# TEAM DYNAMICS: BUILDING A HEALTHY & COHESIVE TEAM



**Tom Barrett Navigate the Journey** 

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# The Importance of Teamwork

If we don't optimize the health, relational dynamics & effectiveness of our team, then we will lessen the impact of:

- Process
- Tools
- Metrics & KPIs
- Project Planning
- Business Strategy ...etc

# The Importance of Teamwork

If you give a good idea to a mediocre team, they will screw it up. If you give a mediocre idea to a brilliant team, they will either fix it or throw it away and come up with something better.

Ed Catmul, Creativity Inc

#### The End Goal

Build a High Performing Team of people with complementary skills who are equally committed to a common purpose, goals, and working approach for which they hold themselves mutually accountable. Further, team members should be deeply committed to each others success and outperform all reasonable expectations.

(The Wisdom of Teams, Katzenbach & Smith)

#### How Do We Get There?

- Candidate Assessments
- 2. Employee Culture Fit
- 3. Employee Engagement
- 4. The 5 Dysfunctions Of A Team

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## 1. Candidate Assessments

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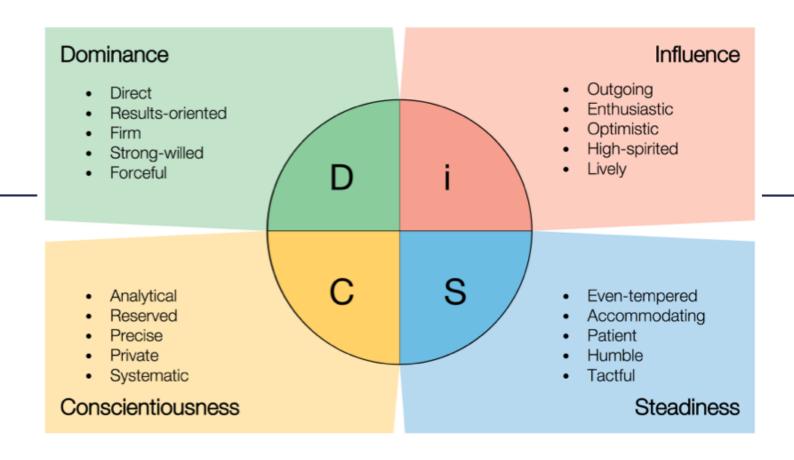
#### 1. CANDIDATE ASSESSMENTS

- Utilize Personality Assessments in the Hiring Process such as:
  - DiSC
  - EQ-i

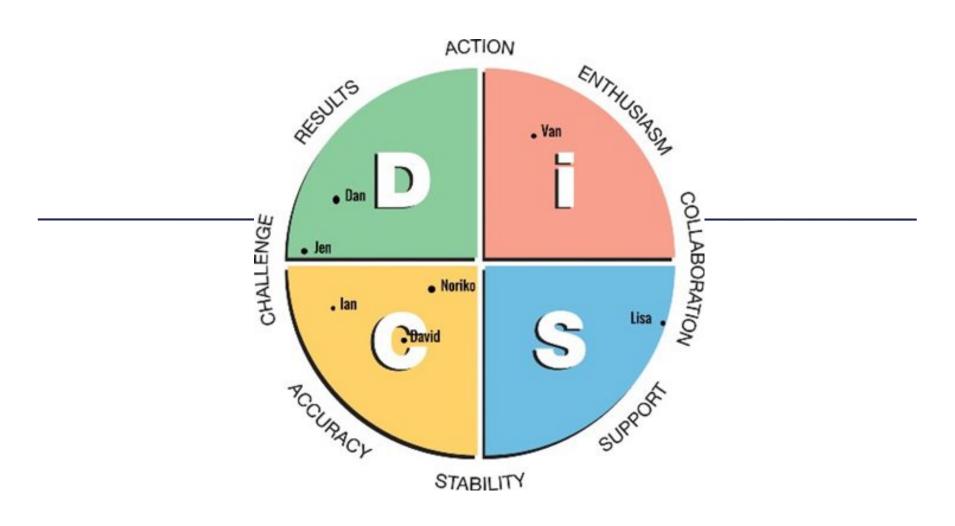
#### DiSC Assessment

The DiSC profile is a non-judgmental tool used for discussion of people's behavioral differences. The DiSC model provides a common language that people can use to better understand themselves and adapt their behaviors with others (including clients).

# DISC PROFILE



# DISC TEAM PROFILE



#### EQ-I 2.0 Assessment

Emotional intelligence is defined as "a set of emotional and social skills that influence the way we perceive and express ourselves, develop and maintain social relationships, cope with challenges, and use emotional information in an effective and meaningful way."

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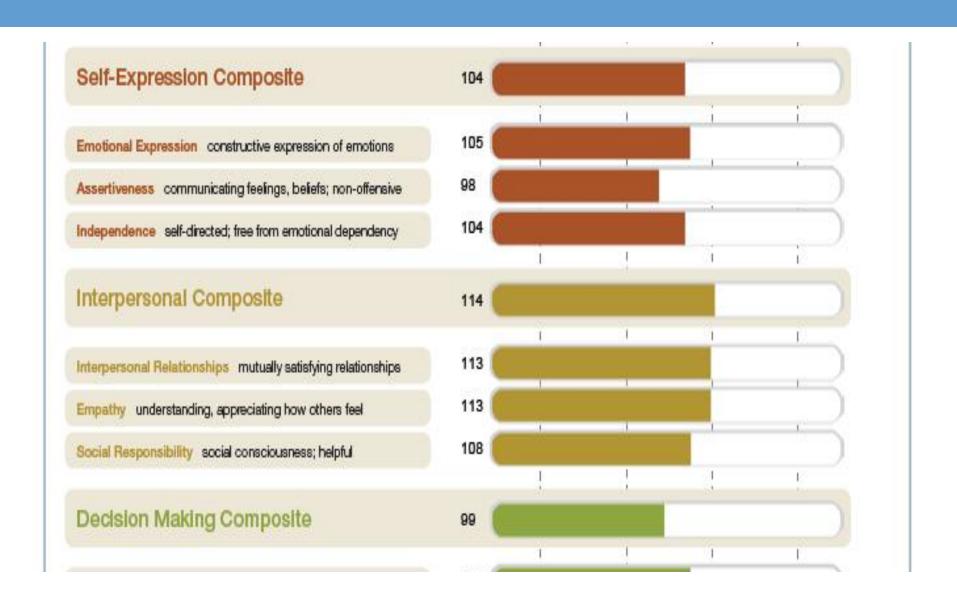
**Self-Perception:** Self-Regard, Self-Actualization, Emotional Self Awareness

Interpersonal: Interpersonal Relationships: Empathy, Social Responsibility

**Decision Making:** Problem Solving, Reality Testing, Impulse Control

**Self-Expression:** Emotional Expression, Assertiveness, Independence

Stress Management: Flexibility, Stress Tolerance, Optimism



#### 1. CANDIDATE ASSESSMENTS

#### **Benefits:**

- Higher rate of making great hires.
- Lower rate of bad hires.
- Provides a heads up on how employees need to be coached & will fit in relative to other staff.

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Define, defend & develop your culture through:

- Mission (WHY) &
- Core Values (HOW)

Mission: a succinct statement that captures why your agency exists.

Not: a tag line or branding slogan

# What your mission statement should NOT look like ...

[Company X] provides its customers quality ... products ... and the expertise required for making informed buying decisions. We provide our products and services with a dedication to the highest degree of integrity and quality of customer satisfaction, developing long-term professional relationships with employees that develop pride, creating a stable working environment and company spirit.



Core Values: the set of behavioral values that define the non-negotiable behaviors you expect from your team

Example: WebEnertia

Our Mission:

## WE CREATE SIMPLICITY IN A COMPLEX DIGITAL WORLD.



#### 01. BE INSPIRED

We love what we do, and are driven to do it better each day.

- Motivated
- Passionate
- Think Big



#### **02. STAY ACCOUNTABLE**

We are invested in everything we create and every client outcome.

- Ownership
- Pride
- Follow-through



#### 03. EXCEED EXPECTATIONS

We strive to thrill every client, every time.

- High Quality
- Impress
- Over-deliver



#### 04. EMBRACE FAMILY

We commit to closeness, appreciation, loyalty and fun.

- Respect
- · Say Thanks
- Light-hearted



#### **05. ALWAYS COLLABORATE**

We work best when we work together.

- Learn and Teach
- Support
- Share

#### **More Practical Tools:**

- EOS "People Analyzer" (Traction, pages 85-89).
- EOS "Accountability Chart" (Traction, pages 89-98)
- EOS "GWC" Get it, Want it, Capacity to do it (Traction, pages 99-102)
- Celebrate staff that exemplify Core Values

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The more technical way to think of "happiness" in the workplace

Employee Engagement is a measure of how passionately employees feel about their jobs and workplaces.

# Gallup's "Q12" Survey

- Use an anonymous survey tool such as SurveyMonkey
- Multiple choice rating from 1 ("strongly disagree") to 5 ("strongly agree")
- Present the average scores to your team, and discuss

Q1 Do I know what is **expected** of me at work?

Q2 Do I have the materials, equipment [and processes] I need to do my work right?

Q3 Do I have the opportunity to do what I do best <u>everyday</u>?

Q4 In <u>the last 7 days</u>, have I received recognition or praise for doing good work?

Q5 Does my supervisor or someone at work seem to care about me as a person?

Q6 Is there someone at work who encourages my development?

Q7 At work, do **my opinions** seem to count?

Q8 Does the mission / purpose of my company make me feel my job is important?

# Q9 Are my co-workers committed to doing quality work?

Q10 Do I have a **best friend** at work?

Q11 In the last 6 months, has someone **talked** to me about **my progress**?

Q12 This last year, have I had the opportunity at work to learn and grow?

- For More Information: See "First Break All The Rules" (Marcus Buckingham)
- Can also use questions as the basis of 1-1 check ins
- Take the Q12 survey every 6 months as a culture check

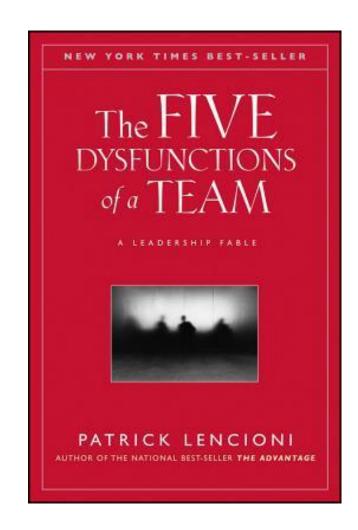
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"What we know about individuals, no matter how rich the details, will never give us the ability to predict how they will behave as a system. Once individuals link together they become something different. Relationships change us, reveal us, evoke more from us. Only when we join with others do our gifts become visible, even to ourselves." (A Simpler Way, Wheatley and Kellner-Rogers)



#### 4. THE 5 DYSFUNCTIONS OF A TEAM

#### The five dysfunctions of a team

- The bad news there are 5 common dysfunctions that plague all teams
- The good news these 5 dysfunctions can be overcome by teams who first understand the issues, and then continually commit to work on becoming healthier

## The Five Dysfunctions of A Team



Members of great teams trust one another on a fundamental, emotional level, and they are comfortable being vulnerable with each other about their weaknesses, mistakes, fears and behaviors. They get to the point where they can be completely open with one another without filters. (Lencioni)

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Spinning my wheels Google searching the answer when someone on my team knows the answer	"There are three possible solutions to this issue – could you help me process which one is best?"

#### Overcoming: Absence of Trust

- The Leader has to model the way:
  - Vulnerability: Tell your team when YOU mess up
  - Trust: Are you a trustworthy leader?
- Ask/tell your team to come to you when they need help
- Set the expectation that junior staff should go to more senior staff to ask for help; have more senior staff seek out more junior staff
- View mistakes as teachable moments
- Create opportunities for your team to appropriately share a challenge from their childhood or past

## The Five Dysfunctions of A Team



Teams that trust one another are not afraid to engage in passionate dialogue around issues and decisions that are key to the organization's success. They do not hesitate to disagree with, challenge, and question one another, all in the spirit of finding the best answers, discovering the truth, and making great decisions. (Lencioni)

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#### Overcoming: Fear of Conflict

- Millennials Struggle with Confrontation & Conflict
- Recognize when its best to use & not use electronic communication
  - Electronic: factual information, praise
  - Face-to-face: critique, dialoguing over the details and nuances (video for distributed teams supplemented with periodic retreats)
- Understand differences in conflict styles & experiences
- Clear away the clutter make it about issues

## The Five Dysfunctions of A Team



#### Dysfunction #3: Lack of Commitment

Teams that engage in unfiltered conflict are able to achieve genuine buy-in around important decisions, even when various members of the team initially disagree. That's because they ensure that all opinions and ideas are put on the table and considered, giving confidence to team members that no stone has been left unturned. (Lencioni)

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Consensus / compromise / lets agree to disagree	Disagree, but commit

#### Overcoming Lack of Commitment

- Be crystal clear about the commitment is
  - Trick: "IDS" from EOS see the book "Traction" (pages 131-146), "Level 10 Meetings"
  - Identify, Discuss, Solve
- Confirm people in the meeting are committed to the resolution
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# The Five Dysfunctions of A Team



Teams that commit to decisions and standards of performance do not hesitate to hold one another accountable for adhering to those decisions and standards. What is more, they don't rely on the team leader as the primary source of accountability; instead, they go directly to their peers. (Lencioni)

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#### Overcoming Avoidance of Accountability

- We may not be able to be certain about everything, but we can clarify many things
- Team Effectiveness Exercise with your team:
  - Self Assessment: Take 1-2 minutes to write down the **strengths** you bring to the team and what you **need to do differently** to help your team be more productive.
  - Assess Others: Take some time to answer the same questions for everyone else on your team (strengths; do differently).
  - Share & discuss.

Teams that trust one another, engage in conflict, commit to decisions, and hold one another accountable are very likely to set aside their individual needs and agendas to focus almost exclusively on what is best for the team. They do not give in to the temptation to place their departments, career aspirations, or ego-driven status ahead of the collective results that define team success. (Lencioni)

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Well, as long as I keep getting a paycheck twice per month, I'm good	Staff are motivated by factors beyond a paycheck – such as satisfaction in helping the agency achieve overall results

#### Overcoming: Inattention to Results

- Have you created a "winnable game" for your team?
  - Create a scoreboard. Turn it on! Update it. Talk about it.
- Help people see how they influence overall agency results (connect "lead" and "lag" measures)
- Call out when collective results are not achieved & understand why
- Celebrate achieving results

#### 4. THE 5 DYSFUNCTIONS OF A TEAM

#### Additional Resources:

- "The Five Dysfunctions of a Team" book & workbook –
   Patrick Lencioni.
- The 5 Dysfunctions of a Team Assessment (https://www.tablegroup.com/imo/media/doc/Sample%20Team%20Assessment%20Report.pdf)

#### Recap

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- Besides sleeping better at night, and having a better culture, better team health & dynamics improves the bottom line.

#### Feel Free To Contact Me

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