News Statement

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Statement from General Counsel Dave Holmquist

Today, the Los Angeles Unified School District filed an unfair practice charge against UTLA for bad faith bargaining. The charge was filed with the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB), the state agency charged with ensuring fairness in the bargaining process.

During the current round of bargaining, UTLA engaged in take-it-or-leave it bargaining, making virtually no compromises toward reaching an agreement for the better part of 16 months. The District was able to reach a reasonable compromise with more than half our employees represented by unions. However, UTLA openly talked about a strike long before the parties even began negotiations, let alone reached impasse. It is now conducting a strike vote even though the parties have not even held their first mediation session under PERB’s impasse procedures. UTLA is engaging in bad faith tactics and actions, and UTLA’s conduct violates the Educational Employment Relations Act. It is clear that UTLA wishes to coerce the District into making what would be irresponsible financial decisions.

The District has requested an expedited hearing and looks forward to presenting all of the evidence.

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