

Chapter Talking Points

May 24, 2021

Info for chapter leaders

Remind members to take the survey before 5 pm this Tuesday

- Please hold a chapter meeting to discuss the survey on the physical reopening of schools. Remind members of the importance of voicing their opinion and providing feedback on how they have experienced the physical reopening and to offer input on how the additional money coming to LAUSD should be spent. Member feedback will help prioritize our demands at the bargaining table. Encourage members to take the survey as soon as possible.

The survey link was emailed again on Sunday morning. Members who did not receive an email can request a link to the survey at <http://bit.ly/schoolyearsurvey>. The survey will close this Tuesday, May 25 at 5:00 pm.

COVID-19 Compliance

It is important 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 are 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

- **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
(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

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

Confirm Covid-19 Task Force Representative

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc_VqQtc_OSTIbm28yb8N_02RWg_Q9ZLI5fULZ16Y9LMtwlyXQ/viewform

Sample Covid-19 Compliance Task Force Agenda

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 (UPD ATED)

Send in the Notice of Chapter Chair Election

- If you were the 2020-2021 Chapter Chair for your school or chapter, intend to continue as the chapter chair for the 2021-2022 school year, and are uncontested, you must submit a [Notice of Chapter Chair Election](#). There is no automatic extension of your assignment as chapter chair - you are required to submit the form via email to Princess Sykes at psykes@utla.net. You were informed by email if you have a contested or uncontested election.

If you are not intending to run, and no one from your chapter self nominated in the nomination window, please share this announcement with others at your site so that a chapter chair can represent your school. It is important that we receive this form as soon as possible to complete the election process for your chapter and officially record the name of the 2021-2022 Chapter Chair.

[Notice of Chapter Chair Elections](#)

UTLA Virtual Leadership Conference August 4-6

- We will be holding our annual Leadership Conference virtually again this year, from August 4 to 6. Over three days, Chapter leaders will strategize and organize as we fight forward for the healthy, healing, and equitable return that our students and communities deserve. Registration and more info coming soon.

Rebuild your Chapter Action Teams Now

- We need to 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

Bargaining update: UTLA initial proposal

- Bargaining with the district has shifted to the necessary conditions for schools to physically open in a traditional model for the 2021-2022 school year. The district plans to fully reopen, with an overwhelming majority of staff and students physically attending school five days per week, unless pandemic conditions change for the worse. An online option would remain for families who choose it, and the district has acknowledged that some staff members may need to stay at home for health reasons.

With LAUSD having to make some funding commitments by June, bargaining is on a compressed timeline. Last week we made an initial proposal to the district on supports our students need for a healthy, healing, and equitable return. The district presented a counterproposal on Thursday, rejecting our demands on compensation and staffing. Bargaining continues next week. Read the proposals in the links below.

LAUSD will be receiving between \$2 billion and \$4 billion in one-time money for pandemic recovery and an additional increase in ongoing state funding when the state budget is passed.

UTLA initial proposal for the 2021-22 school year

- Maintain critical health and safety protocols that have proven to keep our communities safer, such as masking, COVID testing, distancing, ventilation, cleaning and disinfecting, and school-based COVID-19 Compliance Task

Forces.

- Address educator shortage through recruitment and retention measures, including 6% ongoing salary increase for UTLA members with a one-time 2% increase for 2021-22 and a \$2,000 signing bonus for new hires. We must grapple with the historic shortage of teachers in the labor market, which has been exacerbated by the grueling year our learning communities have had.
- Lower class sizes by hiring 1,000 elementary and secondary classroom teachers so that students can get more individualized attention.
- Expand social-emotional support for students by hiring 1,800 new school psychologists, counselors, PSAs, and PSWs.
- Provide stability for our learning communities through no teacher displacements for 2021-22 and no combo classes for elementary schools.
- Expand direct support for special education students who have suffered from lack of access to the services they need by hiring 300 new Special Education teachers and 300 new DIS providers.
- Enrich the curriculum through expanded arts, music, and drama instruction by hiring 50 new itinerant art teachers.

We'll have a bigger package of demands to fight for in full contract negotiations that will kick off with a deep member input process starting this summer and fall.

We are also working with the Reclaim Our Schools LA coalition to force the district to build their budget for next year around a similar set of demands that meets the needs of our students and communities. This is the time, as a union and as part of the Reclaim Our Schools coalition, to fight for transformational change in our public schools and our society.

[UTLA Proposal 5-18-21](#)

[LAUSD Proposal 5-20-21](#)

[Reclaim Our Schools LA Platform](#)

Feedback needed: Complete the member survey ASAP

- Last Wednesday, we launched a new UTLA member survey on the physical reopening of schools. With bargaining on a tight timeline and our initial proposal on the table, member feedback will help prioritize our demands. The survey link was also emailed on Sunday.
- If you can't locate the survey email in your inbox, check your spam or junk folders. If you still can't locate the survey email, you can request a survey link at <http://bit.ly/schoolyearsurvey>. The deadline to complete the survey is Tuesday, May 25, at 5 pm.

May 24: UTLA Constitution Committee Member Forum

- The UTLA Constitution Committee has been reviewing the UTLA Constitution, so that it reflects our present reality and structure. We are undertaking an extensive process to revise the UTLA Constitution, which includes an open forum for UTLA members to give input to the Constitution Committee. This forum will be held on **Monday, May 24, from 5 to 6 pm**. Registration required at the link below.

Zoom Meeting Information

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUtdeGrqjksGtSHHPvrv5D3NcwdLR10q8R8>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. If you have any questions contact UTLA Secretary Arlene Inouye ainouye@utla.net.

- **In lieu of attending the Constitution Member Forum, you can also submit comments on the constitution by filling out [this form](#).**

WHO Award nominations

- We are now taking nominations for the CTA State WHO Award. The application can be found [here](#), at UTLA.net. The **“WHO” State Award** is for active UTLA/NEA members who have given outstanding service in support of UTLA/NEA and its members at the state or national levels of UTLA, CTA and NEA. The deadline to submit an application is May 27th. The winner will be

recognized at the June CTA State Council and in the Spring of 2022 at the UTLA WHO Awards which we hope to have back in person.

[WHO Awards nomination form](#)

UTLA calendar

May 19-25: Member Survey

May 24: Constitution Committee Member Forum

May 26: Board of Directors meeting