



# District Leader

## Biographical Information

Candidate's Name: **Nathaniel Stephens**

Candidate's Office: **Division Director** District Number: **13**

Toastmasters member since: **October 1, 2002**

Education:

**B.S. Mathematics - University of Iowa**  
**M.S. Mechanical Engineering - University of Iowa**

Toastmasters offices held and terms of service:

**Division Director - 2009-2010**  
**Area Director - 2008-2009, 2019-2020**  
**Club President - 2008-2009, 2019-2020**  
**Vice President Education - 2007-2008**

Toastmasters honors and recognition:

**DTM - 2009, 2017**  
**Chartered 3 clubs**  
**Sponsored 29 members**  
**International Speech Contest Semifinalist 2017-2018**

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

**I currently work as a mechanical engineer and am involved with project planning. I have been involved with numerous projects that have anywhere from 4-200 people involved. This coincides with the efforts I have been involved with in Toastmasters. I have applied the knowledge and skills I've learned from work experiences to Toastmasters and vice versa.**

What experience do you have in strategic planning?

**I developed a plan to revitalize a low-membership club. The club went from 3 to 20 members and achieved a President's Distinguished Award. I am also involved with strategic planning at work and identify projects that have potential and relevance to the company.**

What experience do you have in the area of finance?

**I haven't been directly involved with finance at work or in Toastmasters. The extent so far has amounted to serving as club treasurer and creating estimates for projects.**

What experience do you have in developing procedures?

I am involved with updating procedures at work for material standards and testing. Although this is technical, the methods are transferable.

What lessons did you learn from previous leadership positions?

Lesson 1 - You can't please everyone, but you always have to be willing to listen and keep moving in the right direction.  
Lesson 2 - When everyone is treated with respect, there's an element of trust developed that makes a solid foundation for any organization.  
Lesson 3 - People naturally fear change, but change will always happen.

Why do you want to serve as a District leader?

Toastmasters provides a proven way to help people become better communicators and leaders. However, membership has declined throughout the country. I would like to help revitalize membership and show people the benefits the organization has to offer.

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

One of the district's main objective is to retain and attract new members. I would like to help the district rebound in membership. It is a difficult task, but we have many district and club leaders who are enthusiastic and willing to help out.

Additional information about yourself:

I have a diverse background in music and theater performance. I've been able to come up with novel ways and new ideas for projects. I also like to encourage people to try things they might not have willingly wanted to do on their own.