

PQD Report - July 2024

Wendy Pesavento, DTM

D54 PQD 2024-2025

## **Welcome**

Welcome to the 2024-2025 Toastmasters year! It is with a sense of gratitude that we say thank you to our outgoing district officers and welcome in our new District Director Gary Vaughn and his team. It is a great time to consider what we want to accomplish this year in order to best serve our members, clubs, areas, divisions, and district in the area of program quality.

We have had great success this past year in increasing the number of distinguished clubs. In the 2023-2024 TI year, the number of distinguished clubs nearly doubled over the 2022-2023 year. Congratulations to past PQD, Gary and all of the clubs that worked so hard to achieve this impressive goal. Although it would be great to have all 45 of our clubs distinguished this year, TI has indicated that we need at least 20 to qualify as a distinguished district. We can do this if we continue with the same enthusiasm, dedication, and momentum currently in place and growing exponentially every day!

## **Officer Training**

### TLI North

TLI North took place on June 29, 2024, at the New Life Church at 500 S Gouger Road in New Lenox. The theme was "Toastmasters Just Want to Have Fun," with an emphasis on adding fun to club meetings by a variety of means including improv exercises. Mark Avignone and his team organized a fantastic TLI that was both educational and enjoyable. Garrett Grey gave the keynote, and his presentation was pure professional level comedic education. TLI North had 45 attendees and 40 officers trained, with an additional 5 attendees being non-officers! Great job to everyone who pitched in to make this a great TLI!

### TLI South

One week from today, on July 20, 2024, we will be joining Karen Walsh and her team at TLI South at the First Assembly of God Church, 800 E Vernon Ave, Normal, IL 61761. Doors open at 8am and the day will end at 2:00pm. The theme of TLI South is "Toastmasters Leading the Way." TLI South will have a focus on networking and is shaping up to be a

terrific opportunity for all of D54 to learn and connect. Kudos to Tony Koury as the Education Chair for filling all of the presenter and SAA's roles! Please consider making the trip next Saturday to receive your club officer training and to attend the excellent electives. If you have not registered, you can do so on the [D54tm.com/tlis](http://D54tm.com/tlis) site.

### Online TLI

For those who prefer to receive officer training online TLI- Virtual will be offered in the evening on Aug 5 & 6 via Zoom. Chris Kostelac is the Virtual TLI Dean, and the theme is "Come on in the Water is Perfect!" Chris and his team are working hard to bring us an awesome virtual learning experience! Registration will be open soon on the [d54tm.com/tlis](http://d54tm.com/tlis)

***For more information or visit the D54 website at [D54TM.COM/TLIS](http://D54TM.COM/TLIS)***

### Division and Area Director Training

We have an amazing roster of Division and Area Directors this year! Every club will benefit through the efforts of these hard-working district officers. Today after the DEC meeting, we will begin Division and Area Director training.

### District Conference

The trio has identified a location, a potential Co-chair, and a potential District Speech Contest Chair for the District Conference. More to come as we get closer to the event.

### Pathways Support

Maryann Reichelt, DTM, is our District Speechcraft Coordinator this year. Maryann will be offering monthly Pathways training. This training will occur on Zoom on the 4th Wednesday of the month from 7-8:30 pm. From 7-7:30, Maryann will provide basic instruction to newer club members (or anyone who wants a basic level instructional level webinar) as a supplement to their club orientation. From 7:30-8:30, she will answer individual Pathways questions. Please spread the word about this important opportunity to promote Pathways achievement in our District.

## 2024-2025 Goals

How will we become a distinguished district in 2024-2025?

D54 will work toward having all clubs reach distinguished status by

- strengthening club leadership
- increasing member retention
- adding new members
- offering support for clubs who need to improve their online presence
- promote Pathways achievement through increased awareness, training, and recognition.
- structured training and communication between the District, DD's, AD's, and
- ensuring that member dues are paid on time.
- ensuring that officer lists are submitted on time.

We can do this if we work together!!!

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Pesavento, DTM, PQD