

Thanks For Getting Here Early!



- We'll get started at the top of the hour.
- This session is being recorded and will be shared afterward.
- By attending this forum, you agree to the privacy policy of Toastmasters International as well as the unassociated remote hosting service. Some of your personal information, such as name, image, and any shared messages may be shared with other meeting participants and will be recorded by Toastmasters International who may use the recording in the future as it sees fit. Your remote attendance hereby discharges Toastmasters International from all claims, demands, rights, promises, damages and liabilities arising out of or in connection with the use or distribution of said video recordings, including but not limited to any claims for invasion of privacy, appropriation of likeness or defamation

District 221

District 18 and District 38 Merger

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Supporting a smooth and transparent transition

April 2026

Presented by District 221 Transition Leadership

Transition Committee Chairs – Tony Whitten, DTM/Rhonda Young, DTM

District Alignment Chairs – Mervin Bierman, DTM/Eileen Grodziak, DTM

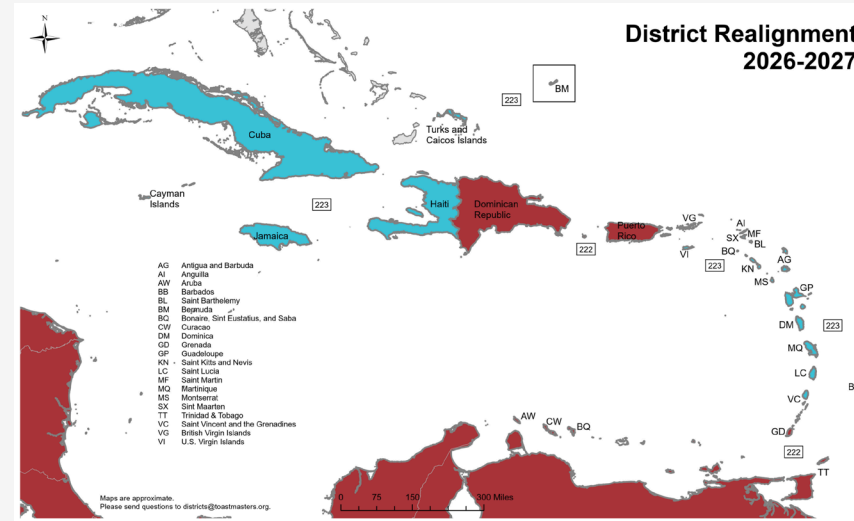
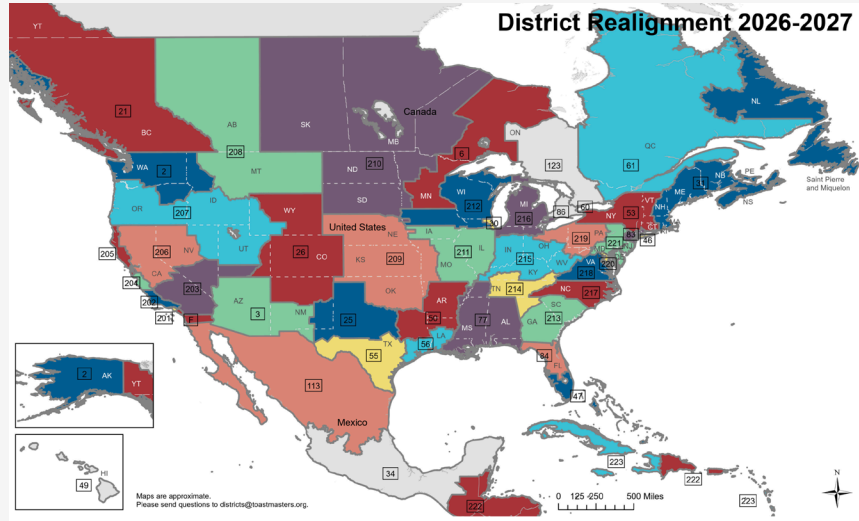
District Leadership Chairs – Dr. Elizabeth Carter, DTM/Christopher Hulse, DTM

What Is Happening?

- Toastmasters International has approved a boundary realignment resulting in the merger of District 18 and District 38 into a new district: District 221.
- This change becomes effective July 1, 2026.

District Realignment – A Multi-Region Initiative

District 221 is part of a broader regional effort to strengthen Toastmasters across the Americas



[District Realignments 2026-2027](#)

Why Is This Merger Happening?

- District boundary adjustments are periodically made by Toastmasters International to:
 - Maintain balanced membership distribution
 - Support sustainable district leadership structures
 - Align geographic regions more effectively
- This is a structural realignment – not a reflection of performance or leadership quality in either district.

Will My Club Be Affected?

- Your club will continue operating as normal.
 - Club meetings remain the same.
 - Club officers remain in place.
 - Club numbers do not change.
 - Club dues and Toastmasters International membership processes remain unchanged.
- The primary change is at the district leadership and administrative level.

Will There Still Be Contests?

- Yes.
- Speech contests will continue under District 221 starting with the 2026-2027 Toastmaster year.
- Members will still compete through the standard Toastmasters structure (Club → Area → Division → District).

What Happens To Current District Leadership?

- District 18 and District 38 will both participate in the transition process.
- District 221 will elect its own officers in accordance with Toastmasters International procedures.
- All governance will follow Toastmasters International bylaws.

District Council Overview

Definition

District Council

The governing and voting body responsible for decisions on:

- Leadership
- Budget
- District structure

Key Responsibilities

- Elect District Leaders
- Approve District Budget
- Approve Club Alignment (Areas & Divisions)
- Conduct official district business

Who Participates

• District Executive Committee (DEC):

- District Director
- Program Quality Director
- Club Growth Director
- Immediate Past District Director
- Public Relations Manager
- Administrations Manager
- Finance Manager
- Division Directors
- Area Directors

• Club Representatives:

- Club Presidents
- Vice Presidents Education (VPEs)
 - 👉 2 votes per club

Why It Matters

- Ensures fair representation across all clubs
- Promotes transparency & accountability
- Gives every club a direct voice in decisions

District Quorum

- D221 District Council (Combined D18 & 38)

- 217 Clubs 434 (Presidents & VPEs)
- 77 DEC 77 DEC
- 294 Total 511 Total

- District 221 Quorum

- 217 Clubs in good standing
- $1/3$ votes per club = $(217 \times 2)/3 = 145$






District 221 – Key Events & Forums

All sessions are virtual

Important Dates to Engage, Learn, and Vote



District 221 Forums (Q&A)

Learn about the transition and ask questions



-  Monday, March 30 | 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM
-  Wednesday, April 1 | 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM
-  Thursday, April 9 | 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM
-  Tuesday, April 14 | 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM
-  Tuesday, April 21 | 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Access details will be shared via the district newsletter.

Candidate Showcase

-  Tuesday, April 7 | 7:00 – 9:00 PM
-  Registration required

Business Meeting

-  Wednesday, April 29 | 7:00 – 8:30 PM
-  Registration is open

Engage in Forums → Meet Candidates → Vote at the Business Meeting

What Happens To District Assets, Finances, and Website?

- Assets, finances, and digital properties will be responsibly transitioned into District 221 governance.
- This includes:
 - Financial accounts
 - Domain names and websites
 - Historical records
 - Trophies and materials
- A structured transition plan is in place to ensure continuity and transparency.

Will Both Districts Continue to Operate Separately?

- No.
- Once the merger becomes effective on July 1, 2026, District 18 and District 38 will cease operating independently and will function as District 221.

What Are The Benefits of This Merger?

- Potential benefits include:
 - Expanded leadership opportunities
 - Broader networking across a larger geographic footprint
 - Stronger collaboration across clubs
 - Increased resource sharing
 - Greater diversity of experience and mentorship

Where Can I Get Updates?

- Updates will be shared through:
 - District communications
 - Division and Area Directors
 - District 221 transition updates
 - Official Toastmasters International announcements
- Members are encouraged to stay informed and participate in transition discussions when invited.

Who Is Overseeing The Transition?

- A structured Transition Committee is working collaboratively across both districts to ensure:
 - Clear communication
 - Responsible asset management
 - Governance alignment
 - Member transparency
- The goal is a smooth, professional, and unified launch of District 221.

What Should Members Do Right Now?

- For now:
 - Continue supporting your club
 - Participate in contests and district events
 - Stay engaged
 - Watch for official updates
- No immediate action is required from individual members.

Final Note

- This merger represents a new chapter – not a disruption.
- The mission of Toastmasters remains the same:
 - Helping people become more effective communicators and leaders.
- District 221 will build on the legacy of both Districts 18 and District 38 while creating new opportunities for growth and collaboration.

Questions

