

An Abbreviated List of Takeaways from District meeting at Quinnipiac University on January 24, 2026

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District initiatives – for the 2025-26 of Food Insecurity and Literacy - how other clubs are addressing those goals

Youth

- 2026-27 Themes will include: “For the Children”. Focus on engaging youth in Rotary through programs such as Interact, RYLA, and Youth Exchange.
- The district has appointed a youth protection officer to ensure the safety of all young people involved in Rotary activities.

Rotary Foundation The importance of supporting it with financial contributions and the return on those investments after three years

Attracting and Retaining Members

- Discussion on challenges faced in both attracting new members and retaining current ones.
- website/flyer photos convey the public image of the club and Rotary, and that we have to consider carefully if images are communicating the positives such as people taking action, having fun, and making an impact.
- Also, for accounting purposes, there was discussion about removing noncurrent members prior to the cutoff so that the club is not on the hook for payment to International.
- Member social-networking events (beyond helping, raising money)
- Some clubs sponsor business networking
- Idea to ask local business/organization to sponsor a Rotary member
- Mentor as a possible framework to keep in contact
- Members reaching out to members (ongoing for many clubs)
- Idea of “Deputy” person for each position-role

Artificial Intelligence - Can be used to market the Club or run a campaign for an event or fundraising activities but some Rotarians advise caution and careful fact checking when AI is used.

Managing Club Finances -the importance of transparency with the Board and good business practices such as: reconciling bank accounts, maintaining G/L, reviewing financial reports.

Important Announcements about Upcoming Events

- March 2nd Read Across America Day
- July 1 Don Wetmore becomes District Governor
- May 16 Epic Day of Service (501c3)
- May 30 Recognition Dinner (Norwalk Inn).