



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Parents Supporting Teachers Stands with SEIU

Parents Supporting Teachers (PST), the largest parent advocacy group supporting Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) teachers and families, supports the essential workers of LAUSD, Service Employees International Union 99 (SEIU), in their fight for fair living wages and are asking the district to give them what they deserve to avoid a detrimental strike. The leadership of PST is conveying the following message to LAUSD:

There is not one parent in this school district who wants a strike, not one. And while we aren't budget specialists, we see a constant rolling out of new programs, new logos, acceleration days and other initiatives that cost huge amounts of money when the true value of our schools are the people inside. You know what is cheaper and less cumbersome than outsourcing tutoring? Smaller class sizes. Just like our kids won't do well in school without food, neither will our staff.

We don't want acceleration days; we want cafeteria workers paid fairly. We don't want a cultural passport; we want smaller class sizes. And we don't want resolutions talking about all the social justice reform you support when you aren't supporting quality of life amongst your workers. Don't cut our school budgets and blame the wage increase when we see your line items on performative actions that benefit no one.

This isn't 2019, and we are tired and scared, but we know more than ever how valuable the people in our schools are, and we will support them. A combined SEIU/UTLA strike makes it impossible for schools to be open, which is unacceptable to us as parents. Finalize a fair contract so that our staff, who are already barely making enough to survive, doesn't have to lose three days of work to advocate for their best interest.

We also hope others will join in support of SEIU and UTLA at the upcoming United for LA Schools Rally on March 15th at 4:30pm in Grand Park.

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About Parents Supporting Teachers: Parents Supporting Teachers (PST) is a parent led public education advocacy group in Los Angeles with nearly 30,000 followers and is the only organically created group of this size exclusively dedicated to parent communication and education support in the entire LAUSD. Visit www.parentssupportingteachers.org to learn more and support our shared vision for equitable and inclusive LAUSD schools.