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What's Next Report

Justin, Muskan, and I have finally finished our Smart Mirror for Obsessive Compulsive Disorder patients. We are very pleased with our end product considering our lack of knowledge and experience in creating and building these in-depth projects. While there are many good aspects of the product, there are some improvements I would like to mention, but not until after discussing everything that came out really nicely. The first part I would like to mention is the fact that the product came out looking like a mirror and functioning with smart capabilities. This really helps boost my confidence as a project manager as it shows that I could man a team of two other people in order devise and complete a semester-long project with decent results. The next part I wanna mention that turned out well was how smooth the programs worked on the Raspberry Pi as well as on the monitor. While I didn't do as much with the code as Justin, I had some hand in figuring out any annoying kinks that caused the code to not work with the parts we had or with the programs we downloaded into the PI. This shows that as the project manager, even though I delegated the tasks and allowed other people who specialized in their area to do their thing, I could still assist them if they needed assistance. The last part that I liked about the end product is how clean the individual parts looked after they were cut to size. Because I had both Justin and Muskan cut some of the pieces, I was worried that communication of measurements fell through, but it did not really for

the most part. This tells me that not only can I teach someone new skills as in Muskan's case, but also I can keep that team together in communicating while we were doing different tasks at different times. Most of the measurements were created by me, and the fact that everything turned out really well makes me really confident in my ability as a project manager.

Now that I am done with doting on our end product, I would like to discuss some of the areas we could improve upon. Since there is not a perfect project manager and every project that one works on is supposed to be a learning experience, I do not feel as bad about making mistakes and having to improvise. The first part I would like to mention is that even if I do give measurements for all the cuts on the pieces I should double check those measurements and ask the person cutting the pieces triple check my measurements. This is to prevent bad angles, inaccurate measurements, and anything else that would involve using the sand belt or grinder to make a piece fit. We spend so much time trying to improvise some of the parts because the measurements were off or didn't take into account human and machine error. As a project manager, while I did communicate fairly well what I wanted to happen with different tasks, I didn't communicate the really important lesson of making sure that measurements took into account all factors. The next part I would like to briefly mention is that as the project manager, I was late to the team meetings a few times which really made using our time effectively dissipate a little on some weeks. This reflects

really bad on my part as it makes my work ethic as not only a project manager, but as an individual student. I am going to work on committing to team meeting times in the future. The last part I would like to mention is more of a personal goal but I would like to be more adamant in more decisions and plans as I want to show that my teammates can trust my word as I know what I am doing in regards to plans for the project. This is also important in the aspect that it shows I am organized as a project manager.

Now for my future plans in my role as a project manager. Since my plans are eventually to get into management as an engineer, I feel that it would be beneficial for me and my career to participate in more project manager lead positions, so I can not only learn how to be a project manager but learn how to work with different types of people. This should help me work on my interpersonal communication skills which would not only help with the job but maneuvering through daily life tasks. Also, I would like to work on my engineering skills and knowledge so I can revisit this project and perfect or better some of the areas that prove to be detrimental to the end product. Building a smart mirror is really cool because it is simple and combines both hardware and software of computer systems in a really applicable product that everyone can use. It is also a cheap way to learn Python, work with a Raspberry Pi, and have fun with power tools. After much reflecting and retrospecting, I can not wait to see what the future holds for me as an engineer, project manager, and student.