

SPECIAL ELECTION ISSUE



United Teacher

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Union elections under way

Positions open for seven officers and 38 members of the Board of Directors.

UTLA election season is in full swing, with ballots mailed to members' homes on February 3. Candidates are running for either citywide office or a seat on the UTLA Board of Directors.

Citywide officers: Members will elect seven citywide officer positions: President, NEA Affiliate Vice President, AFT Affiliate Vice President, Elementary Vice President, Secondary Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. These seven officers are on full-time leave from the classroom. Citywide candidates must receive a majority of votes to be elected. Run-offs may be necessary.

Board of Directors: Board members represent either a geographic area (such as the North Area) or a special category (such as Health and Human Services or Adult Education). In addition, Board members who represent an area are also divided into UTLA's two national affiliates, either the NEA or AFT. Board of Director candidates who receive the most votes are elected. The ballot a member receives at home will contain only those categories with contested elections for which he or she is eligible to vote.

To learn more about candidates: Read this issue, which includes statements and photos from the candidates who submitted them, and check out the candidate flyers posted at utla.net. To learn more about candidates for the seven officer positions, watch

the online videos posted at www.utla.net/members/utla-elections.

Candidate statements: The statements in this election issue are submitted by the candidates and do not necessarily represent UTLA policy. The candidates themselves are solely responsible for the content of the statements. In line with election rules, the candidates have sole responsibility for preparing and proof-reading their statements.

Voter eligibility: All UTLA members who were in active member status as of January 3, 2017, are eligible to vote in the UTLA elections. Bargaining unit members who pay dues but who have not joined UTLA (such as fee payers and fair share members) are not eligible to vote, and members who joined UTLA after January 3, 2017, are also not eligible to vote.

Changes due to merger: Because of the Build the Future, Fund the Fight changes approved by UTLA members, all UTLA members now belong to both of our national affiliates—the NEA and the AFT—and will be eligible to vote for all Board member positions for their area and for all officer positions (previously, members could only vote in races connected to their affiliation; for example, an NEA member could not cast a ballot in the AFT vice presidential race).

Mail your ballot in time: Ballots for the election will be mailed by an outside processing firm on February 3. Mailed

ballots include an online voting option. If you do not receive your ballot, call Tara Thomas at (213) 637-5165. February 13 is the last day you can call for a ballot. Ballots must be mailed back in the envelope provided and received at the Los Angeles Post Office box no later than 8 a.m. on February 27, 2017. Ballots may not be left at UTLA headquarters. It is recommended that you mail your ballot at least one week before the February 27 deadline to ensure that it arrives on time at the designated post office. If you are casting your ballot online, online voting closes at 8 a.m. on February 27.

Results announced: Ballots will be counted on February 27, and results

of the first round of balloting will be posted on the web (www.utla.net) as soon as possible. Second and third rounds of voting will take place in the coming months as necessary. The new officers and Board will take office July 1, 2017, and serve until June 30, 2020.

Area chair elections: Area chair elections will also take place in the second round of balloting. Candidates must first be elected to a seat on the Board of Directors before running for Area chair. A notation has been added on the statement of candidates who have indicated they wish to run for Area chair if elected to the Board.

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United Teacher

PRESIDENT	Alex Caputo-Pearl
NEA AFFILIATE VP	Cecily Myart-Cruz
AFT AFFILIATE VP	Betty Forrester
ELEMENTARY VP	Juan Ramirez
SECONDARY VP	Colleen Schwab
TREASURER	Arlene Inouye
SECRETARY	Daniel Barnhart
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	Jeff Good

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- NORTH AREA:** Karla Griego, Interim Chair (Buchanan ES), Rebecca Solomon (RfK UCLA Comm. School), Kirk Thomas, (Eagle Rock ES), Julie Van Winkle (Logan Span School)
- SOUTH AREA:** Ingrid Villeda, Chair (93rd Street ES), Ayde Bravo (Maywood ES), Maria Miranda (Miramonte ES), L. Cynthia Matthews (McKinley ES)
- EAST AREA:** Gillian Russom, Chair (ESP Academy), Ingrid Gunnell (Lane ES), Gloria Martinez (Rowan ES), Adrian Tamayo (Lorena ES)
- WEST AREA:** Erika Jones Crawford, Chair (CTA Director), Noah Lippe-Klein (Dorsey HS), Georgia Flowers Lee (Saturn ES), Jennifer Villaryo (Grand View ES)
- CENTRAL AREA:** José Lara, Chair (Santee EC), Kelly Flores (Maya Angelou), Paul Ngwoke (Bethune MS)
- VALLEY EAST AREA:** Scott Mandel, Chair (Pacoima Magnet), Victoria (Martha) Casas (Beachy ES), Mel House (Elementary PE.), Alex (David) Orozco (Madison MS)
- VALLEY WEST AREA:** Bruce Newborn, Chair (Hale Charter), Melodie Bitter (Lorne ES), Wendi Davis (Henry MS), Javier Romo (Mulholland MS)
- HARBOR AREA:** Aaron Bruhnke, Chair (San Pedro HS), Karen Macias-Lutz (Del Amo ES), Elgin Scott (Taper ES), Steve Seal (Eshelman ES)
- ADULT & OCCUP ED:** Matthew Kogan (Evans CAS)
- BILINGUAL EDUCATION:** Cheryl L. Ortega (Sub Unit)
- EARLY CHILDHOOD ED:** Corina Gomez (Pacoima EEC)
- HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES:** Linda Gordon
- SPECIAL ED:** Lucia Arias
- SUBSTITUTES:** Fredrick Bertz
- PACE CHAIR:** Marco Flores
- UTLA RETIRED:** John Perez

AFFILIATIONS

American Federation of Teachers
National Education Association

STATE & NATIONAL OFFICERS

- CFT PRESIDENT:** Joshua Pechthalt
CTA PRESIDENT: Eric Heins
CTA DIRECTOR: Erika Jones Crawford
CFT VICE PRESIDENT: Betty Forrester
NEA PRESIDENT: Lily Eskelsen Garcia
AFT PRESIDENT: Randi Weingarten
NEA DIRECTOR: Mel House

UTLA COMMUNICATIONS

- EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:** Alex Caputo-Pearl
COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR: Anna Bakalis
COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALISTS:
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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: Laura Aldana

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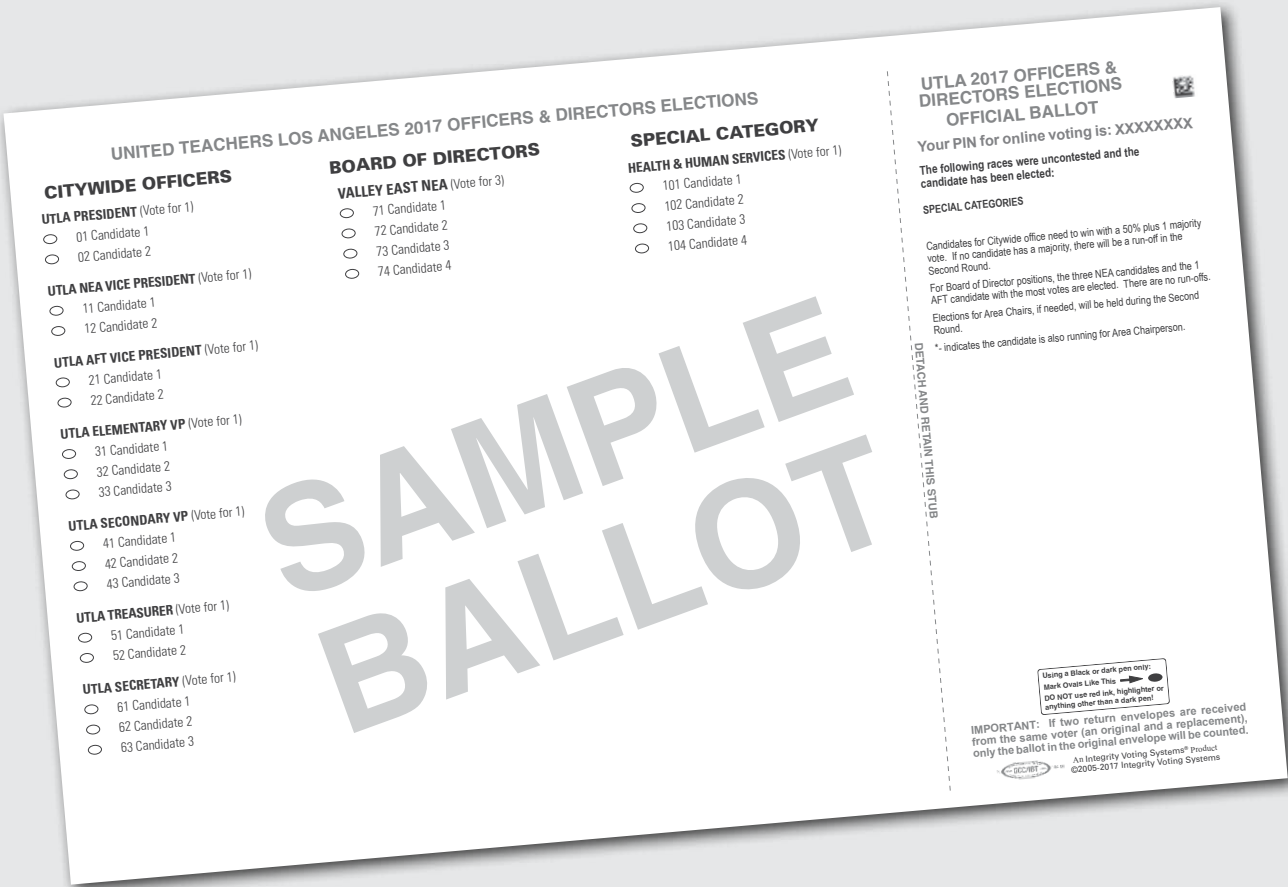
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Ballot instructions

Make sure your vote counts by following these guidelines.



All voters have the option to vote either online or by paper ballot. **DO NOT** send in a paper ballot if you are voting online, and **DO NOT** vote online if you are sending in a paper ballot. *NOTE: If you submit both an online and a paper ballot, only your paper ballot will count.*

Online voting

DO NOT DISCARD your paper ballot. Your 8-digit PIN for online voting is located on the stub of your ballot.

- 1. If you choose to vote online,** go to the voting website at: www.ivsballot.com/utla. Online voting will be open until 8 a.m. on February 27.
- 2. Use the provided 8-digit PIN** in conjunction with your **Employee Number** to log in to the voting website.
- 3. Follow the step-by-step voting instructions** provided online.

By mail (paper ballot) voting

- 1. Get your ballot in on time.** Your ballot must be received at the designated post office no later than 8 a.m. on February 27. Ballots received after that date or at a location other than the L.A. post office box will not be counted. It is recommended that you mail your ballot at least one week before the due date.
- 2. Follow all voting instructions included with your ballot.** Please read all instructions carefully. Use a black or dark pen to solidly bubble in the oval next to the candidate of your choice for each office. Do not vote for more candidates than are indicated for each office. If you need a replacement ballot, call Tara Thomas at UTLA (213-637-5165) by February 13 to request one.
- 3. Don't worry about the holes in your envelopes.** Both your return and secrecy envelopes have small holes in them. These holes will help the election committee make sure no ballots have been left in any envelope.
- 4. Place your ballot in the secrecy envelope, seal it, and then place the secrecy envelope in the return envelope.** Fold the flap on the return envelope and seal it securely. Note that your address will be folded under the flap and will not be visible. The barcode on the return flap, however, will be visible. This barcode contains a randomly generated number assigned to each member. The election committee needs to scan each envelope to make sure that each member votes only once. Making sure your barcode is visible will help the election committee expedite the counting process. (Please be assured that your vote is secret; all secrecy ballots will be separated from the return envelopes before any ballots are counted.)

2017 UTLA candidates

Names appear in ballot order.

CITYWIDE OFFICERS

President	Secondary Vice President
Lisa Karahalios	Cat Proctor
Alex Caputo-Pearl	Colleen Schwab
	Daniel Barnhart
NEA Vice President	Treasurer
Cecily Myart-Cruz	Alex Orozco
Dr. Frances Copeland	Gregg Solkovits
AFT Vice President	Secretary
Linda Guthrie	Lorena t. Valenzuela
Juan Ramirez	Arlene Inouye
	Greg Russell
Elementary Vice President	
Ingrid Villeda	
Gloria Martinez	
Robin Potash	

BOARD OF DIRECTORES SPECIAL CATEGORY

Adult and Occupational Education

Matthew Kogan #

Bilingual Education

Cheryl Ortega #

Early Childhood Education

Corina Gomez #

Health and Human Services

Mallorie Evans
Ginger Rose Fox
Linda Shields
Norlon Davis

Special Education

Lucia Arias #

Substitutes

Benny Madera
Francisco Martinez

BOARD OF DIRECTORS BY AREA

North Area

NEA
Julie Van Winkle #
Karla Griego #^
Rebecca Solomon #
AFT
Mark Ramos #

South Area

NEA
Karen Ticer-Leon *#
Maria Miranda *#
Ayde Bravo #
AFT
L. Cynthia Matthews #

East Area

NEA
Ingrid Gunnell #
Adrian Tamayo #^
Erica Huerta #
AFT
Gillian Russom #

West Area

NEA
Georgia Flowers-Lee #
Erika Jones #^
Noah Lippe-Klein #
AFT
Jennifer Villaryo #

Central Area

NEA
Kelly Flores #
Claudia Rodriguez #
Tomas Flores #
AFT
Jose Lara #^

Valley East Area

NEA
Leonard Goldberg
Victoria Casas *
Scott Mandel *
Hector Perez-Roman
AFT
Mel House #

Valley West Area

NEA
Melodie Bitter
Wendi Davis
Bruce Newborn *
Hal Wolkowitz
AFT
Javier Romo #

Harbor Area

NEA
Jennifer McAfee #
Elgin Scott #
Karen Macias-Lutz #
AFT
Jennie Duggan *
Philip H. Gross, MBA
Steve Seal *

UTLA 2016-2017 Election Timeline

September 16: Election announcement and time-line published in the UNITED TEACHER.

October 21: Election announcement, timeline, Declaration of Candidacy form, Itinerant Assignments Declaration form, and election rules will be published in the UNITED TEACHER.

November 18: Election announcement, timeline, Declaration of Candidacy form, Itinerant Assignments Declaration form, and election rules will be published in the UNITED TEACHER.

November 21: Deadline to file the Itinerant Assignments Declaration Form (due by 5 p.m.).

December 5: Deadline to file Declaration of Candidacy form (due by 5 p.m.). Deadline to submit candidate petitions (due by 5 p.m.). There will be an orientation meeting for all candidates and the drawing of ballot positions at 6 p.m.

December 16: Election announcement, timeline, and election rules published in the UNITED TEACHER.

January 9: Deadline for photo and candidate statements for the special election issue of the UNITED TEACHER (due by 5 p.m.).

January 9: Deadline to submit candidates' flyer for UTLA website (due by 5 p.m.).

January 20: Special election issue of the UNITED TEACHER published.

February 3: Ballots mailed to membership.

February 13: Deadline to call for a replacement ballot (due by 5 p.m.).

February 27: Ballots picked up by Election Committee at post office at 8 a.m. First round of ballots counted. Deadline for filing financial disclosures statements (due by 5 p.m.).

March 17: Second round of ballots mailed to membership.

March 24: Results of first round of balloting published in the UNITED TEACHER.

March 27: Deadline to call for a replacement ballot (due by 5 p.m.).

April 18: Ballots picked up by Elections Committee at post office at 8 a.m. Second round of ballots counted. Deadline for filing financial disclosure statements (due by 5 p.m.).

April 28: Results of the second round of balloting published in the UNITED TEACHER.

May 2: Third round of ballots mailed to membership.

May 16: Deadline to call for a replacement ballot (due by 5 p.m.).

May 31: Ballots picked up by Elections Committee at post office at 8 a.m. Third round of ballots counted. Deadline for filing financial disclosures statements (due by 5 p.m.).

July 21: Results of the third round of balloting published in the UNITED TEACHER.

July 21: Candidates' financial disclosure statements published in the UNITED TEACHER.

For election results: In addition to publication in the UNITED TEACHER, balloting results will be posted on www.utla.net as quickly as possible.

Approved by the UTLA Board of Directors on July 28, 2016. Timeline change due to BOD motion 1360.

Please note: Not all candidates submitted statements and/or photos by the deadline for the election issue.

2016-2017 ELECTIONS MANUAL

Approved by the UTLA Board of Directors on June 1, 2016

This Elections Manual constitutes the ongoing rules by which the elections described below are conducted. This Manual has been adopted by the UTLA Board of Directors and may only be modified by that Board. Except as provided in Article III and Article IV of this Manual, the Board of Directors of UTLA has the obligation to determine when to hold those elections that are required by the UTLA Constitution. This Manual does not supersede or modify the UTLA Constitution in any way. This Manual provides rules to implement the constitutionally mandated elections to ensure that those elections are conducted in a way that is fair and in accordance with rules that are known to all candidates and members.

I. Elections Covered

This Elections Manual is applicable to all UTLA elections for the offices of UTLA President, NEA Affiliate Vice President, AFT Affiliate Vice President, Elementary Vice President, Secondary Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Board of Directors members representing UTLA Areas and Special Categories, including filling vacancies, except for the Director representing UTLA-Retired, and for the Area Chairpersons.

II. Elections Committee

A. The UTLA Elections Committee is a standing Committee elected by the House of Representatives in accordance with Article XVI of the UTLA Constitutional Implementation. Members of the

Elections Committee shall conduct themselves in a non-partisan fashion, keeping in mind at all times the best interests of UTLA and shall at all times endeavor to ensure that UTLA elections are conducted in a manner that provides no unfair advantage to any candidate and encourages the full participation of the membership in the election process. No member of the Elections Committee shall be a candidate for office in the election that they are supervising nor shall they be the spouse, partner, parent, child, or sibling (full or half) to any candidate for office. The Chair or Co-Chairs of the Elections Committee shall be selected by the Committee each year. No later than September 30th of the year prior
(continued on page 21)

Citywide Officers (IN BALLOT ORDER)

CANDIDATE FOR UTLA PRESIDENT

Statement of Lisa Karahalios



ELECT LISA KARAHALIOS for UTLA PRESIDENT
Vote for a Union That Fights for You!

Defend

We must protect our members and students from **CHARTER SCHOOL ENCROACHMENT!** UTLA's current strategy is failing.

Investigate

As UTLA's voice on Board Member Ratliff's committee to oversee the iPad project, I helped to shut it down, and **JOHN DEASY WAS SENT PACKING!**

Fight

LAUSD teachers and HHS Professionals are **NEAR THE BOTTOM IN PAY AND BENEFITS** in L.A. County. UTLA needs a stronger bargaining team to get us the pay we deserve.

I promise to return to the classroom after my term(s) as President are done. A Union President should teach in the conditions they create.

Strong union leadership **MUST** hold the District accountable.

I have served UTLA members at Chapter, Local, State and National Levels.
Proud secondary classroom teacher for 18 years

Vote for the Sisterhood Slate

Lisa Karahalios
for
UTLA President

Linda Guthrie
for
UTLA AFT
Vice-President

Robin Potash
for
UTLA Elementary
Vice-President

Cat Proctor
for
UTLA Secondary
Vice-President

Lorena t. Valenzuela
for
UTLA Secretary

CANDIDATE FOR UTLA PRESIDENT

Statement of Alex Caputo-Pearl



I have been honored to serve as UTLA President, and work with so many of you across the District, for the last two and a half years. You are the backbone of our schools, communities, profession, and union.

It is with excitement that I ask for your vote, and for your votes for the entire Union Power team.

My role as a 22-year teacher shapes everything I do. I started teaching in Compton, then Crenshaw High in South LA, and now I am proud to connect with educators all over the city, through a non-stop schedule of hundreds of school site meetings.

My school-age son and daughter, and my wife who is a nurse – herself a union steward fighting for strong public services – give me even more energy.

I commit to:

- Win further salary increases
- Protect health benefits
- Reduce class size and staffing ratios
- Improve member rights and working conditions, relating to over-testing, school discipline, special education, treatment as professionals, taking on bad principals and top-down mandates, and more
- Fight the billionaire privatizers and unregulated charter growth
- Win investment in a pro-active Community Schools model

Over the last years, we have collectively built power. We have:

- Gotten a raise, health benefits, and good contracts
- Gotten rid of John Deasy and counter-punched the billionaire privatizers
- Increased support for members through Group Legal Services, additional union staff at sites, an aggressive media campaign, and supports for UTLA represented charter members and charter educators who are fighting to unionize
- Increased power through member and parent/community organizing, and local and State political work

We face huge challenges:

- LAUSD is attacking our benefits
- Billionaire school privatizers now outspend all industries in elections
- The Trump/DeVos agenda threatens our students and families, and is directly tied to Broad/Walmart privatization efforts

In order to take on these challenges, it is imperative we keep up our momentum with the Union Power team.

We would not have been successful over the last two and a half years without a team in the leadership of the union. UTLA is a large, complicated organization. The LA, California, and national political contexts are treacherous. It is only a team that can navigate these.

The Union Power team knows how to engage members. The team knows how to debate and disagree, sometimes vociferously but always appropriately, in leadership bodies.

But, most importantly, the Union Power team knows how to, at the end of the debates, unify behind a strategy, and win.

We have proven that.

I respectfully ask for your vote and emphatically ask that you vote for the entire Union Power team.

You are all wonderful, and I look forward to moving through the next years shoulder-to-shoulder with you.

Vote Union Power!

Alex Caputo-Pearl (Pres),
Cecily Myart-Cruz (NEA-VP),
Juan Ramirez (AFT-VP),
Gloria Martinez (Elem VP),
Daniel Barnhart (Sec VP),
Alex Orozco (Treas),
Arlene Inouye (Sec),
Mallorie Evans (HHS BOD),
Benny Madera (Substitutes BOD),
Victoria Casas and
Hector Perez-Roman
(Valley East BOD, NEA),
and Steve Seal
(Harbor Area BOD, AFT)

FB: UnionPowerForUTLA
www.unionpower2017.org

Citywide Officers (IN BALLOT ORDER)

CANDIDATE FOR NEA VICE PRESIDENT

Statement of Cecily Myart-Cruz

I have been humbled to serve as your UTLA NEA Vice President. Over the last two and a half years, I have been proud of all that we have accomplished together. We have turned UTLA into a Fighting Union which is recognized by LA school principals, by LAUSD, by the billionaire privatizers, and throughout the State and at the national level.

I have been a leader in gaining unprecedented support, all to your and our benefit, from our affiliate partners – AFT, CFT, CTA, and NEA. From having expanded legal services for every member now, to having increased staff support around school site issues that affect you daily, to having increased clout in Sacramento, our powerful work with the affiliates has been key. AFT, CFT, CTA, and NEA now look at UTLA as a model.

We would not have been able to make these advances with our affiliates without the cohesive and strategic efforts of the Union Power Team. The affiliates would not have invested in the same way in a divided leadership that echoed UTLA's past – they were drawn to invest in Union Power's forward-thinking strategic team approach.

In UTLA, together over the last two and a half years, we have:

- Doubled down on organizing around school site issues, contract enforcement, and city-wide priorities, like our 10% increase and health benefits
- Taken on the billionaire privatizers, including getting rid of Deasy
- Demanded accountability for every publicly-funded school
- Invested in UTLA and our profession

If re-elected, I will continue to:

- Lead in the organizing for health benefits, salary increases, and better working and learning conditions
- In my role leading the Class Size Task Force, fight to reduce class sizes and staffing ratios
- Use my area chair experience in getting rid of bad principals to support more school sites organizing against bad principals
- In my role leading the Racial Justice Work Group, continue to bring those crucial issues to the fore
- In my roles leading in CTA and NEA, continue organizing cross-local collaboration to take on issues that must be addressed at the State level, like per-pupil funding and charter accountability

The stakes are high, and the threats and opportunities in front of us are real. We will need all hands on-deck as we head into our re-opener bargaining, salary negotiations, full contract bargaining, and the battle to protect health benefits.

As it has over the last two and a half years, it will take a team to face these challenges. I ask you for your vote, and for your vote for the entire Union Power Team.



Vote Union Power!

Alex Caputo-Pearl (Pres),
Cecily Myart-Cruz (NEA-VP),
Juan Ramirez (AFT-VP),
Gloria Martinez (Elem VP),
Daniel Barnhart (Sec VP),
Alex Orozco (Treas),
Arlene Inouye (Sec),
Mallorie Evans (HHS BOD),
Benny Madera (Substitutes BOD),
Victoria Casas and
Hector Perez-Roman
(Valley East BOD, NEA),
and Steve Seal
(Harbor Area BOD, AFT)

FB: UnionPowerForUTLA
www.unionpower2017.org

CANDIDATE FOR NEA VICE PRESIDENT

Statement of Dr. Frances Copeland

"Talking Loud and Saying Nothing"

For the past 2 ½ years, a group of people known to many UTLA members as Union Power (UP) has been acting out the famous quote of the legendary God-Father of Soul Singer, James Brown, "Talking Loud and Saying Nothing." But, the scary part about this is that they have not been acting. Under the present union leadership, UTLA has weakened the democratic process of the House of Representatives by mandating that "proposals for bargaining on both re-openers and full-contract shall be ADVISORY to the Bargaining Team," convincing the teachers to vote for an increase in dues of about \$7 million dollars more each year to be used to hire more staff at the UTLA building (when the money should be used at the school sites to aid chapter chairs), over-hauled a grievance process that takes twice as long as the original process, just to achieve the same results, and UP supporters and members have encouraged the organizing of more independent charter schools at the demise of some local public schools that go unserved because of the at-risk students who attend those schools. These and other concerns cause us to take a serious look at the leaders of our union and it doesn't take a doctorate degree to know that "Talk is cheap."

I am concerned about these and the unprecedented actions by UP that are carried out in the name of progress and district negotiations on behalf of public education. We are better than this kind of "double talk". Things will not change on their own. To make that change, you need to be an activist for that change. I am a product of that kind of change and I need your help to make it a reality. In closing, a famous author in his book, "Come On People – Victims to Victors" states: "No more excuses, no more delays, the time is now!" Vote: Dr. Frances Copeland, UTLA/NEA-VP.



Citywide Officers (IN BALLOT ORDER)

CANDIDATE FOR AFT VICE PRESIDENT

Statement of Linda Guthrie

ELECT LINDA GUTHRIE for UTLA AFT VP

Vote for a Union that Fights for You!

FIGHT

As the only candidate for the office who has served on three negotiation teams, my work has directly led to three contract articles that protect teachers and HHS professionals from District abuse. **We need a union that is not just poised to fight, but is actually fighting, so that we can stand strong at each and every site in this district.**

SUPPORT

I know what it takes to force the District to fund schools instead of out-of-touch downtown programs. UTLA members **deserve a real pay raise** that will bring them out of the lowest quartile of compensation in LA County. **Every school must be provided with adequate support personnel:** nurses, counselors, librarians, custodians, aides, and clerical staff.

STRATEGIZE

I have served as a UTLA City-Wide Officer and as a UTLA Director, and one thing is clear: we need to change and influence the laws that are governing our profession. **UTLA needs its own lobbyist in Sacramento** to bring our vision to the public, to advocate for necessary changes, and to maintain our protections under the law.



Vote for the Sisterhood Slate

Lisa Karahalios
for UTLA President

Linda Guthrie
for UTLA AFT VP

Robin Potash
for UTLA Elementary VP

Cat Proctor
for UTLA Secondary VP

Lorena t.Valenzuela
for UTLA Secretary

A strong union improves the lives of everyone in the community – students, parents, and educators alike!

I have served UTLA members at the Chapter, Local, State, and National levels
Proud classroom teacher for over 35 years

CANDIDATE FOR AFT VICE PRESIDENT

Statement of Juan Ramirez

It has been an honor serving you as an officer. Working with the dynamic Union Power Team, I have led in organizing our union site-by-site, based on listening to members, and building careful plans for action. We've seen success in addressing contract enforcement, school site issues, and city-wide issues.

I am again proud to be running with the Union Power Team, which has changed the direction of our union. We got a raise and maintained our health benefits. We got rid of John Deasy and continued to push back the billionaires' attacks. With your support, we hired additional staff for site issues and contract enforcement, to start a media campaign, and to provide Group Legal Services to all members.

As Elementary Vice President, I have been proud to:

- Help lead the bargaining team, winning class size reduction, language protecting educator rights, and more
- Successfully remove bad principals
- Help reduce mandated tests and, now, take the issue to the bargaining table to win further reductions
- Help schools push back on Prop 39 co-locations
- Beat back elementary lay-offs in 2015
- Initiate a professional development plan, centered on school discipline/restorative justice and dual language

I am now running for AFT Vice President, following in the footsteps of my good friend, Betty Forrester. I am proud to already play leadership roles in AFT – I was the EC/TK-12 Vice President, I am on the AFT English Language Learner Committee, I have developed relationships with teacher union leaders in Mexico on behalf of AFT, and I have been a critical media spokesperson on local, State, and national issues.

I am equally proud that the Union Power Team has forged relationships with our affiliate unions – AFT, CFT, CTA, and NEA – that are stronger than ever. The affiliates have given us unprecedented support because they have seen a strategic team approach. This has brought us resources to expand school site support, parent/community organizing, and political advocacy.

As AFT Vice President, I commit to:

- Continuing to build the work above
- Building aggressive campaigns for health benefits, salary increases, contract re-openers, and full contract, working to improve working and learning conditions
- Continuing to deepen our relationships with our affiliates, to bring more resources to our fights, and more strength to our local, State, and national advocacy
- Building the Alliance to Reclaim Our Schools coalition (AFT and NEA are key) and cross-local collaboration to win fights that must be at the State level, like per-pupil funding and charter accountability

We face unprecedented challenges. The Trump/DeVos agenda is to destroy our union. We need Union Power leadership to win. I ask for your vote, and that you join me in voting for every member of the Union Power Team.



Vote Union Power!

Alex Caputo-Pearl (Pres),
Cecily Myart-Cruz (NEA-VP),
Juan Ramirez (AFT-VP),
Gloria Martinez (Elem VP),
Daniel Barnhart (Sec VP),
Alex Orozco (Treas),
Arlene Inouye (Sec),
Mallorie Evans (HHS BOD),
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(Valley East BOD, NEA),
and Steve Seal
(Harbor Area BOD, AFT)

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Citywide Officers (IN BALLOT ORDER)

CANDIDATE FOR ELEMENTARY VICE PRESIDENT

Statement of Ingrid Villeda



My Name is **Ingrid Villeda**, and I am running for **Elementary Vice President**. I'm a veteran teacher and mother of 3 children who have all attended LAUSD Schools. I teach 5th grade in the Elementary setting at 93rd Street Elementary.

- ✓ I am a Chapter chair
- ✓ a Steering Committee member
- ✓ a UTLA Board of Director
- ✓ The current UTLA South Area Chair.

At the state level I have been a member of CTA State Council and a member of the national NEA Representative Assembly for the last six years. I have drafted policy

at the local, state, and national level against Teacher Jail and against Parent Revolution. Over the last 12 years, experience has shown me that our Union does best when we move forward with a vision that includes both the national picture and a policy that addresses local school issues. Over the last 6 years the workload for elementary teachers has more than doubled and yet we remain among the lowest paid teachers in the state.

We need a change.

It's imperative to have a team that works together but **MORE** importantly that team must be composed of experienced individuals that have an ability to analyze our issues. The struggles ahead will require stamina, knowledge, experience, and fearlessness. I am the candidate with these qualities.

Vote Ingrid Villeda

Endorsed by: Latino Caucus
United Valley Caucus, Leadership Teams in South, Central, Valley West, Valley East. Also endorsed by over 475 activist

CANDIDATE FOR ELEMENTARY VICE PRESIDENT

Statement of Gloria Martinez



I am honored to be a candidate for UTLA Elementary Vice President, and I am proud to be with the Union Power Team. Over the last years, I have been a leader in building newfound public respect for UTLA, greater member engagement, and an organizational culture based on well-thought-out action plans. This has resulted in getting rid of John Deasy, and winning a salary increase, health benefits, and good contracts for us and our students. I've been a leader in organizing to invest in our Union through "Build the Future, Fund the Fight," increasing political involvement, and organizing UTLA's largest rally in recent history, "Stand at Grand." It has been fantastic working with all of you on these.

I am proud of my work in the classroom over sixteen years, and I am proud to have earned general education and special education credentials, and the distinction of National Board Certified Teacher.

As an elected East Area member of the UTLA Board of Directors, I have worked in teams to successfully organize against over-testing, Prop 39 co-locations, and I have been a part of removing bad principals. I have organized coalitions with parents and successfully worked School Board campaigns. I have advocated at the bargaining table, hammering LAUSD on the effects of MISIS on special education.

As Elementary Vice-President, I will:

- Push for real, immediate support around school discipline, and ongoing staffing and support for restorative justice
- Push against over-testing and top-down curriculum, testing, and paperwork mandates
- Build campaigns against bad principals wherever necessary
- Fight for educator-led Professional Development that supports us in meeting varying student needs
- Defend Special Education and bring its unique issues to the bargaining table
- Push for real support for English Language Learners rather than unnecessary, top-down mandates for teachers of ELL's
- Push the District to collaborate to address the teacher and Health and Human Service provider shortage

Moreover, the Union Power team will:

- Fight for another salary increase in the current re-opener and full contract campaigns, and for the protection of health benefits as the District attacks them this year
- Protect our profession and classrooms through continuing to win strong contract language
- Take on the challenges under Trump/DeVos
- Continue developing UTLA as an Organizing Union

Many years ago, I stepped up to leadership when my school faced a Prop 39 co-location – continuing the legacy of my parents, who supported the union when I was an LAUSD student. I have not stopped leading since. I ask for your vote and look forward to continuing the fight for the schools we and our students deserve. To do this, we need a proven team – join me and UTLA President Alex Caputo-Pearl in voting for the entire Union Power team.

Vote Union Power!

**Alex Caputo-Pearl (Pres),
Cecily Myart-Cruz (NEA-VP),
Juan Ramirez (AFT-VP),
Gloria Martinez (Elem VP),
Daniel Barnhart (Sec VP),
Alex Orozco (Treas),
Arlene Inouye (Sec),
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(Harbor Area BOD, AFT)**

**FB: UnionPowerForUTLA
www.unionpower2017.org**

Citywide Officers (IN BALLOT ORDER)

CANDIDATE FOR ELEMENTARY VICE PRESIDENT

Statement of Robin Potash

ELECT ROBIN POTASH for UTLA ELEMENTARY VP
Vote for a Union that Fights for You!

LISTEN

I have a proven record of listening to members and working hard to address the issues: **fair pay, working conditions, member services, ending charter school encroachment, and strong union leadership.**

PROTECT

We are facing unprecedented attacks on our profession, on our union and on public education. Now more than ever we need to be **inclusive and supportive of all members.**

EMPOWER

I stand with our members. I respect the work of others and I will join with them to organize for what is right by **providing the support and the tools that they need to be successful.**

A strong union recognizes the diverse needs of all members!

I have served UTLA members at the Chapter, Local, State, and National levels
Proud elementary classroom teacher for over 30 years, and parent of 2 LAUSD graduates



Vote for the Sisterhood Slate

Lisa Karahalios
for UTLA President

Linda Guthrie
for UTLA AFT VP

Robin Potash
for UTLA Elementary VP

Cat Proctor
for UTLA Secondary VP

Lorena t.Valenzuela
for UTLA Secretary

CANDIDATE FOR SECONDARY VICE PRESIDENT

Statement of Cat Proctor

ELECT CAT PROCTOR for UTLA SECONDARY VP
Vote for a Union that Fights for You!

SERVE

The union isn't only about grievances - it is about quality of life for all teachers and HHS professionals, from class size to the evaluation process. **All members deserve swift, responsive access to their union.**

PROTECT

Our schools and the communities they serve are threatened by encroachment of non-affiliated charters and the billionaires that support them. **A strong union defends communities and schools from these attacks.**

ORGANIZE

When educators know that they have support through all stages of their career, they are empowered to speak out about what's right. **Teachers whose needs are met are confident to mobilize.**

A strong union fights for its members everywhere, from the classroom to the Capitol!

I have served UTLA members at the Chapter, Local, State, and National levels
Proud classroom teacher for 21 years



Vote for the Sisterhood Slate

Lisa Karahalios
for UTLA President

Linda Guthrie
for UTLA AFT VP

Robin Potash
for UTLA Elementary VP

Cat Proctor
for UTLA Secondary VP

Lorena t.Valenzuela
for UTLA Secretary

Citywide Officers (IN BALLOT ORDER)

CANDIDATE FOR SECONDARY VICE PRESIDENT

Statement of Colleen Schwab



First and foremost, please vote in the upcoming UTLA Elections! It is important that all of our members are engaged in UTLA!

It is with great honor that I announce my reelection candidacy for Secondary Vice President, UTLA. My decision to run again is a result of your encouragement and reflection of the work I have done in our secondary schools over the last 2 ½ years. Please be ensured that my priority will always be member service and support of our school sites. I will continue to protect and promote your rights under the contract while working to bring about professionalism and respect of the work that we do in our schools. As a Social Studies and Spanish teacher for 31 years, I have not forgotten the challenges you face every day. Visiting schools has also been my focus including developing symposiums for middle schools to create positive student behavior plans absent District resources. During my first term, I have been successful in numerous teacher disciplinary and dismissal issues, been responsive to all calls and emails, along with serving and recognizing the work done by educators throughout the city.

CANDIDATE FOR SECONDARY VICE PRESIDENT

Statement of Daniel Barnhart



Serving our membership, over the past two and half years, as part of the Union Power team, has been as profoundly important and humbling work as anything in my 20 years as a National Board Certified teacher, activist, and union leader. All of us together have done great work:

- We took on John Deasy directly, called him out on MiSIS and iPads, and watched him leave in disgrace.
- We focused on organizing for a good contract, protecting health benefits, getting rid of TGDC, and putting a well deserved 10% raise into our members' family budgets.
- We added Group Legal Services to our member benefits, and put the brakes on Deasy's exploding Teacher Jail.
- We emphasized organizing with parents and community, and have strengthened our schools.
- We passed Prop. 55 and Prop. 58, and elected teacher friendly educators to the school board.

Having some success only makes our enemies more determined to take us down.

The Broad-Walmart people have new friends in Washington in Trump-DeVos and their PR group, the California Charter Schools Association, is only increasing their spending. All signs point to a coming showdown over health benefits.

I am running for Secondary Vice President, and I am excited for it. I am a long-time chapter chair. As North Area Chair, I worked with Chapter leaders to remove bad principals, empower local councils, push back Prop 39 co-locations, and defeat Public School Choice. With the PD Collaborative, I supported educator leadership in curriculum and instruction. As UTLA Secretary over the past two and a half years, I have led the UTLA Workgroup on School Discipline and a rebuild of the member database for effective organizing, grievances, and communication.

Now is the time to continue to support the team that has been working together to lead the way, not just as "strong" individuals, but as a unified and transparent team, committed to a vision of how our union should work. As your Secondary Vice President, I will:

- Take a strategic approach to building school site governance and organize UTLA members in schools to keeps bully principals in check
- Push for concrete support around school discipline and restorative justice
- Defend the profession by making sure school site schedules reflect educators' needs to collaborate within the school day
- Stop top-down school restructurings
- Make sure our PD belongs to us, not to the principal, not to Pearson, and not to one-and-done presenters.
- Challenge the over-testing and "data-compliance" mindset that threatens every good thing we do with students

Please vote for me, and for the only team with an action plan to win salary increases, health benefits, to keep fighting around class size, staffing ratios, working conditions, and to win the Schools LA Students Deserve.

Vote Union Power!

Alex Caputo-Pearl (Pres),
Cecily Myart-Cruz (NEA-VP),
Juan Ramirez (AFT-VP),
Gloria Martinez (Elem VP),
Daniel Barnhart (Sec VP),
Alex Orozco (Treas),
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Citywide Officers (IN BALLOT ORDER)

CANDIDATE FOR TREASURER

Statement of Alex Orozco

I am excited about my candidacy for UTLA Treasurer as part of the Union Power Team. I look forward to continuing the momentum that I as a UTLA Valley East Director, along with the Union Power Team, have helped to build over the past two and a half years. I will work tirelessly to continue UTLA's budget transparency, and to collaboratively build a budget that supports continued aggressive action on behalf of members and students, including crucial support for:

- Our campaigns around salary increase, contract re-opener, and full contract this year
- Our health benefits campaign this year, as the District attacks us
- The necessity of challenging Trump/DeVos and the billionaire privatizers

Over the years as a Director and Chapter Chair at Madison Middle School, I have proudly represented members on the following committees:

- UTLA Budget Committee
- UTLA Financial Sustainability Task Force
- Financing Public Education Committee of the California Teachers Association
- Build the Future Fund the Fight Campaign
- Repairs Not Ipads Campaign, which put John Deasy under national scrutiny
- Galatzan Be Gone Campaign
- Educator Development and Support Committee, supporting the Bargaining Team

This year, in a historic turnout, our members voted, to the tune of 82 percent, to restructure our dues, sending a strong message to our adversaries that UTLA is here to stay, stronger than ever!

As as candidate for Treasurer, I appreciate the trust that our members bestowed upon us with that vote, and I vow to protect that trust. I will:

- Work closely with the teams leading contract bargaining, contract enforcement, member organizing, school site campaigns, political advocacy, parent/community organizing, and media in order to build a comprehensive budget.
- Regularly report on the budget at the Board, House, Area, and school site meetings, and in the United Teacher.
- Answer questions and take ideas about the budget from all members.
- Continue building our separate political action fund, PACE, which has engaged members under the Union Power's leadership, but must continue to grow to take on the billionaires. I have played a key role in many political races, including Scott Schmerelson's victory over Tamar Galatzan.

My work as Treasurer will be strengthened by the Union Power Team – a team that has proven its strategic approach and its transparency.

As a teacher for over 16 years, father of two LAUSD students, and married to an elementary teacher leader, I have never been prouder to be a UTLA member!

Putting UTLA on the right track over the last years has taken a team effort. To continue the momentum in these serious times, we must elect the proven team. I ask for your vote, and for you to join me in voting for every member of the Union Power team.



Vote Union Power!

Alex Caputo-Pearl (Pres),
Cecily Myart-Cruz (NEA-VP),
Juan Ramirez (AFT-VP),
Gloria Martinez (Elem VP),
Daniel Barnhart (Sec VP),
Alex Orozco (Treas),
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www.unionpower2017.org

CANDIDATE FOR TREASURER

Statement of Gregg Solkovits

Union Power has given us

- The Largest Dues Increase in Union History:
- Used to Hire 8 Full Time Bureaucrats just Like LAUSD!
- Member Phone Calls Go Unanswered.
- Officers are traveling all over the country not working on member needs.
- Area Reps are being hired with no classroom experience.
- Organizing takes Precedence over Member Needs.
- No Increase in Take Home Pay in the Past 3 Years!
- No enforcement of Class Size Caps.
- Working conditions are no better than 3 years ago.

WE NEED A CHANGE

When one party or slate controls almost all the levers of administration, bad things happen. I have the experience and independence as a past Officer and Area Chair to provide alternative ideas. I have the knowledge and perspective necessary to make tough fiscal choices and provide needed accountability for the expenditure of YOUR union dues! Independence is important, there should never be one way or one voice, we are a union of over 36,000 educators and health and human services individuals. I urge you to look beyond a slate to the independent individuals who will represent you will be your voice at the table, like Ingrid Villeda, Collen Schwab, and I.

Independent voices representing independent members,

Facebook: [Gregg Solkovits for UTLA Treasurer](https://www.facebook.com/GreggSolkovits)

Experience

- Over 30 years at ALL levels of UTLA leadership:
As Chapter Chair, VW Area Chair, and Secondary VP:
- *Consistent budget surpluses
 - *Highest percentage of schools with chapter chairs
 - *Members were represented,
 - *Admin was held accountable.
 - *Contract was enforced
 - *Served two terms/six years as UTLA Secondary VP.
 - *20+ year Chapter Chair.

Endorsements

GREGG SOLKOVITS is supported by UTLA Secondary VP Colleen Schwab, Central Area Chair Jose Lara, South Area Chair Ingrid Villeda, Valley East Area Chair Scott Mandel, and Valley West Area Chair Bruce Newborn, and over a dozen UTLA Board of Director members.
GREGG SOLKOVITS is endorsed by UTLA's Latino Caucus, and by UTLA's United Valley Caucus.



VOTE EXPERIENCE and INDEPENDENCE.
Vote Gregg Solkovits for UTLA Treasurer!!!

Citywide Officers (IN BALLOT ORDER)

CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY

Statement of Lorena t. Valenzuela

ELECT LORENA t. VALENZUELA for UTLA SECRETARY
Vote for a Union that Fights for You!

COMMUNICATE

To help members stay informed and organized, we must utilize new and effective technologies. An app for smartphone users, and rebuilding the UTLA website to make information clear and accessible are critical for helping chapter chairs support the membership.

INFORM

As we face new and growing threats from billionaires like Eli Broad who want to dismantle public education, **every member must be provided with the tools, training, and information to defend their rights and prepare for action.**

SUPPORT

Our members face challenges all day – not just 8 to 3. UTLA must be ready and responsive so that members know that they always have someone in their corner. **Reinstating the Information Assistant program will provide answers from 7am to 7 pm every day.**



Vote for the Sisterhood Slate

Lisa Karahalios
for UTLA President

Linda Guthrie
for UTLA AFT VP

Robin Potash
for UTLA Elementary VP

Cat Proctor
for UTLA Secondary VP

Lorena t.Valenzuela
for UTLA Secretary

A strong union hears its members and meets their needs!

I have served UTLA members at the Chapter, Local, State, and National levels
Proud classroom teacher for 19 years

CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY

Statement of Arlene Inouye

This past term as UTLA Treasurer, we have been able to accomplish more than I had hoped for. In the past 2 ½ years UTLA has been transformed into a union that takes on the fight for public education and the schools that LA Students deserve. We have built the internal structures of UTLA, forged alliances with parents and community, taken on the billionaires as we promoted community schools.

We have gone from a union heading toward an unsustainable future, to overwhelmingly supporting and voting for an increase in UTLA dues that filled the structural deficit and strengthened UTLA. This has included completing the merger that was envisioned when UTLA began, having the resources for a media campaign, providing comprehensive legal services for members, and supporting school site actions with increased organizing staff and more. It has been such an honor and privilege to work together with the Union Power Team and members in making this possible.

As UTLA Secretary I am committed to:

- Build a strong contract campaign in 2017 that includes health benefits, salary increases and working conditions and to continue to engage with members at school and program sites.
- Continue the important organizing work begun over the past 2 ½ years with Health and Human Service Professionals and in advocating for our undocumented students and families.
- Follow the ground-breaking work that Daniel Barnhart began as UTLA Secretary. Dan has made a tremendous contribution to UTLA in overhauling our database system, for up-to-date lists needed for organizing, for grievances to move faster and more efficiently, as well as website and electronic communications. I am eager to continue to build an effective communication system that serves UTLA's 32,000 members. This includes the thousands of itinerants who work at different locations, and substitutes who are spread out over the district. As I have known as a Speech Therapist for over 18 years, communication is our voice and our power.
- Continue to support practices making our House of Representatives and governance structures run democratically and efficiently, which has contributed to effective UTLA organizing. This has included methodically addressing and working our way through a huge backlog of unfinished motions from the previous administration, and ensuring a better future process. Building these systems is essential to UTLA being a powerful organizing union.

More than ever, the stakes are high, as we build from the last three years to address Trump/DeVos/Broad/Walmart. I am passionate about the fight for public education, and amazed by how UTLA has risen as a school site, Los Angeles, national, and international leader under Alex Caputo-Pearl and the Union Power Team. It is imperative that all members of the Union Power Team be elected to continue the leadership momentum.



Vote Union Power!

Alex Caputo-Pearl (Pres),
Cecily Myart-Cruz (NEA-VP),
Juan Ramirez (AFT-VP),
Gloria Martinez (Elem VP),
Daniel Barnhart (Sec VP),
Alex Orozco (Treas),
Arlene Inouye (Sec),
Mallorie Evans (HHS BOD),
Benny Madera (Substitutes BOD),
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Citywide Officers (IN BALLOT ORDER)**CANDIDATE FOR SECRETARY****Statement of Greg Russell**

Eagle Scout, 20 years with LAUSD, 12 years active with UTLA, haven't missed any HoR meeting in 6 years and I don't leave early, I probably move more motions than anyone, regularly attend all area/steering meetings, attend Secondary Cmte, Parliamentarian for Unjustly Housed Teachers Cmte, member of local parliamentarian group, Chair for Substitute Calling Area North 1, Chair for Substitute Teachers Cmte, CTA State Delegate, regular at Board of Directors Meetings, after attending House Rules Cmte for a year, I tried to reform it but was blocked so had it dissolved at 12/7/2016 HoR. My motions to bring transparency, democracy, inclusion and accountability to UTLA have been routinely lost, incorrectly ruled on and ignored. No one has fought harder to have your voice heard and respected.

GregRussellforUTLASecretary.net @reliable_honest
(818) 988-5969 home greg.russell@netzero.net

Board of Directors Candidates (IN BALLOT ORDER)

CANDIDATE FOR NEA-NORTH AREA

Statement of Julie Van Winkle

I am so thankful to North Area for my re-election to the UTLA Board of Directors. During the past six years, I have been working side by side with other Union Power members on the Board of Directors to transform UTLA into an organizing union that fights for member rights and social justice issues.



Moving forward into the coming term, I am excited to work with the North Area director team to advocate for community schools and to partner with other movements such as Black Lives Matter. I will also proudly represent North Area on the Bargaining Team as we fight to win a good contract, a salary increase, and health benefits in the years to come.

Under Alex Caputo-Pearl's leadership, UTLA has become stronger and more proactive. We are facing many challenges, especially considering Trump's election and his appointment of Betsy DeVos as the Secretary of Education. We need a cohesive leadership team moving forward through these troubled times. That is why I urge you to vote for the ENTIRE Union Power team in February.

Vote Union Power!
Alex Caputo-Pearl (Pres), Cecily Myart-Cruz (NEA-VP),
Juan Ramirez (AFT-VP), Gloria Martinez (Elem VP),
Daniel Barnhart (Sec VP), Alex Orozco (Treas), Arlene Inouye (Sec),
Benny Madera (Substitutes BOD), and Mallorie Evans (HHS BOD)
FB: UnionPowerForUTLA
www.unionpower2017.org

Unopposed and elected

CANDIDATE FOR NEA-NORTH AREA

Statement of Karla Griego

My name is Karla Griego and I am excited to continue working with the UTLA North Area Board of Directors team as Area Chair. Thank you!



I continue to be inspired by the member driven leadership Union Power has established and am proud to be a part of the team. Together we have begun organizing site by site, building and expanding leadership; taken on the billionaire privatization agenda; built relationships with parents, students and community; developed partnerships with community organizations to continue fighting for the schools our students and communities deserve.

The challenges we face are great: a Secretary of Education who is against public education; attack on our health benefits; attacks on the communities we work with. Our Union has been and must continue to be at the forefront of these fights.

The Union Power team has a plan to fight back and together help us win for our schools, communities and profession. I urge to you vote for the entire Team as together we are stronger.

Vote Union Power!
Alex Caputo-Pearl (Pres), Cecily Myart-Cruz (NEA-VP),
Juan Ramirez (AFT-VP), Gloria Martinez (Elem VP),
Daniel Barnhart (Sec VP), Alex Orozco (Treas), Arlene Inouye (Sec),
Benny Madera (Substitutes BOD), and Mallorie Evans (HHS BOD)
FB: UnionPowerForUTLA
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Unopposed and elected. Also elected Area Chair

CANDIDATE FOR NEA-NORTH AREA

Statement of Rebecca Solomon

North Area, thanks! We are so excited to work as your directors for 3 more years!

Together we have done incredible things in North: supported parent organizing, fought to make Black Lives Matter in schools, built ideas about community schools, and organized for better conditions.



In the next years, our union and our communities will face many challenges, in the district and nation. Let's join together as a team alongside our communities to strengthen our schools and our contract. The Union Power vision has been successful in moving our union forward. Projects like #SchoolTrump, the fight for community schools, and organizing strong for the best contract must continue.

I can't wait to work with you all in the next years. I urge you to vote in the entire Union Power team. We are stronger together!

Vote Union Power!
Alex Caputo-Pearl (Pres), Cecily Myart-Cruz (NEA-VP),
Juan Ramirez (AFT-VP), Gloria Martinez (Elem VP),
Daniel Barnhart (Sec VP), Alex Orozco (Treas), Arlene Inouye (Sec),
Benny Madera (Substitutes BOD), and Mallorie Evans (HHS BOD)
FB: UnionPowerForUTLA
www.unionpower2017.org

Unopposed and elected

CANDIDATE FOR AFT-NORTH AREA

Statement of Mark Ramos

I am deeply honored and excited to serve the educators of UTLA as a North Area Director. As a formerly RIFed teacher and a new father, I have been reinvigorated to take on more responsibility since the Union Power team has led UTLA in organizing our school sites, built a contract campaign to protect our benefits and win salary increases, put forth a vision for community schools, and mounted a fight to beat back billionaire privatizers like Broad and the Waltons in just the past 3 years alone.



We are entering our next full contract and health benefits fights, and we continue to face attacks on public education both locally and nationally in the era of the Trump Administration. The Union Power team has a plan to fight back, and the experience and skills to win. I urge you to vote for the entire Union Power team for our union, our students, our families, and our educational system.

Vote Union Power!
Alex Caputo-Pearl (Pres), Cecily Myart-Cruz (NEA-VP),
Juan Ramirez (AFT-VP), Gloria Martinez (Elem VP),
Daniel Barnhart (Sec VP), Alex Orozco (Treas), Arlene Inouye (Sec),
Benny Madera (Substitutes BOD), and Mallorie Evans (HHS BOD)
FB: UnionPowerForUTLA
www.unionpower2017.org

Unopposed and elected

Board of Directors Candidates (IN BALLOT ORDER)

CANDIDATE FOR NEA-SOUTH AREA

Statement of Karen Ticer-Leon

Union Support for Us US 4 Us

My name is Karen Ticer-Leon and I am asking for your vote as **South Area Chair**. I served as a cluster leader under the past South Area Chairs Bill Higbee, Betty Forrester, and Mat Taylor. I was the NEA South Area Director for the 2011-2014 term. I have extensive experience with school site issues and I believe in empowering chapter chairs. To strengthen our union and ourselves, we need member participation. We cannot wait for a champion to save us from the ills plaguing our schools. We need to return the South Area back to the Mighty South Area. Fifty-one or less chapter chairs at an Area Meeting does not show the power of our union. We need to go back to the days where we had one hundred fifty plus members attending Area Meetings. As your South Area Chair, I will:

- Increase the number of chapter chair participation at area meetings.
- Center Area Meetings around the needs of chapter chairs and school sites.
- Make area representatives accessible to chapter chairs at Area Meetings.
- Make all union material available for pick up during the entire Area Meeting.
- Provide chapter chair training to fight contract violations and the harassment of teachers.
- Set up cluster leaders to support chapter chairs and establish a line of communication and support.
- Prioritize membership dues for members.

Only you can help me reach these goals. I ask for your vote as **South Area Chair**. I am endorsed by Betty Forrester, MJ Roberts, Paulette Shelley, Tricia Gillikin, and Megan Boyd.

Thank you for your consideration.



Unopposed and elected. Also running for Area Chair.

CANDIDATE FOR NEA-SOUTH AREA

Statement of Maria Miranda

My name is Maria Miranda, Chapter Chair at Miramonte ES and current South Area NEA Board of Director. I am ready to stand up and lead the South Area members and communities in the fight to save public education and to secure member rights and benefits. We will do this together!

The role of a union leader is to organize it's members to successfully accomplish goals set by the group. As a union leader, one is also responsible to represent and defend the interest of the union's members. The South Area leadership team has done just that. As a current South Area NEA Board of Director running for re-election, I am seeking the Area Chair position to continue doing the work that serves our members.

Together with the South Area leadership team we successfully:

- Coordinated South Area workshops on contractual issues.
- Organized members to remove bully principals.
- Fought back against hostile take overs by charter co-locations.
- Organized and supported city wide campaigns such as school board elections and a salary increase.
- Represented South Area members at the local, state, and national level of our union.
- Advocated and engaged in city, state, and national politics to ensure member representation.

As your South Area Chair and NEA Board of Director I stand for:

- Collaborating with all stakeholders to improve working and learning conditions at school communities.
- Organizing to fight back against district policies that violate students' educational rights and educator professional and contractual rights.
- Advocating for teaching-over testing.
- Creating a safe school environment for educators and students.
- Building power through member education and leadership development.
- Strategizing to maximize our collective power when bargaining for medical benefits and salary.

I am endorsed by Ingrid Villeda, Ayde Bravo, and Cynthia Matthews.

Please support Ingrid Villeda for Elementary Vice-President
and
Colleen Schwab for Secondary Vice-President

Unopposed and elected. Also running for Area Chair.



CANDIDATE FOR NEA-EAST AREA

Statement of Ingrid Gunnell

My name is Ingrid Gunnell and I'm honored that I get to continue working with you as an East Area Board of Director. We have accomplished a lot these last 2 ½ years in East Area and Union Wide. I am running with the Union Power Team to continue the work we have done around organizing our members, political campaigns that have involved hundreds of our members phone banking and precinct walking, decreasing testing, and increasing restorative practices in our schools.

As we face the anti-public education and anti-immigrant climate in our nation it is important that UTLA continue to be a national leader in inclusiveness. We have been unapologetic as we work with issues and organizations such as the Black Lives Matter Movement, DACA, and Community Schools, that grow our communities in a positive way and push back on policies that hurt our communities.

Join me in voting for the entire UNION POWER TEAM, which reflects the diversity of our union.

I can't wait to work with you all in the next years. I urge you to vote in the entire Union Power team. We are stronger together!

Vote Union Power!

Alex Caputo-Pearl (Pres), Cecily Myart-Cruz (NEA-VP),
Juan Ramirez (AFT-VP), Gloria Martinez (Elem VP),
Daniel Barnhart (Sec VP), Alex Orozco (Treas), Arlene Inouye (Sec),
Benny Madera (Substitutes BOD), and Mallorie Evans (HHS BOD)
FB: UnionPowerForUTLA
www.unionpower2017.org

Unopposed and elected



CANDIDATE FOR NEA-EAST AREA

Statement of Adrian Tamayo

My name is Adrian Tamayo and I am excited to continue working as a member of the UTLA East Area Board of Directors team and as the newly elected Area Chair. I will continue to lead in our positive direction and build on the accomplishments we have seen in the last 2 1/2 years. We must continue getting members involved and working towards a stronger and more organized UTLA.

In the upcoming months, we will be powerfully organizing for our contract, salary, and health benefits. And, we will face many additional challenges, including the growth of unregulated charter schools and the negative impacts of Prop 39 co-locations on our public school campuses and students. We must continue organizing members on how to stand up to them.

It is only with a TEAM effort and strategic organizing approach that these fights will be won. That is why I am proudly and confidently urging you to vote for the entire Union Power TEAM. With your vote we will accomplish more and be ready to fight all those who continue to attack our students, our communities, our profession, and our dignity as educators.

Vote Union Power!

Alex Caputo-Pearl (Pres), Cecily Myart-Cruz (NEA-VP),
Juan Ramirez (AFT-VP), Gloria Martinez (Elem VP),
Daniel Barnhart (Sec VP), Alex Orozco (Treas), Arlene Inouye (Sec),
Benny Madera (Substitutes BOD), and Mallorie Evans (HHS BOD)
FB: UnionPowerForUTLA
www.unionpower2017.org

Unopposed and elected. Also elected Area Chair.



Board of Directors Candidates (IN BALLOT ORDER)

CANDIDATE FOR NEA-EAST AREA

Statement of Erica Huerta

Thank you, East Area, for allowing me to serve as a new director! It has been so exciting to be part of UTLA's evolution from a narrow, service union to an organizing union that builds power through contract enforcement, school site issue campaigns, and city-wide campaigns. As part of the Organizing Team and East Area Steering Committee, I have been able to work with great people who are shaping this new direction.



When a union tackles privatization and fights for community schools, supports parent and student organizing, militantly takes on salary, benefits, and working conditions issues, creates safe spaces for undocumented students and makes Black Lives Matter in schools, I feel confident that we are moving in the right direction. I urge you all to support the whole Union Power team of citywide officers, because if we are going to defend our health benefits and help lead the nationwide battle to save public education under Trump, we need a collaborative team with a solid vision. Let's keep up the great momentum in the years to come!

Vote Union Power!
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Unopposed and elected

CANDIDATE FOR AFT-EAST AREA

Statement of Gillian Russom

Thank you for re-electing me along with the Union Power team for East Area Board of Directors. I'm proud of our work in developing new leaders, alliances with parents and community, school site organizing campaigns, and strong member participation in UTLA on the East side.



As I continue to serve on the Board, I look forward to building a powerful contract campaign for the Schools LA Students Deserve – including health benefits, salary increases, support for community schools, and improvements on class size, staffing, testing reduction, and school climate.

I urge you to support all Union Power candidates for citywide offices and Board of Directors. UP has already made a huge difference in transforming UTLA into a pro-active organizing union. As we face the challenges of a Trump administration, privatization, and an attack on our health benefits, we need to keep moving forward with this proven and visionary leadership team.

Vote Union Power!
Alex Caputo-Pearl (Pres), Cecily Myart-Cruz (NEA-VP),
Juan Ramirez (AFT-VP), Gloria Martinez (Elem VP),
Daniel Barnhart (Sec VP), Alex Orozco (Treas), Arlene Inouye (Sec),
Benny Madera (Substitutes BOD), and Mallorie Evans (HHS BOD)
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Unopposed and elected

CANDIDATE FOR NEA-WEST AREA

Statement of Georgia Flowers-Lee

It is with excitement that I look forward to serving as the newly elected NEA, West area Board Director on the Union Power team. As I begin my term on the Board I look forward to doing my part to continue the work that is taking UTLA on a trajectory toward being an even more powerful, progressive, organizing union.



The Union Power team has made significant gains on behalf of our membership, getting rid of Deasy, organizing school sites and securing a long-overdue pay increase. However, we are faced with huge challenges coming into 2017: an Education Secretary who wants to privatize our public school system, the District's desire to gut our health benefits, and the California Charter Schools Association's deep pockets and massive investment in elections.

Now is the time to continue our progressive momentum with the proven Union Power leadership team. Vote for the entire Union Power Team to continue this proactive fight for the schools our students, members and communities deserve.

Vote Union Power!
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Daniel Barnhart (Sec VP), Alex Orozco (Treas), Arlene Inouye (Sec),
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Unopposed and elected

CANDIDATE FOR AFT-WEST AREA

Statement of Erika Jones

My name is Erika Jones and I am excited to have been re-elected, running with Union Power, to serve as the West Area Chair. It has been an amazing 2 ½ years as part of the West Area UTLA team. Together we have accomplished so much, from building coalitions between feeder schools, increasing parent involvement, using the area meeting space differently to connect on a deeper one on one level, to strategizing and winning organizing campaigns on various campuses throughout West, and demonstrating the true collaborative environments our students need.



The momentum we have in West is also a direct result of the huge momentum we have now as UTLA. From fighting for the Schools LA Students Deserve, winning a well-deserved and long overdue salary increase, adding security to the future of our union with the BFFF campaign, and increasing our political involvement, we, together, have stood up, moved forward, and fought back.

As we face the continuous threat of the Broad/Wal-Mart/Trump/DeVos agenda, I know UNION POWER is the TEAM ready for this fight, ready to fight for our health benefits, win another good contract, ready to win around community schools, ready to continue the movement our students deserve and the nation needs. Vote for the whole Union Power team!

Vote Union Power!
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Juan Ramirez (AFT-VP), Gloria Martinez (Elem VP),
Daniel Barnhart (Sec VP), Alex Orozco (Treas), Arlene Inouye (Sec),
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www.unionpower2017.org

Unopposed and elected. Also elected Area Chair.

Board of Directors Candidates

(IN BALLOT ORDER)

CANDIDATE FOR NEA-WEST AREA

Statement of Noah Lippe-Klein

I am Noah Lippe-Klein. I am honored to continue serving on the UTLA Board of Directors, representing West Area.

I am proud of what we have done in 2 and a half years. UTLA is stronger now than at any time in my 18 years of teaching. We kicked out Superintendent Deasy, organized a contract campaign and won one of the best contracts in UTLA history, launched genuine alliances and organizing with community organizations, parents and students, built the historic "Making Black Lives Matter in Schools" event at Dorsey, helped schools organize against bully principals, and we are in the middle of challenging Broad/Wal-Mart/Trump/DeVos.

We must organize. We must launch a new contract campaign, win health benefits and win justice in and beyond our schools.

It is urgent that you vote for the entire Union Power team. We cannot go back to the time when UTLA officers were heading in different directions.

Our Union movement has more power when we debate rigorously and move forward united.



Vote Union Power!
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Unopposed and elected

CANDIDATE FOR AFT-WEST AREA

Statement of Jennifer Villaryo

It has been so exciting to serve on the West Area Board of Directors for the last three years. We have accomplished so much! A few of the highlights have been - the fight for a 10% raise and class size caps, the BFFF campaign, organizing our school sites to push back when there is an issue and getting rid of bully principals. It has been rewarding to work with your West Area team in pushing for all of the things that our students and schools need. There is a tremendous amount of work to continue doing as we have our contract campaign and health benefits coming up.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve on the board for another term! I am asking you to vote for the entire Union Power team, because working with an entire team allows us to continue the important work we have been doing under the same vision and leadership that has made UTLA a recognized force and leader in Education both in L.A. and around the country.



Vote Union Power!
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Daniel Barnhart (Sec VP), Alex Orozco (Treas), Arlene Inouye (Sec),
Benny Madera (Substitutes BOD), and Mallorie Evans (HHS BOD)
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Unopposed and elected

CANDIDATE FOR NEA-CENTRAL AREA

Statement of Kelly Flores

- 6 years Central Area Steering Committee
- 8 years House of Representatives
- 6 years CTA State Council Representative
- 6 years NEA-RA Delegate
- "Unsung Hero Award" Recipient 2013
- Raza Education Committee Chair 2013-Present
- Board of Director, 2014- Present
- CTA Human Rights Award Recipient 2016

My name is Kelly Flores and I am a Special Education high school teacher at Hawkins High School in Central Area. I have been active in UTLA since I began teaching as a Special Education teacher in 2007. I was warned about being active at my school site before gaining 'permanent' status, but I couldn't help it: Our school faced many threats and interventions by the district, which eventually resulted in Public School "Choice" being forced upon us. We must continue to fight back against top down reforms and privatization!

From the time I started teaching in LAUSD, I have been an active part of the steering committees of UTLA, on the House of Reps, and active continuously within community based organizations. I currently served the last two years a board member of UTLA for Central Area.

My activism began with the community where I live and work, and that is where it will stay. I am all about the rank and file of the union membership who stand in unity with the community and in solidarity with the voice of the people we serve. I will continue to fight against the loss of public education to private interests and work together with you to make our union one that stands alongside the community and fights against special interests and political opportunism.

Please vote with me for leadership we can count on!! Vote for Ingrid Villeda for Elementary Vice President!! In Central Area vote for Board of Directors: Claudia Rodríguez, Tomas Flores and Jose Lara, for Central Area Chair.

Gracias y Adelante!
Kelly Flores



Unopposed and elected

Board of Directors Candidates (IN BALLOT ORDER)

CANDIDATE FOR NEA-VALLEY EAST AREA

Statement of Leonard Goldberg

For over 25 years, I have assisted members at my local school site. It is time to take my knowledge of the contract and experiences working with numerous administrators and use it to help my fellow brothers and sisters of Valley East.



I have been a chapter chair for over 25 years and have represented Valley East on the House of Representatives for the last three years. I am running on my record of having assisted numerous teachers at the schools I have worked at since 1989. I have been a LEARN lead teacher, grade level and department chair person, and I have taught at both elementary and middle schools. I have worked on Valley East Steering Committee and have helped new chapter chairs with the art of inter-personal skills to resolve issues before they escalate. I have a strong desire to continue to empower chapter chairs to work effectively and with a high level of trust.

My philosophy as a future Director representing UTLA Valley East is to ensure chapter chairs have the necessary tools to implement, enforce, and instill confidence of being a proactive, not reactive, chapter chair. I want to ensure that our benefits, compensation, and retirement stay the best they can be. This holds true for our current members and our future brothers and sisters in the union.

I will work to ensure that the needs and voice of Valley East are represented in the embodiment of UTLA. Please take the time to cast your vote and support my candidacy. Ballots go out February 3rd. Voting will be either electronic or by paper ballot.

I look forward to working with my team of Scott Mandel and Mel House as we continue to serve the teachers of Valley East.

CANDIDATE FOR NEA-VALLEY EAST AREA

Statement of Victoria Casas

As a veteran educator of 20 years, longtime organizer, mother of 2 LAUSD students, and married to an LAUSD educator and union leader; I am ready, dedicated, and excited to bring my leadership and organizing skills to the current fights. Valley East has enormous potential, and I will build strength and unity with you. As an inclusive leader, I am running for Valley East NEA Director and Area Chair on the Union Power team, and am proud to be running with Hector Perez Roman in Valley East.



As a Valley East Director, I have worked with Union Power to develop strategic plans and escalating actions that brought us a 10% raise, got rid of John Deasy and his punitive evaluation system, curbed teacher jail, and restored member morale.

As a Valley East Director, I was selected to be on UTLA's Bargaining Team on our contract and salary demands. I am the co-chair of UTLA's Community Schools Workgroup, which seeks to ensure quality schools in every neighborhood. I have supported the UTLA/LAUSD Health and Human Services Taskforce.

As Valley East Area Chair, I will work collaboratively with others to ensure Valley East is connected to UTLA's city-wide movements and not left unaware of powerful progress around the city. We will ensure every school site is strike-ready by February 2018. As we enter reopener, full contract, salary, and health benefits bargaining, we must continue the momentum led by Union Power's proven track record. Elect every member of this unprecedented, cohesive team.

Vote Union Power!

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Benny Madera (Substitutes BOD), and Mallorie Evans (HHS BOD)**

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www.unionpower2017.org**

Also running for Area Chair

CANDIDATE FOR NEA-VALLEY EAST AREA

Statement of Scott Mandel

I have been one of your Directors for nine years, and your Area Chair for the past three years. I am running on my record, having served the teachers of Valley East since 2007.



My accomplishments as Area Chair mostly fall into three categories:

PROTECTING OUR TEACHERS FROM ABUSIVE ADMINISTRATORS: I have worked diligently, and with great success, to get abusive administrators moved out of our schools. For references of my work, please ask the staffs of Coughlin Elementary, Fair Elementary, Verdugo Hills High School, North Hollywood High School, and just this month, Lowman Special Ed Center.

RESPONSIVE TO THE NEEDS OF OUR TEACHERS: I have made it my goal to answer all phone calls and e-mails from members within hours. As busy as we all are, and as stressful as this job can be, I believe that it is critical for your union to respond to your problems immediately, and resolve them as quick as possible.

REPRESENT AND FIGHT FOR VALLEY INTERESTS WITH "BIG" UTLA: I continually represent Valley interests down at UTLA. We comprise 25% of UTLA; we as a group, are generally more experienced than those "over the hill," and have our own attitudes about the direction of teaching and our union. We also have different goals than the rest of the city. For example, our primary interests in negotiations is a pay increase and keeping our health benefits at the current levels. I will continue to fight for those areas to be the top priority in our next contract negotiations, over some of the other goals of the present leadership.

I look forward to working with my team of Leonard Goldberg and Mel House as we continue to serve the teachers of Valley East.

Also running for Area Chair

CANDIDATE FOR NEA-VALLEY EAST AREA

Statement of Hector Perez-Roman

UTLA is at the forefront of protecting public education and we need to build on this momentum. These critical times demand serious and proactive leadership; this is why I am a proud candidate with the Union Power Team for Valley East Board of Directors. With the Union Power Team's leadership, we have a reenergized and strengthened UTLA, making us a respected organizing Union, not only locally, but at State and National levels.



UTLA, with leadership from Union Power and activists like me, has negotiated a 10% raise, extended health benefits, expanded members' legal program, improved support around school site issues, and leads in parent-community coalition-building. Troubling times ahead require a team with a proven record – Union Power. We head into new contract and salary negotiations, strike preparedness around health benefits, and the further battle against privatization.

My experiences as an organizer, Valley East steering committee member, UTLA House of Representatives member, School Site Council member, and Arleta High's Chapter Chair will benefit Valley East. I believe in working collaboratively with our union leadership, not undermining it!

As a National Board Certified Teacher and humble recipient of multiple awards in education, including Teacher of the Year by LACOE, I see the need, now more than ever, to lead. I, along with Victoria Casas, candidate for Area Chair, have leadership experience and together with Union Power, we will strengthen, organize, and empower Valley East to give our students, members and communities the schools we deserve.

Vote Union Power!

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Board of Directors Candidates (IN BALLOT ORDER)

CANDIDATE FOR NEA-VALLEY WEST AREA

Statement of Melodie Bitter



I have been one of your Board of Directors for the past three years. In addition, I have been a chapter chair for 22 of my 29 years as a special education teacher in the district.

I believe that our members need to regularly get their questions and concerns addressed in a timely manner. I have a history of quickly responding to members to get them the necessary assistance and information for solving issues at their schools. I have worked with schools to help resolve their issues and have even met with local school directors when necessary to get a positive resolution to their problems. I believe that service for our rank-and-file members is the most important job for a UTLA Director.

I will also continue to be a voice on the Board of Directors representing our needs in Valley West. As a board member, I firmly believe that we need to continue pushing for our needs such as real class size reduction, solving the over-testing problem, and maintaining pay and health benefits. It is important that our issues in the Valley are heard and responded to by Mother UTLA.

CANDIDATE FOR NEA-VALLEY WEST AREA

Statement of Wendi Davis



A Vote for Wendi Davis for NEA Director is a vote for the Valley West voice in the boardroom and committees with integrity and consistency!

An NEA Director is the face of fairness, compassion and strength to lead Valley West in the fight to keep our rights as education professionals and I believe I can be that face to represent the strongest area in UTLA.

It is with great humility and humanity that I have been and will continue to be a consistent Valley West voice on the UTLA Board of Directors. Even as a chapter chair for 11 years at Patrick Henry Middle School and 10th year House of Representative, I continually seek out all members' opinions and needs. Classroom teachers, substitutes, counselors, librarians and health human services professionals all need competent and focused representation. Even when in the minority, I fight for what is right for all members. I will never pay lip service to any member and will seek out every remedy possible to help a member in need.

As a board of director must be able to be a voice for Valley West leadership as it also board members most important responsibility is to be at every meeting, ready to collaborate and educate the citywide officers as to the concerns of those whom we represent. It is also a board of director's duty to respond to the immediate needs of members in need of assistance and representation at school sites.

In these tough turbulent times, we face losing enrollment and thus members. Our union is at a crossroad where every elected official must be an active representative for all bargaining unit members and not themselves.

I believe in and will continue to work for
Smaller Class Sizes, Salary Increases, Clean Classrooms,
The Implementation of a Bargained Evaluation Model
Elimination of Top Down District Instructional Mandates
Less "District Mandates of the Practice of the Common Core" for Our Students
A Vote for Wendi Davis is a Vote for LAUSD Educational Professionals' Rights

CANDIDATE FOR NEA-VALLEY WEST AREA

Statement of Bruce Newborn



It is with great honor and service, that I am running to continue my work for you as NEA Director and Area Chair for UTLA Valley West.

We have a great slate of Directors who, for the last two and a half years, have worked extremely hard to provide our Valley West members the best service possible to assist you all at your school sites. I could not ask for better Directors than Javi Romo, Wendi Davis, and Melodie Bitter. I hope you continue your support for these quality individuals.

I am proud of the many accomplishments during this term. One of the most challenging tasks is the removal of toxic administrators from your school sites. In this area we have been very successful. At least six Principals and Asst. Principals have been moved to other sites, most of them to other areas. Those who have remained in our area are being watched like hawks. We will just not allow ineffective administrators to rule our campuses with fear and intimidation. We have not gotten them all, and I will be tireless in working with our local Superintendent and her Directors to address how we can effectively make these changes happen.

We have enjoyed good times together, and we have struggled to make sure our members are treated with respect in Valley West. I promise to continue my hard work, and service Valley West members to the best of my abilities. I ask for your support and vote.

Also running for Area Chair

CANDIDATE FOR NEA-VALLEY WEST AREA

Statement of Hal Wolkowitz



I am running because Substitute Teachers like me are underrepresented on the Board of Directors.

UTLA needs my perspective.

During any given school year I meet more students, more administrators and, yes, more teachers than most of you reading this ad.

By the way, I hold a California Clear Single Subject Credential in English with CLAD emphasis.

As a Substitute Teacher, I will provide insight to UTLA meetings that you may not be getting from others.

The same holds true for other Substitute Teachers running this year:

Francisco Martinez, Greg Russell, and Phil Gross.

That's all. Thanks and have a great year.

Board of Directors Candidates (IN BALLOT ORDER)

CANDIDATE FOR AFT-VALLEY WEST AREA

Statement of Javier Romo

As a member of the United Valley Caucus slate, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all my UTLA brothers and sisters who endorsed and supported my re-election to the UTLA Board of Directors. I urge all my colleagues in Valley West to vote for the UVC Valley West slate, three full-time classroom teachers and experienced leaders, **Melodie Bitter, Wendi Davis, and Bruce Newborn.**



Please feel confident that during my tenure on the Board, I will work hard at promoting and protecting the rights and best interests of all members, while striving to gain the dignity and respect our profession deserves. I will speak out and challenge LAUSD, and when necessary our union leadership. I will fight for better salaries and benefits; increase funding for our schools; lowering class size in all grades; reducing mandated assessments and scripted lesson plans; establishing teacher-led school reform; building alliances with parents, community groups, and organized labor; while expanding UTLA members rights. Our union needs to be in a position of power, along with organizing and mobilizing members into unity and action.

During my 26 years of activism in UTLA, I have learned how to organize, stand my ground, and to compromise when needed. I have learned how to lead a large organization, how to work with large and small groups and individuals. I am willing to put in the long hours that are needed to be an effective board member.

In closing, UTLA must make the members' needs its number one priority. We must remember that the essence of UTLA is improving the salary, benefits, and working conditions of its members. UTLA must strive to continue to produce the best learning environment possible for our students. TOGETHER we can stop the attack on public education and vigorously defend the rights we have won since 1970.

Unopposed and elected

CANDIDATE FOR NEA-HARBOR AREA

Statement of Jennifer McAfee

Thank you for your support of the Union Power team. It will be an honor to serve as your Harbor Area Board of Director. I am proud of the work we have accomplished as a team. We have organized successful school site organizing campaigns promoting a stronger member participation in UTLA which resulted in a stronger contract, maintained health benefits, and brought more support to school sites.



As a Board of Director, I look forward to being a part of a pro-active vision to build a strong and meaningful contract campaign for the Schools LA Students Deserve including health benefits, improvements of class size, salary increases, and support for overall improvement of school climate.

I urge your support of all Union Power candidates for citywide offices and Board of Directors. The UP team has been successful in moving our vision forward, and it is essential this work continues as we fight against a Trump administration, privatization, and an attack against our health benefits. Please join me in voting for the Union Power team.

Vote Union Power!

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Benny Madera (Substitutes BOD), and Mallorie Evans (HHS BOD)**

**FB: UnionPowerForUTLA
www.unionpower2017.org**

Unopposed and elected

CANDIDATE FOR NEA-HARBOR AREA

Statement of Elgin Scott

It will be an honor to serve the educators of UTLA for another term as your NEA, Harbor Area Board Director on the Union Power Team. It is my desire to continue building on the significant successes of our prior term such as taking on Eli Broad and the billionaires. Most importantly, we have the opportunity to continue this amazing work with the same team that has brought UTLA so far: Union Power. I continue to believe in Union Power because it is founded on the concept of being a team – not a slate. Union Power has consciously come together as a team that doesn't always agree but comes together in order to construct a clear unified vision for UTLA. This vision has included fighting for common sense accountability and funding issues, along with equity and access for all schools receiving public monies. This has been critical in our fight for the Schools All Students deserve.



Please join me in voting for all of the Union Power Team.

Vote Union Power!

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Unopposed and elected

CANDIDATE FOR NEA-HARBOR AREA

Statement of Karen Macias-Lutz

It is an honor to continue serving as one of your Harbor Area NEA Board of Directors. I appreciate the opportunity to support members with contractual concerns, as well as represent you in a leadership role.



Our union has achieved positive gains with the Union Power Team's leadership, and we have much more work to do with contract re-openers, full contract, and health benefits. Public education is under attack and I will work diligently with the Union Power Team to move our union forward protecting student and teacher rights.

The students and our members deserve respect and strong community schools. Salary and health benefits remain a priority in all negotiations. Safe schools are important as restorative justice ideals are implemented, with the need of much more support and resources, at our school sites. Class size and norm tables must not increase. Together we must fight to keep "public" in education.

The Union Power Team has worked hard for our members and for public education so continue supporting this team -- please vote for all candidates on the Union Power Team. Positive momentum offers us powerful gains.

Vote Union Power!

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www.unionpower2017.org**

Unopposed and elected

Board of Directors Candidates (IN BALLOT ORDER)

CANDIDATE FOR AFT-HARBOR AREA

Statement of Steve Seal

I am proud to be running for Harbor AFT Director and Area Chair with the Union Power team.

As a member of the UTLA Board of Directors, I have played a leadership role in strengthening UTLA over the last years – from getting rid of Deasy, to the 10% raise, to protecting health benefits.

I commit to working with you in Harbor Area and with the city-wide UTLA leadership to build powerful contract, salary, and health benefits campaigns this year, and to continue to fight against unregulated charter growth and the billionaire agenda. I will push for support for school discipline and reduction in class size and ratios, and I will push against over-testing, bad principals, and top-down school reconstitutions.

I bring experience to this work, not only with the UTLA Board of Directors, but also as a long-time chapter chair, a member of the UTLA Educator Support and Development Task Force, a member of the State-level CTA Assessment and Testing Committee and CTA State Council, and a member of the national level NEA Representative Assembly.

UTLA wouldn't have made the progress we have over the last years without the genuine team leadership of Union Power. To continue our momentum into these crucial battles around contract and benefits, as we also face the Trump/DeVos reality, we must elect the entire Union Power team. I ask for your vote for me, and for the entire team.



Vote Union Power!
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Juan Ramirez (AFT-VP), Gloria Martinez (Elem VP),
Daniel Barnhart (Sec VP), Alex Orozco (Treas), Arlene Inouye (Sec),
Benny Madera (Substitutes BOD), and Mallorie Evans (HHS BOD)
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Also running for Area Chair

CANDIDATE FOR ADULT EDUCATION

Statement of Matthew Kogan

I am proud to have been re-elected for Director of Adult Education as part of the Union Power team. To continue our momentum forward, I am now asking you to vote for the entire Union Power team. Under the leadership of UTLA President Alex Caputo-Pearl and Union Power, UTLA has been energized to win a large salary increase, kept our health benefits and put UTLA on a secure financial footing. We have gotten rid of Supt. Deasy, secured our funding with our Prop. 55 victory and stood up to Eli Broad and unregulated charter growth. Additionally, Union Power leadership been there for Adult Education and other special category members when we needed them.



Most importantly under Union Power's leadership we have organized and mobilized around a clear, unifying and ambitious vision that is needed now more than ever as we head into our contract and health benefits campaigns this year. Going back is out of the question. Let's keep the momentum going, stay unified and vote for the entire Union Power team!

Vote Union Power!
Alex Caputo-Pearl (Pres), Cecily Myart-Cruz (NEA-VP),
Juan Ramirez (AFT-VP), Gloria Martinez (Elem VP),
Daniel Barnhart (Sec VP), Alex Orozco (Treas), Arlene Inouye (Sec),
Victoria Casas and Hector Perez-Roman (Valley East BOD, NEA),
and Steve Seal (Harbor Area BOD, AFT)
FB: [UnionPowerForUTLA](https://www.unionpowerforutla.org)
www.unionpower2017.org

Unopposed and elected

CANDIDATE FOR BILINGUAL EDUCATION

Statement of Cheryl Ortega

Director of Bilingual Education

Almost 75% of the voters of California support multilingual education. That is a mandate. The tide has turned. The winds are blowing in a new direction. We must listen to the people and make this happen. UTLA has proposed a joint task force with LAUSD to expand current programs and create new ones. I am proud and happy to be in the position to work towards making this happen. We currently have 70 schools with dual language programs. We could double that in a year and double it again in two.

I submitted my name for Director of Bilingual Education and since I am unopposed, I will be assuming that position in July. Working very closely with the Raza Ed Committee and the Latino Caucus, I thank them for their endorsement and look forward to continued collaboration. With 47 years in bilingual classrooms, team writer of the current EL Master Plan, and a lifelong advocate for language rights, I can hardly wait to get started on what could become the most amazing opportunity for all of our students, English learners and English speakers. Join me in promoting our language programs. Join the task force, get a BCLAD, renew your BCLAD, talk to parents and colleagues and your principal. We really can do this.



Unopposed and elected

CANDIDATE FOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Statement of Mallorie Evans

I am thrilled to be running for UTLA Board of Directors-Health & Human Services. I am an Educational Audiologist who has worked for the District for 11 years. I have been the Chapter Chair for Educational Audiology for 8 years. I also served as the Chair of the Health & Human Services (HHS) Standing Committee for 2 years. I currently serve on the HHS Steering Committee.



During my time as Chapter Chair and HHS Committee member, we have fought for recognition of all Special Category/HHS chapters in our contract. We have organized our members to know and fight for their rights regarding inclusive contract language, working conditions, continuing education, and recruitment/retention. We continue to strive for equal representation and a strong, unifying voice to meet these goals.

I am running with the Union Power team because we need to build on the foundation of an action-oriented union. We have seen much success in our contract negotiations the past three years, and the Union Power team has a proven track record of effective organizing around local, state, and national issues, and we must continue this, as it is now more important than ever.

As the Director for Health & Human Services, I will work collaboratively to organize each chapter, connect our efforts to our natural parent-community allies, and ensure that our union acts on ideas that improve our professions. I hope that you will elect the entire Union Power team so UTLA can continue moving in a direction that builds power.

Vote Union Power!
Alex Caputo-Pearl (Pres), Cecily Myart-Cruz (NEA-VP), Juan Ramirez (AFT-VP),
Gloria Martinez (Elem VP), Daniel Barnhart (Sec VP), Alex Orozco (Treas),
Arlene Inouye (Sec), Mallorie Evans (HHS BOD),
Victoria Casas and Hector Perez-Roman (Valley East BOD, NEA),
and Steve Seal (Harbor Area BOD, AFT)
FB: [UnionPowerForUTLA](https://www.unionpowerforutla.org)
www.unionpower2017.org

Board of Directors Candidates (IN BALLOT ORDER)

CANDIDATE FOR SUBSTITUTES

Statement of Benny Madera

"Benny Madera is crucial to the Union Power team which has led in getting rid of John Deasy, attaining a 10% raise, protecting health benefits, gaining Group Legal Services for all members, fighting the billionaire privatizers, and hiring more staff to support substitute teachers – a level of staff support which is unprecedented and that we are extremely proud of."

—Alex Caputo-Pearl, UTLA President

Remember Deasy's "Reign of Terror?" Deasy had teacher jail at its peak, the MISIS Crisis, and was constantly attacking Substitutes. Even "allies" on the School Board voted to extend his contract. That was the political terrain.

As Alex explains above, Union Power has changed that climate with aggressive organizing. I supported UP because I knew this team would bring strong leadership needed to change things around. Now, I'm proud to be running with UP for Substitute Director. I have the experience to lead. I've been a Substitute for 15 years, I'm Chapter Chair for Central 3 Calling Area, on the Substitute Steering Committee, East Area Steering Committee, and UTLA House of Representatives. I've been a community organizer for over a decade.

I commit to: Fixing the SmartFind problems; ensuring Substitutes always have keys and folders; organizing with the new staff around Substitute issues; taking on ISRs; and fighting for salaries, benefits, lower class size, and better working conditions as we defend public education.

We need a team to get things done.

Vote Benny Madera for Substitute Director and for all members of the Union Power Team!

Vote Union Power!

Alex Caputo-Pearl (Pres), Cecily Myart-Cruz (NEA-VP),
Juan Ramirez (AFT-VP), Gloria Martinez (Elem VP),
Daniel Barnhart (Sec VP), Alex Orozco (Treas), Arlene Inouye (Sec),
Benny Madera (Substitutes BOD), and Mallorie Evans (HHS BOD)
FB: [UnionPowerForUTLA](https://www.facebook.com/UnionPowerForUTLA)
www.unionpower2017.org



CANDIDATE FOR SUBSTITUTES

Statement of Francisco Martinez

Francisco Martinez for Substitute Teachers Board Of Director

My name is **Francisco Martinez** and I have been actively organizing around Substitutes and regular Teachers issues within UTLA for many years. In 2009, I organized and participated in the different rallies to reverse the infamous Memorandum of Understanding MOU signed by AJ Duffy and his regime that eliminated the seniority rights of thousands of Substitute Teachers.

As member of the HOR I introduced the strike motion of 2010 and demanded that any money taken out of the strike fund only be used for strike purposes. Also, I supported and assisted our fellow teachers to get rid of former LAUSD Superintendent John Deasy and joined other educators to speak in defense of teachers who had been falsely accused of crimes during Deasy's reign of terror. In the last few years, I have attended different events organized by jailed teachers and discussed their issues repeatedly at KPFF Radio 90.7 FM, where I am the Director and Host of award winning public affairs show *Centroamerica Sin Censura*.

In 2011, I supported and participated by joining other educators and community members in the occupy LAUSD movement and demanded an end to the budget cuts and the RIF'ing of teachers by the LAUSD Board of Education. As a member of the House, I kept on speaking out on issues that were relevant to our Subs. However, I continued to organize within the Substitute Teachers Committee and pushed for more representation District wide. As a result, we were able to increase the number of Subs Chapter Chairs to 14 and kept a close eye on making sure our committee funds were used only for the benefit of our members. More recently, in 2015, I was elected Co-Chair of the Substitute Teachers Committee and Chapter Chair of the South Calling Area #2.

As a union member and true defender of Subs issues, I was also recognized publicly along with a group of other Subs at the latest Substitute Teachers Social in December 2016. I consider this the most important recognition in my teaching career, which has inspired me to continue working for the benefit of our fellow Substitute Teachers. As your Director, I will fight for due process rights and will organize to change the "at will" status of our job. It is time that the State and the educational system recognize that we are more than just a number. We play an important role in the lives of our children and we are important to our society. Therefore, I am asking for your vote and support. In this election please vote for Francisco Martinez as Substitute Teachers Director. For more information email me: fmartin6@yahoo.com or find me on facebook as Francisco Martinez



ELECTION RULES

(continued from page 3)

to the year in which elections are to take place, the Elections Committee shall establish all other dates for the conduct of the Election, including the deadline for the filing of Declaration of Candidacy forms, the date of mailing of ballots, and the date by which ballots must be returned. The Elections Committee shall work with UTLA staff to ensure that notice of these dates is provided to the membership no later than 45 calendar days after the start of the school year in which elections are to take place.

B. The Elections Committee members shall not endorse, discuss nor participate in any campaign or candidacy during the election process.

C. The Elections Committee (and not the Board of Directors—including the Officers) shall have the authority to supervise the conduct of the election in a manner that is consistent with this Manual and the UTLA Constitution. The authority of the Elections Committee shall include, but is not limited to, the following:

1. After the Board of Directors has determined the dates and offices of those elections that are required by the UTLA Constitution, the Elections Committee has the authority to determine all other dates and procedures pertaining to the election

2. The Elections Committee has the authority to retain an election services company to print, mail and tabulate ballots in city-wide elections.

3. The authority to conduct an election for Board of Directors vacancies by printing, mailing and tabulating ballots by retaining an election services company only after the Board of Directors has declared a vacancy, when a written, mailed ballot is authorized.

4. The authority to review and resolve any challenges pertaining to the conduct of the election, including challenges regarding the intent of any ballot.

5. The authority to hear and decide any charges alleging violations of the UTLA Constitution or this Manual in the conduct of the election.

6. The authority to determine that an election must be rerun, in whole or in part, but only if the Committee has determined after a hearing (as provided below in section XII) that a violation of the UTLA Constitution or of this Manual may have affected the outcome of the election.

7. The authority to adopt procedures during an election to remedy unanticipated problems that arise during the election, provided that such remedies will be adopted only if there are no material disputed facts regarding that problem and the fairness of the election might be compromised if a remedy were not adopted. Furthermore, such remedies may be adopted only if approved by a vote of 75% of the Elections Committee.

8. The authority to determine voter eligibility, in accordance with section V of this Manual and the UTLA Constitution.

9. The authority to determine candidate eligibility.

10. The authority to present a report to the BOD regarding elections that are being challenged, or are in arbitration, so that candidates who have been elected may be seated, and the authority to presents a report to the BOD when elections have been completed so that candidates who have been elected can be certified.

III. Time of Elections for UTLA Officers and members of the Board of Directors

A. Election ballots shall be counted during the month of February of the year of any regular election. The Elections Committee, in consultation with the elections services company and UTLA staff, shall set the exact date.

B. No later than 45 calendar days after the start of the school year in which elections are to take place, the Elections Committee shall establish all dates for the conduct of the Election, including the deadline for the filing of Declaration of Candidacy forms, the date of mailing of ballots, and the date by which ballots must be returned. The

Elections Committee shall work with UTLA staff to ensure that notice of these dates is provided to the membership.

C. The Elections Committee shall set the date of Run-off elections or Rerun elections (that is, elections conducted after a determination by the Elections Committee or arbitrator that a violation of the applicable rules has invalidated an election).

D. The Elections Committee shall verify candidate eligibility within five (5) business days of the close of declarations. Candidates shall have five (5) business days to appeal the decision of the Elections Committee to the Elections Committee, or correct deficiencies in eligibility.

IV. Candidates elected

A. **Uncontested elections.** In the event that there are only three (3) NEA Board of Directors candidates in an area, they shall be declared winners by acclamation. In the event that there is only one (1) AFT Board of Director candidate in an area, s/he shall be declared the winner by acclamation. In the event that there is only one candidate in the special category Board of Directors, s/he shall be declared the winner by acclamation.

B. **Contested elections:** For NEA Board of Directors Area election the three (3) candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected. For AFT Board of Directors and special category Board of Directors, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected. For officer elections, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes who has received at least a majority of votes shall be declared elected. In the event that one officer candidate does not receive a majority of votes cast in the first balloting, a runoff election shall be held between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes, unless there is a tie for the second highest, then the runoff will be the top three candidates.

C. **Certification of Election.** The official Elections Report must be completed by the Chairperson of the Elections Committee and sent to the UTLA Board of Directors and the House of Representatives after each ballot round.

V. Voter eligibility

A. In order to be eligible to vote in any round (i.e. in the first round, run-off or rerun) of any election, voters must be active members of UTLA one month prior to distribution of the ballots in that round (i.e. first round, second round run-off, or re- rerun) of balloting.

B. Members not assigned to a single work site a majority of the time or whose cost center does not accurately reflect their work site(s) shall be assigned to a UTLA Area based on where they actually work, and the principles adopted by the House of Representatives. If the designation is incorrect, the member must inform the UTLA Elections Committee of the correct area in which they worked the most and send notification to the Elections Committee at least one month prior to the mailing of the ballots. Prior to the opening of nominations, UTLA will provide in the United Teacher and on the UTLA Website a full explanation directed to members of their rights and obligations in this regard.

C. Upon publication of the election rules in the United Teacher or on the UTLA website, there will be communication to certificated employees who are eligible to join UTLA notifying them of how to confirm and/or correct their member status, including affiliation, special category, and UTLA Area. Affiliation changes must be submitted at least one month prior to the first mailing of the election ballots.

VI. Candidate eligibility

A. **Membership in good standing.** Any person who has been an active member in good standing
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ELECTION RULES

(continued from page 21)

for at least twenty-four months, and a member of his/her affiliate for twelve months, immediately preceding the last date for filing a Declaration of Intent to Run form shall be eligible to run for office.

B. Declaration of Intent to Run. Any eligible member must file the Declaration of Intent to Run form with the Elections Committee by the date established by the Elections Committee.

To be eligible for any Board of Director seat, a candidate must submit a petition indicating the office sought, and bearing the signatures of at least fifty (50) active members. To be eligible for any Officer position, a candidate must submit a petition indicating the office sought, and bearing the signatures of at least one hundred (100) active members. These petitions must be filed by the same date as the Declaration of Intent to Run form.

If a candidate's petition is found to have invalid signatures in the amount that it reduces the total number below the minimum required for that candidacy, the candidate shall be given seven days to "fix it", and acquire replacement signatures. The seven day grace period will begin upon notification by the Elections Committee.

C. Place of principal employment, affiliation and category requirements. A member must be qualified to hold the office by affiliation and/or category for which that person is running. Area Board of Directors candidates shall be principally employed (at least 50% of the time or the largest percentage of hours in a multi area assignment) at any site or sites in the area in which they are seeking election, as consistent with the principles of Area assignment as adopted by the Board of Directors and the House of Representatives.

D. One office only: With the exception of Board of Directors Candidates who are also filing for Area Chairperson, a member shall file for no more than one office.

VII. Campaign Materials

A. All candidates have the right to distribute campaign materials to UTLA members at any location (including school sites and in school mailboxes), subject to the restrictions provided in this Manual or restrictions imposed by the employer. The cost of distribution of those mate-

rials shall be borne by the candidate. Campaign materials shall be considered to be distributed by a candidate if; (1) those materials are distributed by the candidate; (2) by a slate of candidates that the candidate has joined; and/or (3) distributed at the request of a designee.

B. All campaign literature distributed by a candidate shall include the following statement: "The information herein represents the views and opinions of the candidates and does not necessarily represent or reflect the opinions of UTLA."

C. Campaign materials distributed by the candidate, or by anyone else, shall not have printed upon them, the UTLA, CTA/NEA, CFT/AFT, or AFL-CIO logo. Exempt from this requirement are signs, pins, stickers, buttons, pictures, t-shirts, hats and other materials worn by individuals, which appear in photographs.

D. Distribution of campaign literature by UTLA

1. At no charge to the candidate, UTLA will post to the UTLA website one "flyer" no larger than 8-1/2 by 11 inches in PDF form per candidate, in a designated area, accessible to members.

c. A flyer submitted by a candidate may be a flyer for a slate of candidates or otherwise endorse other candidates.

E. At the request of a candidate, the candidate shall be provided at cost the constituency mailing list on mailing labels as well as members' telephone numbers on the condition that the candidate agrees in writing that the candidate will only use those labels or telephone numbers for the sole purpose of contacting those members to solicit their votes in connection with the election and that the candidate will return the list or unused labels and telephone numbers to UTLA no later than seven (7) working days from the day the ballots for the seat or office are counted, unless the candidate is involved in another round of elections. Any candidate failing to return the membership list shall not be permitted to assume the office to which that candidate has been elected unless and until the membership list is returned.

F. Special Election Supplement of the United Teacher - Election Supplement

UTLA shall publish an Election Supplement of the United Teacher.

Candidates for UTLA President, NEA Affiliate

Vice President, AFT Affiliate Vice President, Elementary Vice President, Secondary Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Board of Directors may submit a statement for the Election Supplement which shall be published indicating each candidate and the position they are seeking, provided that the following conditions are met:

a. Candidates must sign the statement that they submit;

b. Each statement will be printed in black and white and may be no longer than one (1) page, (8-1/2 x 11 inches).

c. If a candidate wishes to have a photograph as part of the 8-1/2 x 11 inch sheet, the candidate must provide a glossy print photograph or electronic file as specified by the Elections Committee, of only the candidate, which shall not be returned to the candidate.

d. The statement and photograph must be received by the UTLA office no later than ten (10) working days excluding holidays after the meeting in which the names of the candidates were announced. This is a firm deadline for the first and all subsequent rounds.

3. The Election Supplement, in a format determined by the Elections Committee, shall also be mailed to all voters with their ballot.

VIII. Ballots

A. When an independent elections services company is contracted, it shall be responsible for the printing, mailing and tabulating of the ballots, subject to supervision by the UTLA Elections Committee.

B. Candidates' names shall be listed on the ballot in a random order by drawing lots. If a run-off election is held, the order of names of the candidates shall not be changed.

IX. Procedures pertaining to the mailing and counting of ballots

A. Rules governing the mailing and counting of the ballots are attached to this Manual as Attachment A.

X. Other Campaign Rules

A. The Elections Manual shall be made available through the United Teacher and the UTLA Website to all UTLA members and upon request.

B. The United Teacher, prior to opening of nominations, shall publish election procedures, rules, forms and the calendar. The election timeline shall be published in each issue and on the UTLA Website until the close of the election.

C. Local, state, and/or national affiliate organizations shall not endorse, permit the provision of, or provide facilities or services to, financially contribute to, or be materially involved in any way with the campaign of any candidate. The UTLA President shall request affiliates to honor this election rule.

D. UTLA staff and employees shall not be involved in any candidate's campaign.

E. UTLA Offices, materials, or other resources of UTLA shall not be used to support candidates. These resources include, but are not limited to UTLA copiers, telephones, computer systems, UTLA sponsored/affiliated websites (except as otherwise provided for in these rules). However, this shall not preclude the utilization of UTLA Meeting Rooms, to the extent that they are made equally available to all candidates.

F. UTLA shall create a video of the city-wide office candidates, whether contested or not. The Elections Committee shall determine the time, format, etc. with regard to the preparation and distribution of the video, in consultation with the UTLA Director of Communications. Video content shall not include language or references that is racist, sexist, homophobic, or otherwise offensive or contrary to UTLA guiding principles, as determined by the Elections Committee. Candidates shall have the opportunity to edit the video accordingly.

G. UTLA committees shall not endorse any candidates during the election process.

H. Candidates shall not seek or receive local, state or national affiliate financial support or any other form of support for his or her candidacy from vendors, UTLA staff, politicians or outside organizations and persons who stand to benefit financially or otherwise from their relationship with UTLA.

I. Candidate literature will not appear to be on any official UTLA publication, except the Special Edition of the United Teacher.

J. Campaigning at work sites

All candidates may campaign at work sites with the prior approval of the chapter chair. Such approval shall not be unreasonably denied by a chapter chair. Examples of unreasonable denial of approval would be because the chapter chair does not support the candidate or a denial of approval because the chapter chair does not like the candidate. Examples of a reasonable denial of approval would be because another candidate had already been granted approval on that day, or because the work schedule issues would make it impossible or disruptive for the candidate to campaign at that school on that particular day. Candidates are not permitted to combine campaign visits with official UTLA business.

K. Financial Reports

Candidates for all offices, and political committees formed by candidates or in which candidates are active participants, shall file at least two financial reports with the Elections Committee on a form approved by the Committee. The reports shall detail all expenditures, income and sources of income for a specific balloting in the election. The first report shall be due at the deadline for the declaration of filing, on or before 5:00 p.m. The second report shall be due on or before 5:00 p.m. the day upon which the ballots are counted.

Each candidate must sign the following affirmation "I affirm that all of the information provided by me in this form is correct to the best of my knowledge. Financial reports pertaining to subsequent balloting shall be on file on or before 5:00 p.m. the day upon which the ballots are counted.

The financial statements of candidates and committees shall be printed in summary form in the next United Teacher issue after their due date, with a notice that originals are on file for inspection.

A candidate who has not filed a financial report shall not be permitted to assume the office to which that candidate has been elected unless and until the report is filed.

XI. Elections of Area Chairs

A. If all candidates for the office of Area Chair who have filed a declaration form have been

What is the role of chapter chairs in citywide elections?

Even though the citywide UTLA elections are conducted by ballots mailed to members' homes—instead of at the school site, as with contract ratification votes—chapter chairs play a vital role in ensuring that the UTLA elections are conducted in a manner that is fair and that encourages the full and informed participation of all the UTLA members at their school.

Chapter chairs have the following rights:

- Chapter chairs have the right to endorse, or to refrain from endorsing, any candidate for UTLA office. Chapter chairs have the right to inform members at their school of their endorsement, provided that chapter chairs do not use any UTLA resources to do so.
- Chapter chairs have the right to approve or deny permission for candidates to campaign at their work site. However, it is their duty to base their decision on reasonable grounds—such as scheduling issues or logistical concerns—rather than on partisan considerations.

Chapter chairs have the following duties:

- It is their duty to ensure that all candidates have a reasonable and equal opportunity to communicate with the members at their school, regardless of their personal decision to endorse or oppose any particular candidate(s). For example, if a chapter chair puts one candidate's flyers in mailboxes, he or she needs to do the same for all candidates.
- To help ensure an informed membership, chapter chairs should encourage candidates (or their representatives) to visit their school site during the election. Chapter chairs should also encourage their members to view the candidates' videos on the UTLA webpage and to read the candidates' statements in the Special Election issue of the UNITED TEACHER.
- Like all people who act on UTLA's behalf, it is the chapter chairs' duty to keep in mind the best interests of UTLA and its members when acting in their official capacity.

If chapter chairs have any questions about their rights and duties during these elections, please email them to utlaelections@utla.net.

UTLA Disclaimer

The candidates' statements in this election issue do not necessarily represent UTLA policy. The candidates themselves are solely responsible for the contents of the statements and for preparing and proofreading their statements. UNITED TEACHER staff members do not proofread nor correct any errors in the statements.

elected by acclamation, then the Area Chair election will be held in the first round of balloting. In the event that all four (4) Directors in an area are elected on the first, citywide ballot, the Area Chairperson election for that area shall be conducted in the second round of balloting, if contested. In the event there is a run off for a Board of Directors seat, any election for Area Chair shall be conducted in a third round of balloting.

B. An Area Chairperson's election shall be held. Area Chairpersons shall be elected from among the four (4) Board of Directors Members, newly elected to each UTLA area. The candidates for Area Chairperson in each area shall be those newly elected Board of Directors members who have also filed as candidates for Area Chairperson. In the event that no newly elected Board of Directors member has filed as a candidate for Area Chairperson, all four (4) newly elected Board of Directors names shall appear on the ballot for the office of Area Chairperson and shall be candidates for that office. If only one of four elected persons files, that person shall be declared the winner without balloting.

XII. Challenges to the Election

A. Only candidates may file challenges, and only to the office in which they are running.

B. In the event that any candidate claims that any violation of any provision of this Manual or of the Constitution has taken place in connection with an election in which that person is a candidate, that candidate may request a hearing by the Elections Committee by filing a written challenge no later than 5:00 p.m. on the fifth working day after election results are stated for the round of the election in which the candidate claims that there has been a violation, setting forth with reasonable certainty the nature of the alleged violation and the facts constituting the alleged violation.

C. No later than 10 working days after the final election results for the position for which the challenge has been filed, the Elections Committee shall set a time and place for a fact finding hearing. That fact finding hearing shall take place no more than 30 working days following the final election results. The fact finding hearing shall not take place until after all run-off elections for the position for which the challenge has been filed.

D. At least a majority of the Elections Committee must attend each day of the fact finding hearing and only those members who attend each day of the fact finding hearing may participate in the decision of the Elections Committee.

E. The Elections Committee shall function in a manner similar to a committee of a legislative body and therefore shall be entitled to consider all facts and witnesses that the Committee, in its discretion believes would inform it of those facts relevant to a decision, including facts and circumstances that it becomes aware of outside of the fact finding hearing itself.

F. The Elections Committee shall declare the election for any particular position void and shall direct and set procedures for the conduct of a rerun election if there has been a violation that may have affected the outcome of that election. In addition, if the Elections Committee finds by clear and convincing evidence that (a) a candidate had knowingly received financial support from a vendor or any other person or entity that the candidate knew stood to benefit financially from their relationship with UTLA or (b) knowingly accepted the endorsement of, or support of, any local, state or national affiliate organization, the Elections Committee shall disqualify the candidate and there shall be a rerun election among all other candidates for that position. If there is only one remaining candidate for that position, that candidate shall be declared elected without a rerun election. Any determination of disqualification may be appealed to arbitration in accordance with subparagraph I of this section.

G. In any rerun/run-off election ordered by the Elections Committee after a challenge, the election rules of this Manual shall be applicable.

H. As soon as a decision by the Committee is made with regard to a challenge, the Elections Committee shall immediately inform all affected candidates of the decision. The Committee shall provide that notice by Certified Mail and by any other reasonable means that the Committee believes will ensure that the member has actual notice of the decision.

I. A candidate who has filed a claim of an election violation with the Elections Committee may withdraw that claim at any time before a decision by the Elections Committee.

J. Arbitration

If a candidate is dissatisfied with the decision of the Elections Committee, the candidate may appeal that decision to arbitration by filing notice of appeal with the Elections Committee. That notice of appeal must be received at the UTLA offices no later than 10 working days after the date the Elections Committee decision is delivered to the member who has filed the charges and must be accompanied with a non-refundable deposit of \$1,000 by cashier's check or money order for those candidates who were seeking citywide officer positions, and a non-refundable deposit of \$600 by cashier's check or money order for those candidates who were seeking Board of Directors positions. If the decision is not hand delivered to the member who has filed the charges, it shall be presumed that the decision was received 3 days after the decision is mailed by registered or certified mail to the member. The Elections Committee shall immediately request a list of names of neutral labor arbitrators in the Southern California area from the American Arbitration Association ("AAA"). The Elections Committee shall determine a neutral method of striking names from the list of arbitrators provided by AAA. An arbitrator shall not be considered eligible unless that arbitrator is available to hear the matter three months from the date that the list of arbitrators was provided by the AAA.

If there are multiple requests for arbitration, the Elections Committee has the discretion to determine that those arbitrations should be consolidated into one arbitration hearing and attempt to obtain the agreement of the candidates to such consolidation. Where the Elections Committee determines that the arbitration involves a challenge to a policy, decision or action of the Elections Committee itself, the Elections Committee may participate in the arbitration as a full party.

Otherwise, the Elections Committee shall participate in the arbitration only to the extent necessary to ensure that UTLA interests are protected and, in such case, the full parties shall be the candidates involved in the challenge.

If the arbitrator upholds the challenge of a candidate in substantial part, the deposit provided by the candidate shall be returned to the candidate. The arbitrator shall determine whether such a refund is applicable.

A candidate who has appealed a decision of the Elections Committee to arbitration may withdraw that appeal at any time before the decision of the Arbitrator.

As soon as a decision by the Arbitrator is received by the Elections Committee, the Elections Committee shall immediately inform all affected candidates of the decision. The Committee shall provide that notice by Certified Mail and by any other reasonable means that the Committee believes will ensure that the member has actual notice of the decision.

J. Presumption of validity: Elections challenged by a member are presumed valid pending a decision of the Elections Committee or arbitrator. Until such time as either the Elections Committee or an arbitrator finds that the results of an election are not valid, those who have been elected shall take office and shall have the full authority of that office while any challenges are being considered.

RULES PERTAINING TO THE MAILING AND COUNTING OF BALLOTS

I. BALLOT MAILING

Ballots will be mailed at a date established by the Elections Committee at a location established by the Elections Committee. The mail will be printed and assembled prior to this date during a time established by the Elections Committee and at a place established by the Elections Committee. Candidates and observers designated by candidates, at their own expense, may be present to observe the process and accompany the mail to the post office, provided that the names of any such observers have been provided to UTLA in a manner and by a date established by the Elec-

tions Committee. Persons whose names have not been provided as required will not be permitted to act as observers.

II. RE-MAILS AND/OR SPOILED BALLOTS

Any eligible UTLA member may request a replacement ballot for any reason. Replacement ballots will be available from the elections services company only. Requests for replacement ballots are to be made in a manner established by the Elections Committee. Replacements for any reason will be sent in an entire package. Replacement envelopes will be a different color. Replacements will be mailed within 24 hours of the request. Requests for replacements will be accepted no later than a date established by the Elections Committee.

At no time will UTLA have any unmarked original or replacement ballots in its possession. Ballots that are returned to a location other than the assigned P.O. Box (e.g. to UTLA offices) will remain unopened and be forwarded immediately to the elections services company for handling in accordance with Paragraph IV.E. of these Procedures. Ballots with bad addresses will be returned to the elections services company. UTLA will be provided with information about the undelivered ballots. The elections services company will re-mail ballots when corrected addresses become available.

III. PICKUP OF BALLOTS FROM POST OFFICE

Ballots will be retrieved from the designated Post Office on a date to be established by the Elections Committee in the presence of at least one member of the Elections Committee.

Observers may be present at the time that the ballots are retrieved. Only ballots that have arrived in the official P.O. Box by the time of pickup will be picked up. They will be transported to the ballot counting room in the presence of at least one member of the Elections Committee. Observers may be present during the time that the ballots are transported to the ballot counting room, although observers will not be permitted to be in the same vehicle as the ballots. Ballots will be counted at UTLA. Observers may be present throughout the counting process, provided, however, that those observers shall be required to observe all rules of decorum and procedure that may be established by the Elections Committee. The names of all election day observers, and the names of candidates for whom they are acting as observers, must be provided to an individual designated by the Elections Committee no later than the time established by the Elections Committee or they will not be permitted to act as observers. The Elections Committee may limit the number of observers if there are more designated observers and candidates than space permits.

Eligibility for voting was determined prior to mailing out the ballots. Ballots arriving in an official return envelope are presumed to have been returned by eligible voters. Candidates have the right to inspect a list of all members eligible to vote once within 30 days before the election. Challenges to voter eligibility must be presented prior to opening the envelopes.

IV. POLICIES REGARDING BALLOTS RECEIVED AND FINAL PROCESSING

A. Retrieved ballots will be sorted. Ballots returned in the distinct replacement envelopes will be segregated. After resolving any voter eligibility challenges, the return envelopes will be opened and the contents removed. The secrecy envelopes will be opened and the ballots removed and inspected.

B. Unless otherwise provided by these Rules or by determination of the Elections Committee, all ballots will be counted where the intent of the voter can be ascertained. Any issues regarding the intent of the voter shall be resolved by the Elections Committee.

C. A search of the returned envelopes (by Voter ID#) will be conducted to assure that a replacement ballot is not a duplicate vote. Should two (2) return envelopes be found from the same voter (an original and a replacement), the ballot in the original envelope will be counted.

D. Ballots in return envelopes that are unidentifiable (not an official return envelope), shall be set aside and not counted.

E. Ballots returned to a location other than assigned P.O. Boxes (e.g. UTLA offices) will not be opened or counted. UTLA Offices will not accept ballots.

F. The return envelopes will be opened and the contents removed.

G. Each secrecy envelope will be opened and the ballot removed and inspected.

H. Return envelopes that contain a voted ballot without a secrecy envelope will be counted.

I. Ballots that are not machine readable or are damaged (e.g. torn, eaten, etc.) will be repaired or duplicated in the presence of the Elections Committee. If the Elections Committee determines that member/voter intent is apparent, the ballot will be counted.

J. If a ballot contains votes for more candidates for an office than there are positions to be filled by election, the ballot for that office will not be counted.

K. If no voting boxes on a ballot are marked but are rather underlined or circled, and if the Elections Committee determines that member/voter intent is apparent, the ballot will be counted.

L. Any ballot returned that is not in its appropriate return envelope shall not be counted.

M. Ballots mailed to the wrong P.O. Box will not be counted. UTLA Offices will not accept ballots.

N. If more than one (1) ballot is returned in the same return envelope, even in separate secrecy envelopes, no ballots in that envelope will be counted.

O. The interpretation and application of these rules, and any other issues pertaining to counting ballots or election procedures shall be made by the Elections Committee only.

V. ACCURACY CERTIFICATION

Before any ballots are counted, the elections services company will test the ballot counting system for accuracy. If the test properly demonstrates the accuracy and program logic of the system, the elections services company will certify the system ready for ballot tabulation. This accuracy and logic test will be conducted in the presence of UTLA Elections Committee Representatives and official observers. The same test will be conducted following the tabulation of the Official Ballots and the results of the two tests will be compared.

VI. BALLOT TABULATION

After accuracy certification, the elections services company will tabulate the ballots. The tabulation process involves four steps.

- Scanning the ballot
- Reading the ballot image
- Reviewing and tallying any other ballots in question, including write in ballots
- Tabulation of results

Following the completion of the post-count accuracy and logic testing, the official results including the ballot inventory will be given to the Elections Committee which shall certify the results. The elections services company will certify as to performance in accordance with the foregoing procedures and as to the accuracy of the tabulated results, it being understood that the elections services company cannot certify the eligibility of any candidate or member to whom ballots were issued.

VII. PACKAGING AND SEALING

The ballots, which have been tabulated, will be placed in special containers and sealed with a permanent storage seal bearing the signatures of UTLA Elections Committee Representatives and the election services company representative who tabulated the ballots. The unused/spoiled ballots will be packed in cartons with the eligibility lists used for ballot verification, the empty return envelopes, undeliverable envelopes, invalid or challenged ballots not counted, a copy of the results, and the original of each of the forms and certificates used.

VIII. STORAGE

Storage of the ballot materials shall be the responsibility of the elections services company. At the completion of the tabulation process, all materials will be boxed and sealed and will be transported and stored at the facilities of the elections services company. Ballots shall be stored for three years.

HELP DETERMINE UTLA'S FUTURE EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE!

Ballots for the 2017 UTLA elections will be mailed to members' home addresses by an outside firm on February 3. The ballots include an online voting option.

If you don't receive a ballot or need a replacement ballot: Call Tara Thomas at UTLA at (213) 637-5165. February 13 is the last day you can call for a ballot.

Please read the voting instructions: Ballots that don't follow the guidelines will not be counted.

Mail your ballot back in time: Ballots must be received at the L.A. post office box by 8 a.m. on February 27. It is recommended that you mail your ballot at least one week before the due date to ensure it arrives on time at the designated post office. Ballots may not be left at UTLA. If you are voting online, online voting closes at 8 a.m. on February 27.

