

Creating a Winning "Talent" Brand

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Kathy Baron, Vice President Loreen Lagatta, Principal Three Keys to Create a Winning Talent Brand



Leverage Culture: understand how culture influences your employment brand

Actively Manage Talent Pipelines: develop a framework to identify and cultivate the industry skills necessary to be competitive, nimble and thrive in the fast-changing banking environment

Develop Compensation Strategies: explore trends and compensation strategies that can attract and retain executives & leaders as well as staff

The Questions Will Ponder Today.....

- How do you create a unique value proposition that will make you the employer of choice?
- How do you win in the war for talent? How do you differentiate your organization in a market where competitors are throwing money at the problem?
- How do you replace the Great Resignation with the Great Retention?



Are you....

- Board member
- CEO
- C-Suite
- Senior Leader
- Other

Size of Bank (Assets)...

- □ < \$300 million</p>
- □ \$300 mil to <\$1 billion
- $\square \quad \$1 \text{ billion to } < \10 billion
- □ \$10 billion +



Group Discussion: What Keeps You Up At Night?



The Current Landscape – what we are hearing....

Economic uncertainty

- Inflation / cost of living
- Possible recession

Turnover

- Customer facing positions branches & call centers hardest hit
- The "great resignation"
- "Quiet Quitting" & "Act Your Wage"

War for talent

- Aging C-Suite
- Paying above market rates to attract experienced professionals
- Organizations usually lead with pay but pay is rarely the sole factor in recruitment and retention......although it seems like pay is driving things now!
- Remote/flex work

Pay compression

- Increases in starting wages for entry level employees
- Paying above market rates to attract experience professionals
- Bonuses retention and sign on
 - How to send the right message

Culture Purpose Driven

- The model of community banking is serving the needs of the community – mutual banks create "purpose driven" cultures
- What aspects of culture will move your bank forward or hold you back?

Leadership Strong & Agile

- Do the current leadership skills and expectations set you up for success?
- Can leaders adapt to remote work and rapidly changing technology?

Talent

Flexible & Growth Mindset

- How will I use the talent in my organization to contribute to the organization's long-term strategy?
- Are there any red flags in my organization's talent portfolio that might prevent me from achieving my goals? What talent gaps exist in my organization?
- What steps must I take to ensure the talent in my organization is prepared and aligned to achieve strategic goals & strategy (e.g., recruiting, development)?

Culture: Ways That You Have Leveraged Mission & Purpose?

- Is your talent strategy linked to your mission and purpose?
- Do you know how employees and potential employees view your "employment brand?
- Do you have ways to monitor "employment reputation" and culture?
- Do you conduct employee engagement surveys

Employment brand is your reputation: how employees experience you as an employer and how potential employees see your reputation as an employer



Leverage purpose and mission



Invest in your leadership - engaging managers



Transparent and frequent communication



Conduct "stay interviews"

Talent Pipeline

- Is your talent pipeline diverse?
- Do you recruit, hire and promote diverse talent?

Leaders

- Are your leaders diverse?
- Do leaders create an inclusive environment?

Culture & Community

- Is your culture inclusive?
- Is your community diverse and inclusive?

Your Employment Brand: Maximizing The Employee Experience

- Employee development
- Internal equity
- Leaders
- Engagement surveys
- Work design
 - ✓ "Designing work that people love"*
 - Innovation in banking
- Ensuring cultural fit



"I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." *Maya Angelou*

10 top stats from the report



- 1. 1 in 5 workers quit in the last 6 months.
- 2. The No. 1 driver of attrition is inflexibility.
- 3. 75% of execs say The Great Resignation impacted their financial stability.
- 4. 82% of companies needed help with talent acquisition and retention over the past 12 months.
- 5. Only 1 in 2 companies have a business strategy. Even fewer companies (38%) have a talent strategy.
- Heariy 1 in 4 execs feel ill-prepared to lead through The Great Resignation.
- 7. The No. 1 reason executives quit is inflexibility.
- 8. The No. 1 reason executives stay is job fit.
- 9. Executives' No. 1 talent priority is helping employees find purpose.
- 10. The No. 1 driver of retention is benefits.

Don't be afraid to experiment with options

- Fitting remote/hybrid work with your culture and roles
- Providing flexible work options
 - flex hours
 - compressed work week
- Thinking creatively about inperson options in your brickand-mortar space

Remote Work

Remote work options are here to stay

- 28% of total work force will permanently work from home
- Close to 50% anticipate hybrid work arrangements
- 25% plan to decrease their locations/office footprint and 15% are unsure or undecided.



Does your organization expect to allow employees to continue to split their time between work from home and work in an office location?



Remote Work – Its Impact on the Organization



Remote Work Impacts

- Culture
- Engagement
- Retention
- Attraction
- Diversity
- Role of leadership

Questions for work(er) flexibility?

- What does your bank want to keep from your experience of working remotely?
- Most employees want some flexibility – how will you meet that?
- How has remote work changed the bank's ability to attract and retain your workforce?
- How has this changed the work of the leadership of your bank?

Create a Talent-Focused Employment Brand

Develop frameworks to identify and cultivate industry skills that lead to organizational success

Competition for Talent at All Levels

- Pressure for Talent at all Levels
 - ✓ Customer-Facing Positions
 - ✓ Commercial Lending
 - ✓ Credit
 - ✓ Mortgage Area Underwriting, Processing
 - ✓ Risk and Compliance
 - ✓ C-Suite
 - ✓ Digital Leadership



How Do You Mitigate Risks of Talent Flight?

- Do you have a robust succession planning and management system?
- Do you identify high potential/key employee "flight risk"?
- Do you conduct "stay interviews" versus exit interviews?
- Do you identify current and future key skills and experiences for all/most jobs in your bank?



The Board's Expanding Responsibility

- Review strategic talent plan alignment with strategic objectives to minimize risk and maximize return
- Ensure a leadership succession strategy that incorporates talent 2-3 levels below Csuite
- Invest in intentional development opportunities and experiences for potential CEO and C-suite executives
- Understand and monitor overall health of the organization's leadership and talent pipeline
- From emergency succession planning to long-term succession management and talent development

CEO/Management Responsibility

- Create a talent strategy that supports organizational strategy and ensure flawless execution
- Determine key roles that are critical to future organizational success
- Actively monitor and manage succession plan
- Identify and invest in future leaders
- Plan your leadership legacy
- Moving from talent risk management to employee engagement

- What is the supply and demand for talent in your strategically critical areas?
- How are you investing in the workforce to deliver on strategic objectives?
- How are you closing gaps in pools of critical talent?
- Which leaders are you investing in? Who have you placed in critical roles and what ways are you investing in their development?
- What are the potential leaks in your talent & leadership pipelines?



Identify and cultivate the industry skills that enable the organization to remain competitive, recover and thrive.

- 1. Build Talent –talent building focused on skills and experience to enable the deployment of talent across various functions/businesses units at all levels
- 2. Buy Talent Hire/Acquire: best solution to fill talent gaps quickly or where specialized talent is not readily available (eg. Data Science).
- 3. Borrow Talent this is an adaptive workforce third party providers, contractors, etc. This talent pool is typically isn't limited by geography. Banks should also consider borrowing to take place internally especially short-term assignments for cross functional projects which has become more prevalent due remote work.
- **4. BOT**: Robotics/AI as tasks are automated, which new skills are needed and how do you mitigate potential displacement of people as a result?

Talent Strategy and Risk Assessment



External Talent Pipeline	Current	Anticipated in 12-18 months	next	
Indicators # of new roles		12-18 months		
Market for new roles				
Compensation competitiveness: Any roles you are worried about?				
	Internal Talent Pipeline Indicators		Current	Anticipated in next 12-18 months
Overall job market for your organization: Specific skills/areas that you are worried about?	Past year # of hires By grade/role			
	Past year # of promotions			
	Past year lateral movement			
	Roles that will require new skills			
	Upskilling of workforce - # of ee's who have attended			
	training/learning programs Are skills of the new roles available in- house or easily developed?			
	Staff who wi	Staff who will be impacted by layoffs/changes to role		
	# & % of vol	untary terms		

Identifying High Potential Talent

 Leadership succession – ensuring continuity by identifying, developing, and retaining future leaders with growth potential



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Identifying Employee Success Factors



The value of a performance management process is not in the assessment but in the opportunity for leaders and staff to create personalized development plans for maximum effectiveness in their roles

- Individual development plans should:
 - Reflect personal aspirations along with feedback from boss and colleagues
 - Plan should cover the 12-month performance management cycle
 - Buy-in and partnership with boss
 - Resources available to support development plan
 - Areas for development can be incorporated into next years goals



Compensation Trends

What's happening and what can you do about it?

Actual 2022 Salary Increases Compared to 2021

- 80% reported base salary increases were higher in 2022 than in 2021
- Non-exempts received the largest % increase (5.74%)
- No financial institutions reported lower salary increases compared to 2021





Source: Pearl Meyer May 2022 Quick Poll

Concerns Prompting Higher Base Salary Increases

- The most prevalent primary factor was retention concerns (46%), followed by the higher cost of living and rising inflation (21%)
- Most financial institutions (69%) are not planning a mid-year salary adjustment process
- Those who are will provide targeted increases to top performers, specific employee categories and critical staff



- 2023 planned salary increase budgets lower than many expected
- Many organizations are being cautious heading into 2023

		2023 Projected Salary Increase Budgets				
Survey	Scope	Executive / Sr. Officer	Officer	Exempt Non- Officer	Non-Exempt Non-Officer	
Pearl Meyer	Northeast	3.6	3.5	3.4	3.5	
Proprietary Survey	Eastern US: Finance & Insurance	4.0		4.2	4.0	

Special Pay Practices

- Many banks are using
 - ✓ Spot Bonuses
 - ✓ Retention/Stay Bonuses
 - ✓ Sign-on Bonuses
 - ✓ Customer Facing Position Bonuses
 - ✓ Recognition Programs



Influencing Your Employment Brand With Compensation

- Base salaries are no secret ensure you are paying competitively and equitability
- Make sure your high performers are paid like high performers
 - Merit, incentives, spot bonuses
- Communicate your programs at all levels link pay to strategy and link pay to performance
- Broaden definition of compensation to include all benefits/rewards (e.g., PTO, medical benefits and 401(k))





- Very traditional approach
- Performance is expected
- Is this approach the most effective for a mutual bank?

Pay for Purpose

- Consider a differentiated philosophy
- More reflective of community banks
- Focuses on purpose, with performance and core values being underlying principles

Final Thoughts Creating a Winning Talent Brand

- Compensation is something but not everything
- Leverage the purpose-driven culture of community banking
- Be flexible around work design
- Understand employee engagement and culture to support diversity, inclusion and belonging
- Focus on the employee experience and when possible, develop and promote internally
- Ensure fit "right people, in the right roles, at the right time"





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