CABE Board Meeting - CTA Report - Rosalinda Quintanar-Sarellana

UTLA Strike

The agreement is a paradigm shift and delivers on the defining demands of UTLA's contract campaign. Wins include:

- A six percent pay raise with no contingencies;
- A nurse in every school five days a week;
- Lower class sizes, including an immediate reduction of seven students in secondary math and English classes;
- Counselor-student ratios of 1:500:
- Commitment to reduce testing by 50 percent;
- A teacher librarian in every secondary school five days a week;
- Investment in community schools;
- A pathway to cap charters via a resolution calling on the state to establish a charter school cap and create a Governor's committee on charter schools; and
- Hard caps on special education caseloads and release time for testing

Read the full TA here: utla.net/news/tentative-agreement-2019

Support from the Community

On day one of the strike, 30,000 UTLA members signed in on picket lines across Los Angeles; more than 900 school sites participated; more than 10,000 parents, students and community members joined on the picket lines; and more than 50,000 people march to LAUSD headquarter to demand action.

By day three, more than 12,000 parents and community members came out to support UTLA, including Diane Ravitch and musician/actor Steven Van Zandt.

Crowds remained strong on day five of the strike, with more than 60,000 supporters on the steps of city hall, and day six brought out 1,000 firefighters from across the U.S. and Canada, whom were in Los Angeles for the International Association of Fire Fighters.

OAKLAND, Calif. – Oakland teachers will be back in their classrooms Monday after union members voted to approve a contract deal with district officials.

The Oakland Education Association voted in favor of the deal on Sunday after postponing the vote for a day.

"We look forward to being in our classrooms again after having to strike to bring our Oakland students some of the resources and supports they should have had in the first place," union president Keith Brown said in a statement.

The agreement was reached after 3,000 teachers went on strike Feb. 21, prompting seven days of marathon negotiations for higher pay, smaller classes and more school resources.

The strike effectively cleared out the city's 86 schools. Oakland teachers were the latest educators in the U.S. to strike over pay and classroom conditions.

The union announced Friday that the teachers won everything they demanded.

"This victory, accomplished through our collective strength on the picket lines with Oakland parents and students, sends the message that educators will no longer let this school district starve our neighborhood schools of resources," Brown said.

The deal includes an 11 percent salary increase and a one-time 3 percent bonus.

CTA Supported Legislation

Educators, school personnel, parents, labor partners and community groups who have been advocating for kids, not profits, by ensuring transparency and accountability in charter schools are thanking Governor Gavin Newsom Tuesday for his signing into law SB 126 by Senator Connie Leyva and Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell. This bill ensures all corporate charter schools are held to the same transparency and accountability standards as neighborhood public schools.

There are other issues with the law that continue to make it difficult for students in and out of charter schools, but four new proposals would help fix the flawed laws governing charter schools. Assemblymembers Patrick O'Donnell, Kevin McCarty, Christy Smith and Rob Bonta and introduced AB 1505, AB 1506, AB 1507 and AB 1508.

Assembly Bill 1505 (O'Donnell) would ensure that decisions regarding authorization and renewal of charters are made at the local level.

Assembly Bill 1506 (McCarty) would put a cap on the growth of charter schools and stem the disruption and financial hardship to neighborhood schools and their students caused by the rapid growth of charters.

Assembly Bill 1507 (Smith) closes a loophole that allows charters to operate schools outside of their authorizing district.

Assembly Bill 1508 (Bonta) allows authorizers to consider fiscal, academic and facilities-related impacts on existing district schools when considering new charter petitions.