

Chapter Talking Points

September 14, 2020

Info for chapter leaders

Chapter Chair trainings

Chapter chair trainings will be held, virtually, in each UTLA Area over the next two weeks. See the schedule below. Zoom links for Contract 101 were sent last Thursday. Links for Remedy, Rights and You will be sent later next week.

Contract 101:

West	9/16, 3:30 PM
Harbor	9/16, 3:30 PM
East	9/14, 4:00 PM
Valley East	9/14, 4:00 PM
South	9/15, 4:00 PM
Central	9/16, 4:00 PM
North	9/14, 4:00 PM
Valley West	9/15, 4:00 PM

Remedy, Rights and You

West	9/22, 3:30 PM
Harbor	9/24, 3:30 PM
East	9/21, 4:00 PM
Valley East	9/22, 4:00 PM
South	9/24, 4:00 PM
Central	9/24, 4:00 PM
North	9/21, 4:00 PM
Valley West	9/21, 4:00 PM

Prop 15 and School Board Campaign

- Winning the School Board seats and passing Proposition 15 are our main priorities at this time. Continue working on our three-step plan below.

Our three-step plan to win:

1. Get commitments from every member to vote for Prop 15 by asking them to sign onto this online pledge <https://www.utla.net/yes-prop-15-pledge>
2. Recruit at least 5 members from your chapter to join you for phone banking (from home) for 4 hours in September and 4 hours in October. Sign up here <https://lateacherschoice.org/#campaignnow>
3. Get one-on-one commitments from chapter members who are noted on your chapter roster as being registered in Board District 3 and 7 to vote for Scott Schmerelson (BD3) and Paty Castellanos (BD7).

Attached is a [short power point presentation](#) you can use in your virtual chapter meetings. It is also [attached as a pdf](#) in case you want to print it and see the talking points in the notes section easier.

Also attached is [an FAQ](#) and a [handout](#) on Prop 15.

Rosters

Chapter Rosters are updated regularly and sent to your chapteremail. Your roster indicates who is registered to vote in Board District 3 or Board District 7, and who has already officially declared their support for Prop 15 by signing the online petition.

[Power Point presentation](#) (will download)

[Power Point presentation](#) (PDF)

[Prop 15 FAQ](#)

[Prop 15 Handout](#)

[Prop 15 Pledge](#)

[Phone banking sign up](#)

Area meetings October 7

- Our next Area meetings are scheduled for Wednesday, October 7. We will review our Prop 15 and School Board election campaign, strategize for the final stretch leading to November 3, and discuss outstanding issues related to distance learning.

Send in the Notice of Chapter Chair Election Today

- If you were the 2019-2020 Chapter Chair for your school or chapter and you intend to continue as the chapter chair for the 2020-2021 school year, 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.
 - If you are not intending to run, 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 2020-2021 Chapter Chair.
 - [Notice of Chapter Chair Elections](#)
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Talking points for chapter meetings

Stop California's corporate welfare - Vote YES on Prop. 15

- Governor Gavin Newsom endorses Prop.15 because he knows some of California's richest corporations are taking advantage of a legal loophole that allows them to pay significantly lower property taxes than what should be their fair share. Our communities are being cheated out of millions of dollars that could go to improving schools and other essential services. Proposition 15 will put an end to this unfair situation and will bring \$12 billion to our communities without affecting in any way individual property owners or small businesses. We need to pass Proposition 15, especially now that our schools are facing increased expenses related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is our responsibility as educators to fight for the funds our schools desperately need. Commit to voting for Proposition 15 in November by signing [the online pledge here](#). Talk to family and friends and urge them to Vote Yes on Prop.15. Here are some details you can share with them:

PROPOSITION 15

- **RECLAIMS** \$12 billion per year for K-12 schools, community colleges and local communities
- **CLOSES** commercial property tax loopholes that allow big corporations like Chevron & Disney to avoid paying their fair share
- **ENSURES** full transparency & accountability for all reclaimed revenue
- Completely **EXEMPTS** all residential properties
- **PROTECTS** homeowners and renters
- **EXEMPTS** smaller businesses valued at under \$3 million and agricultural land
- Only 10% of the biggest, wealthiest commercial properties will generate 92% of the revenue

When we all pitch in, "we are just one phone call closer to seeing the change we need"

- Phone banking is under way for Scott Schmerelson and Paty Castellanos, our candidates for School Board District 3 and 7. We need a School Board we can work with to make the changes we know our schools need and safeguard the improvements we won during our strike
- "If we want to see change happen, then we need to make it happen! This is why I'm phone banking. We are just one phone call closer to seeing that change we need!," said Jennifer Stroger, Chapter Chair at Haskell STEAM Magnet. Jennifer loved her phone banking experience. She finds phone banking easy and fun and wants friends and colleagues to join her.
- Talk to your Chapter Chair about phone banking as a group and commit to phone bank 4 hours in September and 4 hours in October. It is easy and you can do it from home at a time of your choosing, but the impact on the election will be immeasurable. Sign up at <https://lateacherschoice.org/#campaignnow>

Norm Day victory.

- We have consistently called for no displacements, so as to minimize any further disruption to student learning. Because of school site organizing and pressure from members and parents, the district has made significant movement towards

limiting displacements by adjusting its teacher staffing norms in advance of Norm Day on September 18. UTLA will continue to assert that displacements are morally and pedagogically wrong at this time. Read the [district's letter](#).

Breakout groups and one-on-one assessments

- There are questions and concerns about how to structure small breakout groups and one-on-one assessments in a remote environment through Zoom. We believe that breakout groups and one-on-one assessments are essential elements of an effective distance learning program.

However, the district has refused, despite our repeated demands, to provide a written policy as to whether, how and when our members should do either. As a result, we discourage you from utilizing these tools now and until the district acknowledges this issue and provides clear and written guidelines for their implementation.

September 30 National Day of Action

- Save the date for a National Day of Action on September 30 to unite our schools and communities in asking for fair taxation and an end to loopholes that allow rich corporations to benefit at the expense of our schools. The action will target the anti-Prop 15 lies. More information coming soon.

Pre-Retirement Live Webinar October 10

- Take control of your retirement and learn about LAUSD health benefits, your Cal-STRS pension, and SSA Windfall & Offset Acts at the Pre-Retirement Live Webinar on Saturday, October 10 from 8:00 AM to 12 noon. The webinar is presented by the UTLA Pre-Retirement Issues Committee. Register [here](#) or click on the calendar at www.utla.net. Zoom link will be emailed to you. Materials, including a checklist, will be available at the end of the webinar.

UTLA calendar

Sept. 16: House of Reps meeting

Sept. 30: National Day of Action

Oct. 7: Area meetings