

# Chapter Talking Points

September 21, 2020

## Info for chapter leaders

### Chapter Chair trainings

Chapter chair trainings continue this week in each UTLA Area. See the schedule below. Zoom links were sent Friday to all Chapter Chairs.

#### 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](#)

## **CACS Statewide Rep Council/Site Leader Meeting**

- Leaders and representatives from the California Association of Community Schools (CACS) locals across California will be meeting to discuss the best ways to coordinate and build power. Please plan on attending the Rep Council meeting on **September 23 from 5pm - 6:30pm**. [Register here](#).

## **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](mailto: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

### **Tell Beutner: No displacements!**

- LAUSD students and teachers have worked hard over the past few weeks fostering relationships, learning various platforms, and adjusting to new schedules. Unfortunately, many students are now facing the possibility of being shifted to a different class due to teachers being displaced based on class-size numbers.
- During the upheaval of an unprecedented pandemic and catastrophic fires caused by climate change, our students need more stability, not less. Because of school-site organizing and pressure from UTLA members and parents, the district has made movement toward limiting displacements by [adjusting its teacher staffing norms](#). But they have not gone far enough to protect our students. Beutner can decide that no displacements will occur during this crisis — but [Beutner needs to hear from us](#). **Since last Thursday, more than 800 educators, parents and community members have called Beutner to say no to displacements. Let's keep the pressure up.**
- **MAKE THE CALL:** [Click here](#) for link to call Beutner and ask him to protect students from serious disruptions to teaching and learning.

## Invest in your future and the future of our schools - Commit to Vote and Campaign for Prop. 15

- Because of the pandemic and economic downturn, K-12 education in California faces a \$20 billion yearly shortfall. During the Great Recession of 2008-10 pink slips were issued year after year to educators and thousands their jobs. We face that again as soon as this March if the state doesn't get a revenue boost. Students pay the ultimate price, with high class sizes, the loss of trusted teachers and staff members, and destabilized school communities. Prop. 15 is part of the answer to this crisis. By closing corporate tax loopholes, we could raise \$12 billion for schools and services.

In total, big business and wealthy corporate interests are funneling more than \$7 million to oppose Proposition 15 because it will make them pay their fair share in taxes. We must fight back with the tools we have: People power.

As busy and overwhelmed as we are coping with the pandemic, the fires and distance learning, we need to find the time to invest in our future and the future of our students. Ten minutes of our time now talking about Prop 15 to our neighbors, family members or coworkers will help our schools and save jobs in the near future.

There are only 43 days left to Election Day. Let's all do this now while we can and not have to lament later. We will win if we all commit — [commit to vote for Prop 15](#) and commit to campaign for Prop 15.

### **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

## **Phone bank for our School Board candidates as if your job depended on it, because it might.**

- Winning the School Board seats in District 3 and 7 is as important as passing Prop 15. We can't have privatizers on the board who will weaponize the fiscal crisis to undermine public education. Privatizers on the board will look for any excuse to declare our schools a failure and threaten our jobs and our benefits as they have done in the past. We need proven public education advocates — Scott Schmerelson and Paty castellanos — who will defend our schools.

The opposition is already spending BIG against our school board candidates. Within the last few days, Jim Walton of WalMart gave \$300,000 and Bill Bloomfield, who spent outrageous sums to beat Measure EE, just funneled \$200,000 to try to beat our candidates. We need to stand strong and not back down. We must take on the billionaires again and win.

- 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>

## **Breakout groups and one-on-one assessments**

- Despite our repeated demands to provide a written policy as to whether, how and when our members should structure small breakout groups and one-on-one assessments, the district has not responded yet. 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.

If your principal insists that you do a one-on-one assessment, you should tell them that district policy prohibits us from meeting one-on-one with a student and that you are not comfortable breaking district policy. If the principal insists that you meet one-on-one with a student, ask for a written directive to do so before you comply.

## **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.

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## **UTLA calendar**

**Sept. 30:** National Day of Action

**Oct. 7:** Area meetings