

# DISTRICT LEADER BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION



Candidate's Name: Janet Walters

Candidate's Office: Division F Director District Number: 52

Toastmasters member since: June 2007

Education:

M.A. Management  
B.A. Linguistics

Toastmasters offices held and terms of service:

District Director 2015-16  
Lieutenant Governor of Education & Training 2014-16  
Lieutenant Governor of Marketing 2013-14  
Division E Governor, 2011-12  
Area E51 Governor, 2009-10

Toastmasters honors and recognition:

During my term as District Director, our team and members achieved President's Distinguished for the first time in 33 years. For the 2015-16 term, District 52 ranked as number one in the US and Western Hemisphere; number 10 in the world.

Relevant work experience and how it relates to Toastmasters and your role as a District leader:

- Oversaw financial contracts with a budget of \$23 million. Ensured timely execution of contracts. Coordinated and organized meetings and special events with LA Mayor Villaraigosa's vision of a cleaner, healthier and sustainable Los Angeles.
- Gave presentations on how our agency can help resolve the Housing and Homeless crisis in Los Angeles.

What experience do you have in strategic planning?

- Implementing SWOT: Strengths-Weaknesses-Opportunities for District 52 to achieve President's Distinguished.
- Me, the PDQ and the CGD strategized together using the 2015-16 District Success Plan to build new clubs, increase and retain membership.
- Strategized with the Top 3 and our Region Advisor to boost the District's morale and shoot for achieving President's Distinguished.
- Worked with the Division and Area Directors on strengthening current clubs and building new clubs with training, incentives and communicating with officers and members by phone and email.

What experience do you have in the area of finance?

Worked with Financial Manager; teamed up with Program Quality Director and Club Growth Director creating and agreeing upon the 2015-16 Finance Report. I also assisted in budget evaluation at my Agency along with grant funded activities. Compiled budget documents and reports. Maintained internal budget tracking systems.

What experience do you have in developing procedures?

N/A

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

1. Be patient with people.
2. Don't wait for others to take action. Always follow up.
3. Be proactive everyday--the compound effect is real.
4. Empower and believe in other peoples' potential, even though they might not see it in themselves yet.

Why do you want to serve as a District leader?

- After retiring as a District Director, I believe now is a good get back into the district level leadership to provide value for our club members, Area Directors and Top Leadership.
- Master Toastmasters Pathways along with the being "in the know" with current technology.
- Get back up to speed on International and District procedures.

In your opinion, what are the District mission's major objectives and how would you work to achieve them?

- District Mission Statement: We build new clubs and support all clubs achieving excellence.  
Life has changed rapidly worldwide since the pandemic. I believe that from now and likely going forward in the 2020-21 year our objectives will be:
1. Keep current clubs going. Strengthen our clubs. Increase communications via Zoom, social media, phone and email.
  2. Build new Virtual Clubs with the intention of converting them into Hybrid clubs when we can be physically in a room.
  3. Provide plenty of training and educational opportunities for our club members to stay engaged at their Toastmasters meetings, be enthusiastic working on their communication, leadership, public speaking and technical skills using Pathways, Zoom, social media, etc.
  4. Keep the vision alive that we are victors! We will continue Toastmasters, our clubs, areas and divisions will achieve Distinguished or better.

Additional information about yourself:

- I am an Empowerment and Motivation Strategist. I help people get unstuck, get clear on their goals--especially the ones they wished they'd accomplished by now.
- Clients learn how to empower themselves and others.
- They discover and how to build their self esteem and self confidence and use these learned or re-learned tools to win and succeed in their lives.