

California Faculty Association Resolution in Support of United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA) and Oakland Education Association Contract Campaigns

WHEREAS, United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA) and the Oakland Education Association (OEA) are currently waging proactive contract campaigns fighting not just for improved salary and benefits, but also for improved working and learning conditions, such as smaller class sizes; more counselors, nurses, librarians, and other support personnel; less time on standardized testing; expansion of ethnic studies programs; and support for model community schools as an alternative to corporate-driven, privately-run charter schools; and

WHEREAS, UTLA and OEA are currently in mediation and are preparing to strike, if necessary, this fall and/or winter, for a contract that invests in their students, their schools, and their educators; and

WHEREAS, the success of UTLA and OEA – two of the largest union locals in the state – will set a pattern for other contract negotiations throughout California; and

WHEREAS, the powerful cross-local unity exhibited during the teacher strikes of last spring (in West Virginia, Arizona, Colorado, Kentucky, Oklahoma, and Seattle), resulting in increased salaries and funding for public education, brought educators together irrespective of state or national affiliation; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the California Faculty Association commits to supporting solidarity actions in support of the UTLA and OEA contract campaigns, including:

- Publicizing the progress of the UTLA and OEA contract campaigns in all internal communications;
- Inviting UTLA and OEA leaders to speak before California Faculty Association elected bodies;
- Holding site meetings to discuss the issues and importance of the UTLA and OEA contract campaigns, as well as organizing solidarity actions at every work site;
- Preparing members to wear red shirts to work ("Red for Ed") in solidarity with UTLA and/or OEA when they take a significant action;
- Staging solidarity "walk-ins" before work in the event of a strike;
- Initiating and/or joining local and regional support rallies in the event of a strike; and be it also

RESOLVED, that the California Faculty Association will advocate within the California Teachers Association for a similar statewide call to action; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the California Faculty Association Board of Directors will take responsibility for implementing this motion.