

# WORKERS OVER BILLIONAIRES!

## **Boston's First Labor Day Parade September 1, 2025**

Boston's First Labor Day Parade marks a new chapter in our city's history. Each stop along the parade route tells a story of labor in Boston— from the founding of public education, to historic strikes, to modern fights for fair contracts. This Labor Day, we march with pride and purpose to show the world that *it's better in a union!*

## FIRST STOP ON THE PARADE ROUTE

### The first public school in the United States, 1635

Founded in 1635, this is the site of the very first public school in the United States. It stands as a symbol of the belief that public education, pre-K through college or trade school, should be free and accessible to all.



THE FIRST LATIN SCHOOL, ON NORTH SIDE OF SCHOOL STREET, 1635.

Here, the American Federation of Teachers Massachusetts, Boston Teachers Union, and Massachusetts Teachers Association are leading the charge—lifting up the fight against devastating federal cuts and attempts to privatize public education while also highlighting what union educators have won together in solidarity.

Public education is the cornerstone of equality, democracy, and opportunity. Today, just like in 1635, educators are standing strong to protect classrooms from billionaires looking to profit, and to defend every child's right to learn, grow, and thrive.



**CHANT WITH US**

**When public education is under attack, what do we do? Stand up, fight back!**

## NEXT STOP

### 60 State Street, home to BlackRock

With more than \$10 trillion in managed assets, BlackRock is a symbol of corporate greed. BlackRock and its investors profit by backing:

- Union-busting employers like Republic Services, the billionaire waste and recycling corporation where Teamsters Local 25 members are on strike for fair wages, benefits, and labor protections.
- AI corporations threatening good jobs, like the parent corporation of robot taxi company Waymo, which is trying to bully its way into Massachusetts despite the objections of app drivers, people with disabilities, first responders, and other community members.
- Private prison companies locking up people detained by ICE.

Anchored by Community Labor United, this stop calls out Wall Street giants who put profit over people. Together, we demand accountability and insist that our public dollars are invested in workers, families, and communities—not in corporations undermining our rights and our democracy.



**CHANT WITH US**

**BlackRock, BlackRock, you can't hide!  
We can see your greedy side!**

NOW WE ARRIVE AT FANEUIL HALL

## Where Labor History Runs Deep

In 1834, the very first Building and Construction Trades Union Council gathered here, laying the foundation for solidarity that still drives us today.

More than a century later, in 1954, Colonial Meat Provision Company tried to divide workers by bringing in Black strikebreakers from Roxbury.

But instead of division, United Food and Commercial Workers organized those workers into the union—and won!

Anchored today by Greater Boston Building Trades Unions and UFCW 1445, this stop reminds us that when we stand together—across race, trade, and community—solidarity always wins. No matter the decade, no matter the century, Boston is a union town, and organized labor always stands up for our community and the public good!



ONWARD TO OUR FOURTH STOP

## 100 Sudbury Street

Here, SEIU 32BJ janitors have been locked in a tough fightback for more than a year, after a group of cleaners were suddenly displaced at this luxury apartment tower in Downtown Boston. Since the summer of 2024, workers have stood their ground, demanding fair treatment and pay while corporations stall and exploit.

The demand is clear: restore union jobs now. These janitors deserve fair wages, secure jobs, and justice on the job. This fight isn't about just one workplace—it's about every worker who keeps our buildings and communities running every single day.



**CHANT WITH US**

**Get up, get down. Boston is a union town!**



**CHANT WITH US**

**What do we want? A contract! When do we want it? Now!**



## OUR FINAL STOP

### JFK Federal Building

Here, federal workers represented by the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), the Federal Unionists Network (FUN), and other federal worker unions are standing up against illegal layoffs and the stripping away of collective bargaining agreements.

Their fight is about more than their own jobs—it's about protecting the vital public services that all of us rely on: health, safety, and security. This stop calls for solidarity and accountability as we defend the people who serve the public good every day.



**CHANT WITH US**

**Show me what democracy looks like. This is what democracy looks like!**

**IT'S BETTER  
IN A UNION**

Joining together with your co-workers to organize a union is a fundamental right recognized in U.S. labor law and affirmed in the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

You have a right to join a union, talk to your co-workers about joining a union, and work together to improve working conditions.

**There is power in a union!**

**The Labor Movement will continue to fight for:**

Fair wages and benefits

Health and safety protections

Equal pay for equal work and job security

Freedom from discrimination and harassment on the job

And a democracy we all believe in!

