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Teach/Lead/Coach (TLC) Handbook

King County Wastewater Treatment Division and Service Employees International Union, Local 925

Revised (8/5/04)





Clean Water - A Sound Investment

I. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Recognizing positive and corrective work performance and behaviors.
- Partnership between supervisor/shop steward, working together for the benefit of the individual.
- Taking personal responsibility.
- Non-judgmental
- Solution-oriented
- Resolving issues at lowest level possible.
- Consistent approach.
- Defined responsibilities.
- No surprises.
- Collaborative working relationship
- Positive Strive for a "win/win" situation
- Minimize need for manager-level decision making Pass along information to managers Leave decision making to supervisors Manager may set boundaries
- Open communication everybody involved
- Minimize personality-based decisions
- Utilize training
- Mediator role depends on issue
- Forget the past and deal with the present issue

II. WHAT IS TLC?

- TLC is positive and/or corrective feedback.
- TLC is a supervisor giving feedback about the employee's performance or behavior.
- TLC is also known as: inform, advise, discuss, comment, counsel, guide, instruct, educate, direct, recommend, remind, manage, explain, clarify, etc.
- TLC is informal or formal feedback (immediate feedback with employee or a scheduled meeting).
- TLC is oral or written feedback, or both.
- TLC is documented in the supervisor's log or supervisor's personal working file (not in official personnel file or plant personnel file).
- TLC is non-disciplinary, but if employee's performance or behavior does not improve, TLC documentation can be used toward discipline.

III. WHEN SHOULD TLC OCCUR?

• TLC should occur when an employee's performance is positive.

TLC Handbook.doc Revised 8/5/03 011C0108_Appendix D - Page 1 Example: Today, I received a compliment from Bob about your work on the Hydraulics class. He appreciated how you were able to gather and organize the information by the deadline, and present it in a logical, understandable manner.

• TLC should occur when an employee's performance or behavior requires correction. Example: Today, I received a concern from Bob regarding your work on the Hydraulics class. He said you had a deadline of 2 weeks to develop the curriculum. You assured him that it was going to be ready on time. The day it was due, you asked Bob for a 2-day extension. Tell me what happened?

IV. ROLES

Desired Approach

- Acknowledge positive performance by individuals and teams
- Collaborative working relationship
- Positive Strive for a "win/win" situation
- Minimize need for manager-level decision making Pass along information to managers Leave decision making to supervisors Manager may set boundaries
- Open communication everybody involved
- Minimize personality-based decisions
- Utilize training
- Mediator role depends on issue
- Non-judgmental
- Solution-oriented
- Forget the past and deal with the present issue

Role of the Manager

- Acknowledge positive performance by individuals and teams
- Decision maker if efforts to problem solve are unsuccessful between supervisor, shop steward and employee; situational
- · Mediator; mediate not arbitrate; situational
- Supporter of process;

Resource provider

Leader of the process

Take ownership

Committed to the success of the process

- Enhance lowest level resolution of problem;
- Enhance the lowest level of process
- Keep the process moving; keep problem resolution process going and on track

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- Facilitator
- Setting boundaries
- Options are options and not decisions. Keep mind open to possibilities
- Situational Roles
 - -Facilitator keep on track
 - -Decision maker
 - -Mediator not arbitrator
 - -Supporter/leader committed to success
- Has the option to push the process back down to the lower level of supervisor / shop steward / co-worker(s) once issues have been heard

Role of the Supervisor

- Acknowledge positive performance by individuals and teams
- Facilitator
- Share information collaboratively
- Identify issues/problems and alternatives to solve problem
- Investigate identified problems
- Proactively involve shop steward at appropriate level of concern
- Work out problem together. Work with shop stewards and employees
- Coach individual
 - a. Set expectations
 - b. Explain problem
 - c. Help identify resources
 - d. Referrals (to EAP, etc.); involve shop steward
- Keep the process moving
- Seek agreement by all involved; if no agreement, refer to the manager Document agreements
 Document follow-up
- Proactively inform stakeholders (i.e., stewards, employee, etc) if expectations not being met.

Role of the Lead &/or Senior-in-Charge

- Assist supervisor with acknowledging positive performance
- Identify issues/problems and alternatives to solve problem
- Share information collaboratively
- Work with supervisors and employees to solve problems
- Focus on problem or issue. Avoid personal or historical problems.
- Coach the individual.
- Assist in resolving issues by involving the employee and also involving the supervisor and/or shop steward.

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Role of the Shop Steward

- Assist supervisor with problem identification and alternatives to solve problem
- Share information collaboratively
- Keep the process moving
- Work with supervisors and employees to solve problems
- Mediate between supervisor and employee
- Focus on problem or issue. Avoid personal or historical problems
- Witness and document agreements (May assist with coaching/mentoring)

Role of Team Members Involved

- Acknowledge positive performance by individuals or team
- Identify issues/concerns and alternatives to solve problem
- Share information collaboratively
- Identify alternatives/solutions and recommend to supervisor and shop steward
- Keep the process moving

Role of the Union Business Representative

• Provide information and resources

WHERE IS THE TLC/DISCIPLINE LINE?

	A. NON-DISCIPLINE	DISCIPLINE
	Teach/Lead/Coach	Oral reprimand
		Written reprimand
		Suspension
		Demotion
]		Termination
•	TLC is meant to address violations of rules of minor	• Discipline is meant to address violations of rules of
	significance or unsatisfactory work performance that can be normally corrected through counseling or	major significance or continuing minor violations or continuing failure to meet expectations.
•	training. TLC is non-disciplinary, but if employee's	• Tools: performance improvement plan (PIP), etc.
·	performance or behavior does not improve, TLC	
	documentation can be used toward discipline.	
•	Tools: written reminders, performance improvement	
	VIMI (1 11), VIV.	

TLC Discipline Chart.doc Revised 7/3/03 011C0108_Appendix D - Page 5

PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT PLAN

ISSUE:				
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SUPERVISOR'S	S EXPECTAT	IONS:		
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ACTION STEPS				
			:	
	,			
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DATE BY	•	STEPS ARE TO	BE COMPLETED:	
SUPERVIS			SURE PLAN WORKS:	
EMPLOYE			URE PLAN WORKS:	
NEXT ME	ETING(S) TO ASS	SESS PROGRESS	:	
We have mu	ntually agreed upon	this Performance In	mprovement Plan:	
Supervisor's	signature		Date	
Employee's	signature		Date	
Emp Unio	ervisor loyee on O HR			

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