# THE 6 CRITICAL PRACTICES FOR LEADING A TEAM™



## PRACTICE THOUGHTS

- First-level leaders have significantly different mindsets than individual contributors.
- Regular 1-on-1s are critical for helping your team members be engaged and successful.
- You're measured by the results you achieve through others—not just the results you achieve on your own.
- Giving and seeking feedback is the breakfast, lunch, and dinner of highperforming teams. These teams consistently search for ways to make their best even better.
- Your team will engage in change when you pave the way and make it simple and compelling.
- 6. Leading your team effectively requires you to prioritize taking care of yourself.

# **SEE-DO-GET CYCLE**



The results we **GET** in our lives depend on what we **DO**. What we **DO** depends on how we **SEE** the world around us. If you want to change your results, begin by changing your mindsets.

# EFFECTIVE MINDSETS FOR FIRST-LEVEL LEADERS

- I am responsible for delivering results through other people.
- I hold regular 1-on-1s to help people get and stay—engaged.
- I help people get clear about the "why" behind the "what" and support them in the "how."
- I give and seek feedback to elevate the entire team.
- I champion change with my team.
- I must manage my time and energy to be an effective leader.

# **SIMPLE 1-ON-1 TIPS**

- 1. Hold 1-on-1s at regular intervals.
- 2. Schedule at least 30 minutes for each meeting.
- 3. Use the prep worksheets to identify priority topics.
- Draw out issues and interests with Empathic Listening and coaching questions.
- 5. Help team members find solutions rather than solve problems for them.

# QUESTION PROMPTS FOR 1-ON-1s

- What can I do to help with your work?
- What are you most concerned about?
- What's your biggest challenge? Why?
- What's the biggest opportunity we're missing out on?
- What are we not doing that we should be doing?
- On a scale of 1–10, how happy are you working here?
- What development areas do you want to work on this week?
- What have you learned this last week?

- STATE THE WHY.

  Clarify why the work is important.
- 2 STATE THE WHAT.

  Be specific about the "From X to Y by When" format: what success looks like and how success will be measured.
- **Z** DISCUSS THE HOW.
  - Guidelines: The standards and conditions that must be met.
  - Resources: The people, budget, tools, etc., required to complete the work.
  - Accountability: How to track progress and be accountable.
  - Consequences: How each party benefits from successful achievement of the work, as well as what will happen if the work is not completed.

# **DELEGATION WATCHOUTS**

- Delegating the wrong things—assigning key management responsibilities to team members, or handing off work that requires your unique skills and experience.
- Failing to make specific links to why the assignment is important.
- Failing to define what success will look like.
- Micromanaging—providing too much direction and not enough ownership by the team member.
- Abdicating—providing too little direction and assuming the team member does not need support.

- CLARIFY YOUR INTENT.

  Express your intent to help the other person learn and grow.
- 2 SHARE SPECIFIC OBSERVATIONS. Lay out the facts of what you've seen.
- **DESCRIBE THE IMPACT.**What outcomes has this behavior produced?
- 4 ASK FOR/OFFER SUGGESTIONS AS NEEDED.

Explore ways to either repeat positive behaviors (reinforcing) or adopt new behaviors (redirecting).

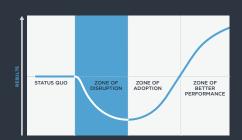
# SEEK ONGOING FEEDBACK

- DECLARE YOUR INTENT.
  Let the other person know why you want feedback.
- 2 ASK FOR SPECIFIC FEEDBACK.

  "I've been working on... How could I get better?"
- 3 LISTEN EMPATHICALLY. Listen to understand, not to explain or defend yourself.
- 4 ACKNOWLEDGE THE FEEDBACK. "Thanks for the feedback. Let me think about how I can apply it."
- 5 EVALUATE THE FEEDBACK.
  Use good judgment to determine what to do with the feedback.
- 6 COMMIT TO ACTION.

  Make commitments carefully and keep them at all costs.

### ZONE OF DISRUPTION



#### WHAT TO DO IN THIS ZONE

- Keep communicating what's changing and why.
- · Seek feedback on progress and challenges.
- Stay the course when dealing with unexpected obstacles.
- Help team members process and respond to the change.
- Give feedback to key stakeholders as needed.

# **ZONE OF ADOPTION**



#### WHAT TO DO IN THIS ZONE

- Keep focusing on what matters (and say no to the rest).
- Use a scoreboard to communicate progress.
- Recognize and celebrate early wins.
- Identify and learn from mistakes.
- Recommit to keep moving forward.

#### **WEEKLY PLANNING**

Take at least 30 minutes to...



# The Big Rocks Question: "What are the one or two most important things I can do this week?"

#### **DAILY PLANNING**

Take at least 10 minutes to...



## THE 5 ENERGY DRIVERS

#### **SLEEP**

- I sleep the same amount each night.
- I get good-quality sleep each night.

#### **RELAX**

- I have effective coping strategies to deal with stress.
- My lifestyle supports my ability to manage stress.

#### CONNECT

- I connect regularly with important people in my life.
- I have relationships at work that I value.

#### **MOVE**

- I get up and move throughout the workday.
- I have a consistent exercise program.

#### **EAT**

- I eat nutritious food at every meal.
- The way I eat provides sustained energy throughout the day.