

Chapter Talking Points

May 26, 2020

Info for chapter leaders

Get your Roster - Instructions and link were sent May 19

- Instructions and the link to get your school's roster were sent last Tuesday, May 19. Your rosters will be available electronically for the duration of this crisis. Please use your roster to communicate with your colleagues and prepare together to demand that our classrooms and communities be fully funded. These rosters will reflect everyone who has signed the Classrooms and Communities Over Cuts petition as of various cutoff dates.

Hold a chapter meeting on budget fight

- Be sure to hold a chapter meeting as soon as possible to discuss our fight-back against budget cuts and to defeat the false narrative that layoffs and deep reductions are inevitable. We encourage you to use the [Chapter Meeting Powerpoint](#) to guide your discussion.
- **AFTER YOU HOLD YOUR MEETING:** Submit a report on the meeting at <https://bit.ly/chaptermeetingreport>.

PETITION TOOLS

- [Budget fight flyer](#)
- [Chapter Meeting PowerPoint](#) (file will download)
- [Classrooms and Communities Over Cuts petition link](#)
- [Tracking form](#)

Area meetings, Wednesday, June 17

- Mark your calendar now for the June 17 Area meeting. It is important that we stay connected to discuss any issues that come up regarding bargaining, summer school, school reopening and more. It is especially important to fuel our resolve and fully engage in the fight against budget cuts to our schools and our communities. Plan to attend and invite your CAT team.

Talking points for chapter meetings

Classrooms and Communities Over Cuts petition: When We Fight Together, We Win!

- Budget cuts would be devastating to our schools and would mean losing many of the improvements we won during the strike. Budget cuts would mean more students per classroom; the gutting of arts, physical education and music instruction; fewer social workers, custodians, and of course possible layoffs and/or furlough days. Budget cuts are untenable and tragic at a moment we face the challenges of reopening schools during a pandemic: maintaining social distancing, thorough cleaning, and other measures necessary to ensure the health and safety of students and staff.
- We need to act now, before legislators vote on the proposed cuts, to avoid this tragedy. Every UTLA member needs to sign the petition to reject cuts to public education and demand funding for our schools and the needs of our students. Remember our battle cry during the strike: When we fight together, we win.

BUDGET FIGHT ACTIONS

- Contact your chapter chair to sign the [Classrooms and Communities Over Cuts petition](#) and commit to the fight against all budget cuts and layoffs.
- Tell your legislator to pass a state budget with no cuts to education. Call 1-855-977-1770 to speak to your legislator.

Correction: PERB certifies UTLA at 3 Alliance charter schools; 2 more will be certified pending last week's ruling

- After a two-year-long legal fight, the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) certified UTLA last week as the exclusive collective bargaining representative of educators at three of the Alliance charter schools that filed for union recognition: Alliance Gertz-Ressler/Richard Merkin 6-12 Complex, Alliance College-Ready Middle Academy 5 and Alliance Judy Ivie Burton Technology Academy High School.
 - Educators at two others — Alliance Leichtman Levine Family Foundation Environmental Science High School (ESAT) and Alliance Morgan McKinzie High School will be certified pending last week's ruling. We anticipate the outcome to be the same: UTLA will be the exclusive bargaining representative of these two schools as well.
 - Alliance has been fighting PERB certification since educators at the three certified schools filed for union recognition in May 2018, with the pending two filing in 2019. But now with this decision, Alliance educators have prevailed after a two-year legal delay intended by Alliance to deny educators their right to bargain and to organize with UTLA.
 - Alliance educators look forward to bargaining at these union schools and are committed to organizing at all Alliance schools. We call on Alliance to respect PERB's decision and to recognize and bargain with us at these schools immediately.
-

Reopening and Improving our Schools

- UTLA's Bargaining Team with the Board of Directors is working on an all member survey to inform bargaining about the reopening and improvement of schools. We are also encouraging chapters to use their CAT structures for discussions around priority issues when schools reopen. We will also discuss the reopening Issues at our last Area Meeting of the year on June 17.
 - UTLA is committed to ensure that the health and safety of students and educators is the number one priority in any reopening plan. Fighting against the proposed budget cuts is essential to ensure that the necessary resources, such as labor, equipment, and systems needed to implement effective social distancing and disinfecting protocols, are in place to guarantee a safe return to our schools.
-

LAUSD approves car parades

- In a statement released last Friday, the district approved car parades for special celebrations, including graduations, quoting a Los Angeles County Emergency Operations announcement on this topic. This is different from a prior advisory the County had issued on May 16. The district added that the parades, as well as any other activities or celebrations, must meet all social distancing and safety guidelines issued by the Los Angeles County health authorities.
-

Last UTLA Wellness Wednesdays this week

- Don't miss the last Wellness Wednesday on May 27 at 8:30 am, a UTLA Facebook Live presentation. The UTLA Wellness Team has hosted this weekly program throughout May, Wellness and Mental Health Awareness month, to help you care for yourself during this pandemic. The [Facebook Live](#) program is also featured on our Instagram and Twitter feed. #UTLAWellnessWednesday
-

Human Rights Committee 2020 Conference

- The UTLA Human Rights Committee invites you to their annual Conference, The Impact of Covid on Our Schools and Our Communities. A panel of speakers will discuss the challenges of living and working during the COVID 19 pandemic.

TOPIC: The Impact of Covid on Our Schools and Our Communities

WHEN: Thursday, May 28, 2020

TIME: 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

The Zoom link will be posted [here](#). RSVP to radiohead261@aol.com and lupemartorres@yahoo.com See event information on Facebook @ UTLA Human Rights Committee.

UPDATED FAQs

We are updating our FAQ pages regularly. Check often for new info.

- [Members-FAQ](#)
 - [HHS-FAQ](#)
 - [Substitutes-FAQ](#)
 - [Parents-FAQ](#)
 - [Parents \(Spanish\)-FAQ](#)
-

UTLA calendar

June 17: Area meeting