# 5 Languages of Appreciation in the Workplace to Avoid Burnout

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POWERFUL LESSONS

Stephen R. Covey

"Next to physical survival, the greatest need of a human being is psychological survival, to be <u>understood</u>, to be <u>affirmed</u>, to be <u>validated</u>, to be <u>appreciated</u>."

**Steven Covey** 

FIVE DIFFERENT GENERATIONS IN ONE WORKPLACE

2% Traditionalists (born before 1946)

**33% Generation** X (born between 1965 and 1976)

5% Generation Z (born after 1997)



**25% Baby Boomers** (Born between 1946 and 1964)

#### 35% Generation Y, or Millennials

(born between 1977 and 1997)

# 2020 Edelman Trust Barometer

- First time ever Americans now saying they are not confident hard work will lead to a better life
- Despite strong economy & full employment, Govt, Media, NGO's, Business all distrusted
- Only 43% of Americans believe they and their families will be better off in 5 years' time
- 55% worry about "people like me losing respect and dignity I once enjoyed in this country"

### The Temperature is Rising



How Can You Rit Students First IF You Rit Teachers Last?

# TRUST IS IN QUESTION









Burnout Impacts Retention and Productivity







5 KEY PREDICTORS OF BURNOUT



# POP QUIZ

51% of managers claimed they did a good
job recognizing employees' good work. Only
17% of those employees said the manager
showed recognition for a job well done

The most important factor related to job enjoyment cited by employees was feeling appreciated. Money was #8

65% of North American employees of all types received zero recognition in the past 12 months

74% never or rarely express gratitude to their boss



#### THE 5 LANGUAGES OF WORKPLACE APPRECIATION



Words of Affirmation Quality Time Acts of Service Tangible Gifts Physical Touch For appreciation to truly be effective in must be <u>individualized</u>, <u>personal</u>, <u>genuine</u> and <u>authentic</u>.

Appreciate people in the way that <u>they</u> want to be appreciated. Not in the way that you might want or in the way that is most comfortable for you. PLATINUM

RULE

### WORDS OF

This is the language that uses words to communicate a <u>positive message</u> to another person.

AFFIRMATION

When you speak this language, you are <u>affirming a positive</u> <u>characteristic</u> about a person.

### DIALECTS

Three different ways of using words to affirm

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Affirmation for Personality

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This is the language that uses giving a person your undivided attention.

The key element of quality time is not proximity but personal attention.



### **Dialects** – four different ways of using quality time to affirm

02 03



#### **Quality Conversation :**

empathetic dialogue – thoughts, feelings, uninterrupted, create a safe environment maintain eye contact, don't multitask, listen for feeling as well as thoughts, affirm feelings, observe body language, refuse to interrupt



#### Small Group Dialogue Sharing ideas and suggestions

### Working in Close Physical Proximity to Accomplish a Project

making a difference together and/or contributions valued by others



#### This is the language that expresses a sincere desire to help

with a cheerful attitude .

Don't tell me show me!



# Acts of Service



#### This is the language that uses giving a person

a tangible gift/reward.

(not necessarily monetary)



### **Tangible gifts**

Most effective when the gift shows that the giver has spent time and energy thinking about the gift.

Be sure the gift is something that will actually be valued by the receiver.



Giving a gift to someone who doesn't really appreciate gifts has little impact and could create an offense.

Flex time or personal gift cards can be effective

## PHYSICAL TOUCH









# BUILDS

### COMARADERIE







a language we don't speak – something we don't know we don't know.

We don't value this language. Assume others don't either

Work hard but people still don't feel appreciated. "It doesn't count"

## **RESULTS?**

1. Attendance improves & productivity increases

2. Employees less irritable & internal conflict declines

**3. Employee turnover declines** 

4. Customer (parents & students) satisfaction rises

5. Supervisors & managers enjoy work more

6. Relationships between management and employees improve