID-19 Compliance Task Force that includes the Chapter Chair or their designee. Be sure to report to your Chapter Chair any conditions or activities you think might be in violation of the agreement.

UTLA and LAUSD are bargaining now over how to safely provide Special Education services, Designated Instructional Services, Health and Human Services, and VAPA Itinerant services to students in the hybrid schedules. Affected UTLA members will vote on the negotiated sideletters.

DEADLINE - April 8, 2021: CTA State Council election notice

- There will be elections during the April 14 UTLA Area meetings to fill expired terms and a Minority At-Large seat for CTA State Council of Education, the top policy-making body of the California Teachers Association. CTA State Council develops legislation, makes recommendations in general elections, advocates for educator rights and funding, and amplifies voices against corporate charter schools and privatization.
- If you would like to vote in the election, you will need to register for a ballot using this link [webform](#). You could also visit the UTLA Website to register by clicking: <https://www.utla.net/resources/cta-SC-expired-term-minority-large-election-ballot-registration> to register for a ballot. Voting will take place between the hours of 4:00 – 5:30 pm. You must register with a non-LAUSD email to receive the ballot. Only members who register for a ballot by Thursday, April 8th, will be able to vote in the election (and in any runoffs if necessary).

Registered members will receive a balloting email from Simply Voting that will only be active during the elections between the hours of 4:00 – 5:30 pm. After 5:30pm, your ballot will no longer generate a vote.

UTLA calendar

March 24: Board of Directors meeting

March 28: Spring Break

April 14; Area meetings

April 21: PACE/Elementary meetings