

Victory To The Parker Elementary School Occupation! For A State Wide Education Strike To Demand NO Closures & Full Funding of Our Public Schools

May 28, 2022, UFCLP Statement

The community labor occupation of Parker Elementary school to stop the Oakland school closures shows the way forward. This direct action by students, parents, teachers, and the community to stop these racist union-busting attacks on public education needs to be replicated throughout the state, and we need all unions in the East Bay to support this action with funding and by getting their members here.

The charter-controlled Oakland school board was ordered to take this action by the state-funded Fiscal Crisis & Management Assistance Team (FCMAT). It is also ordering closures and downsizing public education at SFUSD, San Francisco City College, and at West Contra Costa County School District. We need to unite with all these districts in the Bay Area and the state, and demand that FCMAT be shut down!

The appeal against FCMAT's demands in Oakland was personally rejected by Democrat State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond, but the OEA, CTA, and CFT continue to support him and other politicians. Thurmond and Newsom are also allowing the expansion of charters controlled by billionaires, including the GAP and A's owner John Fisher, who also controls KIPP and Rocketship.

At the same time, the State of California has a \$97 billion-dollar surplus, but our unions are completely silent and even refusing to demand that Newsom and the Democrats—who have a supermajority in the legislature—provide full funding of our public schools and use this surplus to keep our schools in Oakland open. Instead, politicians like Nancy Skinner and Rob Bonta are passing bills to provide \$850 million in tax funds for the privatization of the Howard Terminal in the Port of Oakland for A's billionaire owner John Fisher

We need to fight against the privatization and union busting of our public education system and public services and the selloff of public lands for profiteers. The developers and banks who run Oakland want to shut

Parker Elementary and other schools in our community for condos and racist gentrification, and the Oakland City Council are supporting this agenda. That is why they approved the IER for the Port development.

We need to fight to get the Alameda Labor Council and Building Trades to oppose this billionaire's development and support this occupation, and that means getting these pro-corporate union officials out. We cannot afford unions that support the billionaires' union-busting agenda. We also need to fight for all unions and communities to build a united front against privatization in Oakland, the State, and the Country. That also means building a democratically-controlled labor party run by working people.

Trump and the Republicans are not in charge in California, but the policies of the Democrats are controlled by billionaires like Elon Musk, Zuckerberg, and Netflix's owner Reed Hastings. The latter bankrolled Proposition 39, which allows co-locations and more charters. Prop 39 was also backed by the CTA & CFT leadership, who still say that we have to accept charter schools which are privately run but publicly funded. They continue to support funding of a two-tier education system that undermines our public schools.

The massacres in Buffalo, Uvalde Texas, and at other schools are a result of the war agenda and militarization of the police and population by the Democrats and Republicans. The US has helped train and arm neo-Nazis and fascists around the world and now this is coming home to our schools and communities as both parties whip up a war frenzy.

The United Front Committee For A Labor Party (UFCLP) is fighting for united fronts against privatization, fascism, war and for a mass democratic workers party that will take on the capitalist class and their parties that are spending trillions for war against Russia and China while attacking the working people in this country and around the world.

Victory to the Occupation, For A State-Wide Education & Public Workers Mass Strike
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