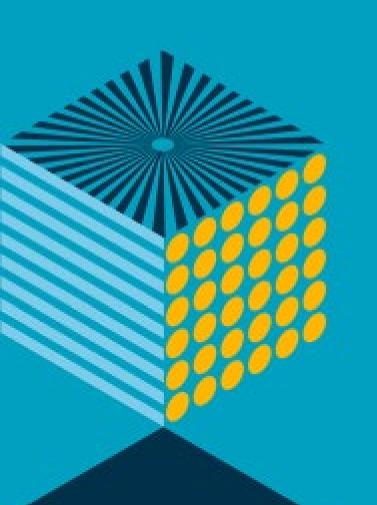


## IFA ANNUAL CONVENTION





## Culture Schmulture Why it matters...and YES, it does!



#### **Paul Pickett**

Wild Birds Unlimited CDO-EVP of Franchising

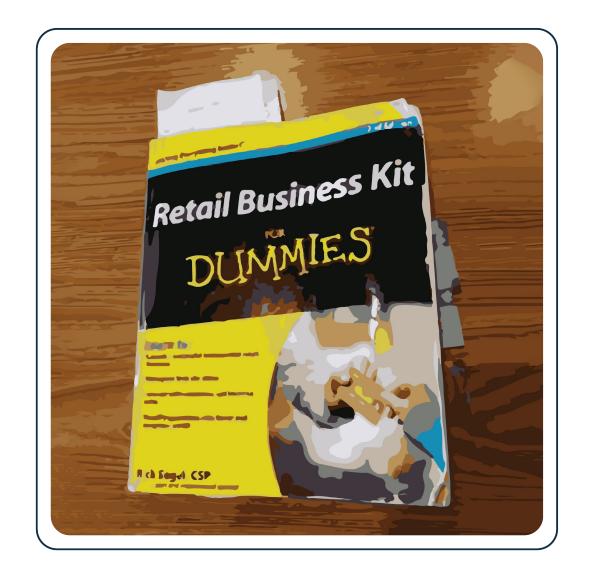


#### **SILVIA SLEMMER**

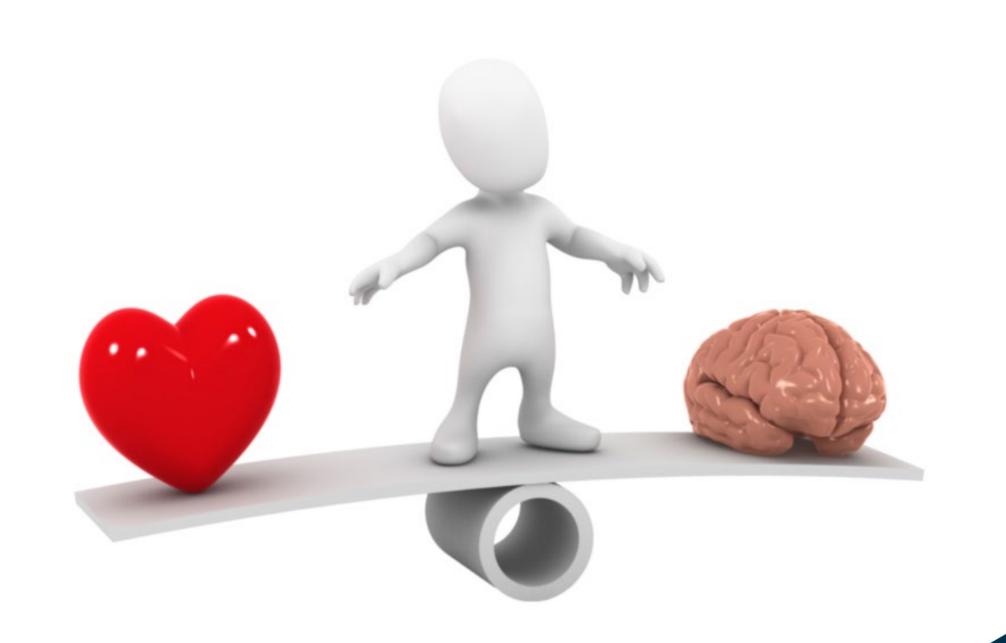
The WBU Brand Culture
Wild Birds Unlimited of Carlsbad, CA

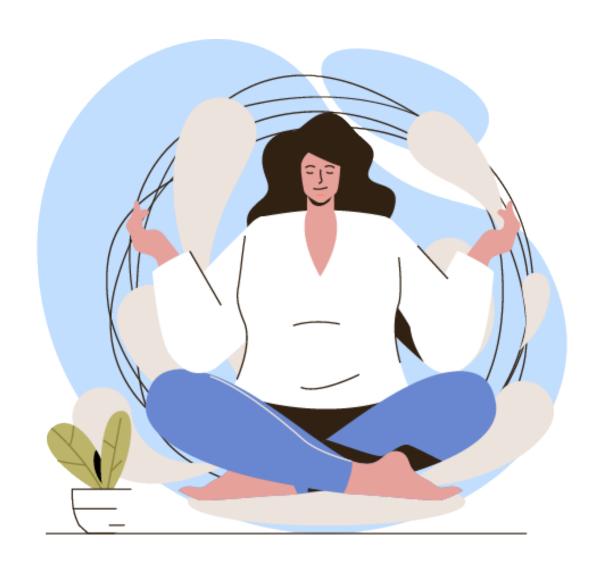
wildbirdscarlsbad@gmail.com

# WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND THE BRAND CULTURE?

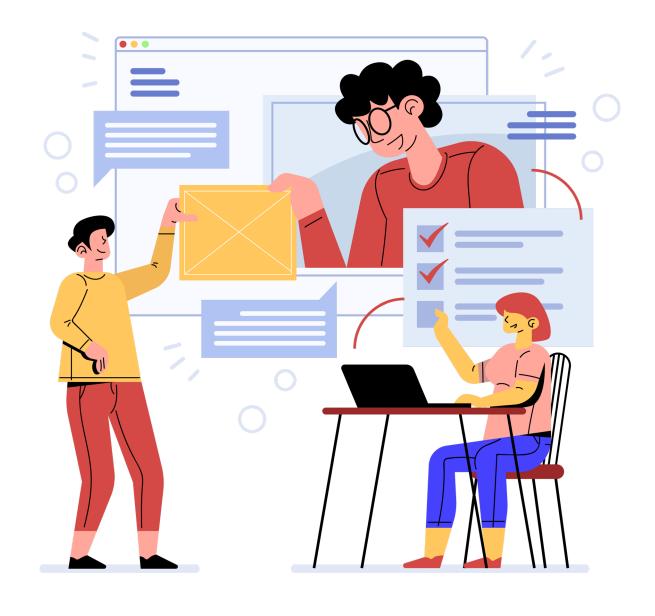


#### I HAD NO RETAIL EXPERIENCE

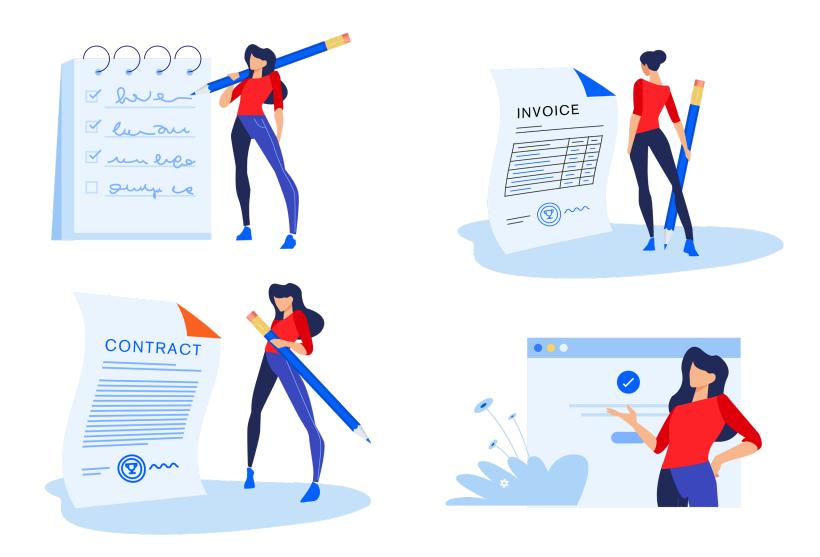




#### TEACH. GUIDE. PATIENCE.



**EVALUATING THE WBU CULTURE WAS EASY** 



#### **EVALUATING THE WBU CULTURE WAS EASY**



It was a MATCH!



#### **Not a One-Way Street**



#### **Brand Culture Matters!**



#### **CONSIDERING JOINING A FRANCHISE?**



#### **BEING ON BOARD WITH THE CULTURE**



## IFA ANNUAL CONVENTION





#### **Danessa Itaya**

President

**Property Management Inc.** 

Danessa@propertymanagementinc.com

#### PMI Culture - 2018 OUCH!

- 39% Engaged Franchisees
- 17% Actively Disengaged
- 45% Unengaged
- Low Summit Attendance
- Training and Support Rated Low
- Poor Communication with Corporate Office
- Slow Growth Unit Economics

## Company culture is the backbone of any successful organization.

Gary Vaynerchuk



## How do you make "culture" more than just words on a page?

#### **Core Values**

- Own It
- Growth Mindset
- Innovative
- Have Fun
- Energetic
- Integrity





#### Honey Badger It





#### We are the Unicorn



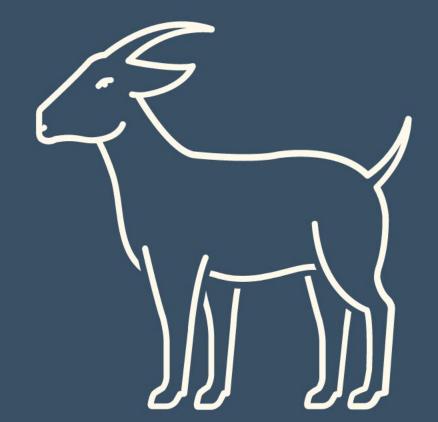


#### We ain't Lion'





### GOATs just wanna have fun



#### **Roll Out**

- Divided into "Houses"
- Monthly competitions
- Merch
- Highlight team members living the core values
- Deeply ingrained principles that are the cornerstone of our culture



#### Why is This Important?

- 25% of Team is in Their 20's
- Lead by Example
- Vision Leaks down to the Franchisees





## Communicating Culture to Franchisees and Fran Dev

- EOS Lite Franchisees
- Continuous Communication
  - Quarterly Kick Off Call
  - Quarterly Coffee Chat with Sr. Mgmt.
  - FAC Meetings
  - Field Visits
- Annual Summit

#### **Brand Culture Change**





ASSOCIATION · RESIDENTIAL · COMMERCIAL · SHORT TERM

#### **Culture Change – Honey Badger It**

- Recognize that it's a CHANGE
- Recognize that it takes TIME
- Consistent Communication
- Consistent Action



#### **Early Results**

- Increased Communication
- Created Franchise Advisory Council
- Increased Attendance at Summit
- New Franchisee Unit Economics Growing Faster than Ever
- Seven Franchise Business Coaches
- Stronger Franchisee Validation

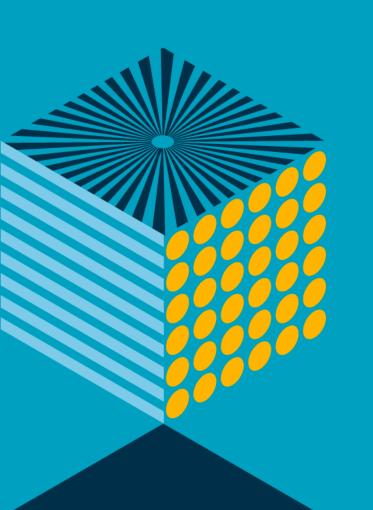
#### **Key Takeaways:**

- Culture MUST be More Than Words on Paper
- Culture Starts at the Top!
- Communicate, Take Action, Communicate
- Culture Changes



## IFA ANNUAL CONVENTION





## Nancy Bigley CEO/President The Little Gym, International

# **B&B FIT PROCESS**



- What are values of each brand
- Where are they similar
- Where are they different
- Are there dealbreakers

# **Managing the Misses**



- Try to find ways to blend the best
- Involve staff and franchisees
- Be honest

# **UNLEASHED FIT PROCESS**



- Voice of the brand
- How franchisees & staff are involved
- How brand standards are enforced
- How has brand moved through change

#### **UNLEASHED BRANDS to INDIVIDUAL BRANDS**



#### Learn

- Brands that enrich the lives of kids by teaching or enhancing their STREAM skills (Science, Technology, Reading, Arts, and Mathematics)
- Example segments: daycare, early childhood education, tutoring, interactive museums, etc.



#### Play

- Brands that provide fun, energetic experiences that give kids the opportunity to be kids
- Example segments family entertainment, birthday party venues, bowling, escape rooms, etc.



#### Grow

- Brands that provide opportunities for kids to build or improve their skills or hobbies
- Example segments Swim schools, music schools, gymnastics, karate, etc.

- Aligned around common purposes
- Brand level
- Staff level
- Execution is done with brand voice

## MANAGING BRAND DIFFERENCES



- Maintain brand voice
- Change is ok

# **Golden Nuggets:**

- Make culture building a priority
- Involve the headquarters team
- Have a team to hold the company accountable
- Find ways to cascade to the franchisees
- Create an integration team if acquiring new companies



# IFA ANNUAL CONVENTION

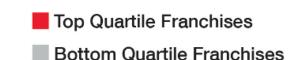


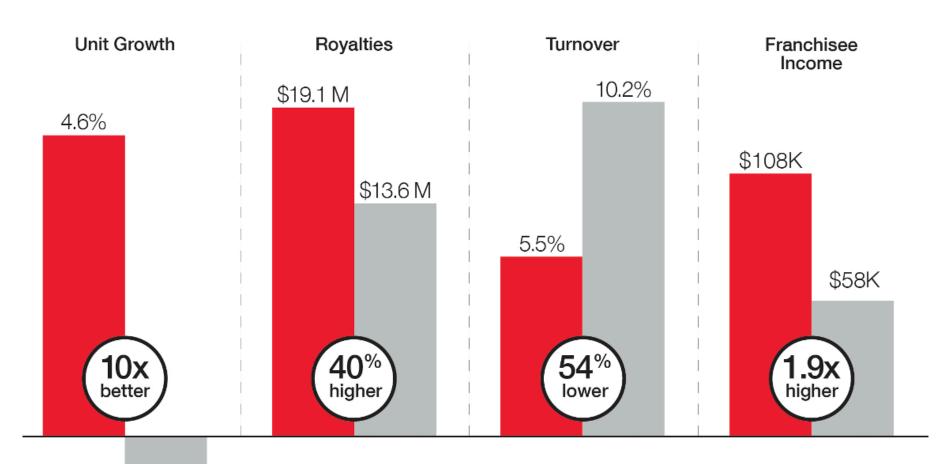




#### The Link Between Satisfaction and Franchise Performance

Brands with high franchisee satisfaction drastically outperform brands with low satisfaction on every key performance metric. Here we see the gap between brands in the top quartile of satisfaction vs. brands in the bottom quartile of satisfaction in annual unit growth, royalty revenue, franchisee turnover, and franchisee income.





# **Anecdotal vs Data**



# How do great teams monitor & manage culture?

- Involve all stakeholders
- Share results
- Align & Set expectations
- Benchmark & Trend

## **Engagement Benchmarks**

24 Questions Across 8 Key Areas



#### Satisfaction

Job rewarding & satisfying, receives necessary support, fairly compensated.



#### Manager

Professional, positive, & effective, values ideas and feedback, cares about my success.



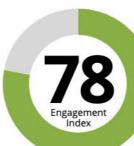
#### Engagement

Enjoys relationships with team, feel mostly positive about work, proud of work completed.



#### Leadership

Professional, respectful, & fair, communicates clearly & openly, effective in driving the company.



#### Alignment

Understand brand vision & values, defined role & responsibilities, clear measures of performance.



#### Culture

Strong, positive team culture, comfortable & respected at work, contributions & ideas valued.



#### Self-Assessment

Skills & experience good fit, long-term growth opportunity, strong personal performance.

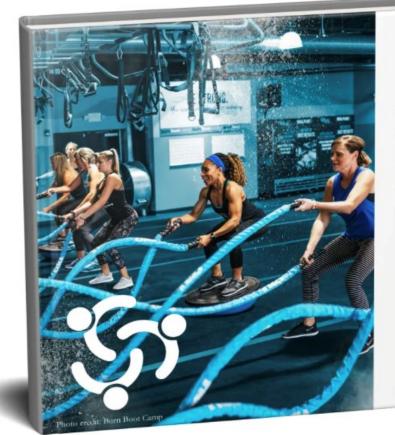


#### Core

Great place to work, optimistic about company future, would recommend to a friend.

# Using data to CHANGE culture

- Create stronger connections
- Accountability
- Engagement
- Empower people



FranchiseBusinessREVIEW

The CEO's Guide to Creating and Maintaining a

POSITIVE CULTURE IN FRANCHISING





# IFA ANNUAL CONVENTION





# **Brian Schnell**

Partner and Franchise Chair
Faegre Drinker
brian.schnell@faegredrinker.com

# BRAND CULTURE IT'S ALL ABOUT ATTITUDE AND LEADERSHIP

# **Legal Risks if Bad Culture**

- Franchisees are motivated to free ride
- Franchisees create conflict within the system
- Franchisees badmouth the franchisor to prospects
- Franchisees file lawsuits/from adversarial franchisee associations

### Strong Brands Live and Breathe a Collaborative Culture

- Culture is reflected less in the franchise agreement
- And more on a franchisor and franchisees' unwavering commitment to culture/strong relationships
- Collaboration does not mean a franchisor gives up decision-making authority
- If a franchisor wants motivated and engaged franchisees, give them a meaningful voice in matters of systemwide importance
- Role of the franchise agreement is to allow the franchisor to grow, protect and evolve the brand

# **Embracing and Resolving Conflict is Healthy**

- Constructive dialogue to explore solutions can be more effective than both parties only focusing on "winning" the conflict
- Relationships fail if the parties do not adequately address breakdowns and collaborate to find solutions
- When parties stop actively listening and communicating, they resort to litigation or legislation

# Key "Golden Nuggets" of Culture

- Collaboration, shared alignment and accountability are absolute difference makers
- Franchisees want a voice, rather than a vote
- Make 2022 a year where culture is a top priority. WE NEED EACH OTHER.