

Comprehensive unionism 10-minute building meeting trainer agenda

Materials needed:

- Comprehensive unionism one-pager
- Sign-in sheet

Welcome (1 minute)

Welcome your members to the meeting and have them sign in via the sign-in sheet. Provide quick snacks if possible.

Intro (1 minute)

Start this meeting with a question: What is the work of effective unions?

- Allow participants a minute to think and reflect.
- Ask members to share out their responses.
- Ask the group to identify themes.

Content (4 minutes)

Provide a brief overview of comprehensive unionism by sharing some information about each of the three frames.

- Industrial unionism is where our collective power is used to meet the bread and butter needs of our members (such as salary and health insurance) and to ensure fairness from management (to allow members to advocate for their students and profession without fear of reprisal).
- Professional unionism is where we use our collective voice to improve the practice of classroom teachers and other education professionals.
- Social justice unionism is where we use our collective voice to advocate for equity to help all students succeed; we accomplish this through active engagement in the community.
- Elements of each of these frames can help us achieve our collective goal – improve educator working conditions that support a high-quality learning environment where all students can succeed and communities can thrive.

Note: Allow time for questions. If there are too many questions to address in the time provided, move to the next item on the agenda and offer to connect after the meeting.

Connect content with the local (2 minutes)

Share that (your local name) is sharing this information because you want all members to engage with their union in a way that feels valuable. The local should use this time to highlight the work they do in each of the three frames.



Wrap up (2 minutes)

Leave them with the reminder that strong educators and communities are vital to the success of the students. Emphasize that the union is an existing structure that engages in various forms of advocacy, which makes it possible for schools to realize the goal of student success. Encourage your members to engage with the union in any of the three frames and also ask for any feedback for gaps in current union programming.

Note: After the meeting, the meeting facilitator should send a copy of the list of participants to the local field office.