

Chapter Talking Points

September 28, 2020

Info for chapter leaders

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.

Prop 15 and School Board Campaign

- Continue working on the Prop 15 and School Board campaigns using our three-step plan below. Winning the School Board seats and passing Proposition 15 are our main priorities at this time.
- **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](#)

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](#)

Talking points for chapter meetings

On September 30, ask Chevron to pay their fair share

- Join the National Day of Action on September 30 for a car caravan outside of the Chevron refinery in El Segundo to demand they stop attacking Prop. 15 so our

schools and communities can reclaim the funding they deserve. Learn more at bit.ly/sept30LA.

- Under Proposition 15, Chevron would pay an estimated \$5 million to \$9 million more each year in property taxes to benefit schools and local services. And that money is just for Chevron's refineries — the corporation would also owe millions on other under-assessed land. But Chevron is just one example of the amount of money major corporations are keeping from our schools and communities. That is why the corporate opposition is spreading lies about Prop 15, trying to scare voters and defend their billions in property loopholes. So many lies that a judge removed more than 100 words from their proposed ballot argument for "false or misleading" scare tactics.
- Their number one lie: That Prop 15 hurts homeowners. You may hear your friends or family repeat that untruth. Please don't let it go unanswered. Property taxes will not change for homeowners or small businesses. The measure specifically protects them. Encourage friends and family to read the actual ballot measure and check out the facts at www.yes15.org/debunk.
- There are only 36 days left to Election Day. Let's talk to neighbors, family and friends and expose the corporate lies about Prop 15. [Commit to vote 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

Keep the School Board away from the privatizers' grasp

- As we expected, privatizers are spending at a fast pace against our candidates, Scott Schmerelson and Paty Castellanos. Jim Walton of Walmart and Reed Hastings donated \$1.3 million to the campaigns of our opponents last week, and

ran a prime time television commercial opposing Schmerelson following the Lakers game on Saturday night. We know this level of insane spending will continue through election day because our opponents know what is at stake. Just like we do.

- With a huge state budget deficit looming, we can't have the balance of power on the school board tilted toward the privatizers. A privatizer leaning board will give our schools away as they did in 2011 during the Public School Choice program; will try to implement a public teacher rating system as they attempted to do a few years ago; will make decisions without teacher input as they have done many times in the past; will go after our jobs and benefits as they have already tried. Vote and campaign for Scott Schmerelson and Patricia Castellanos.
- 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>

UTLA House of Reps nominations open in October

- Self-nominations will open the first week of October to serve for the 2021-22 term on the UTLA House of Representatives, the policy-making body of our union (see Article V-House of Representatives). The House of Representatives meets eight times a year to debate policy and vote on motions that determine UTLA's direction. UTLA members can self-nominate based on their school and House Electoral District.
- All UTLA members in good standing are eligible to nominate themselves. In those electoral districts where the number of candidates exceeds the number of House seats, balloting will be held. Other House of Representative members include the Board of Directors, UTLA-R, Committee Chairs, and Representatives specified in Article V, Section 2 b. Links to self-nomination forms will be posted at utla.net and emailed to members.

UTLA calendar

Sept. 30: National Day of Action-Car caravan to Chevron refinery

Oct. 7: Area meetings