

### **Meet the Speaker**



**Kerreen Conley** 

Principal
HR Solutions
<a href="mailto:kerreen.com/ker

30 years dedicated in the public sector providing leadership, management and
strategic input on broad HR initiatives which
cultivate positive and results-driven work
cultures.



### **Today's Discussion**

We will focus what is happening in our current work environment and how leaders can navigate and influence workers to increase engagement and decrease turnover

- Current workforce trends
- Factors that influence retention and engagement
- Actions you can take today to improve engagement



Question

What is your biggest challenge facing your workforce today?



Rehmann



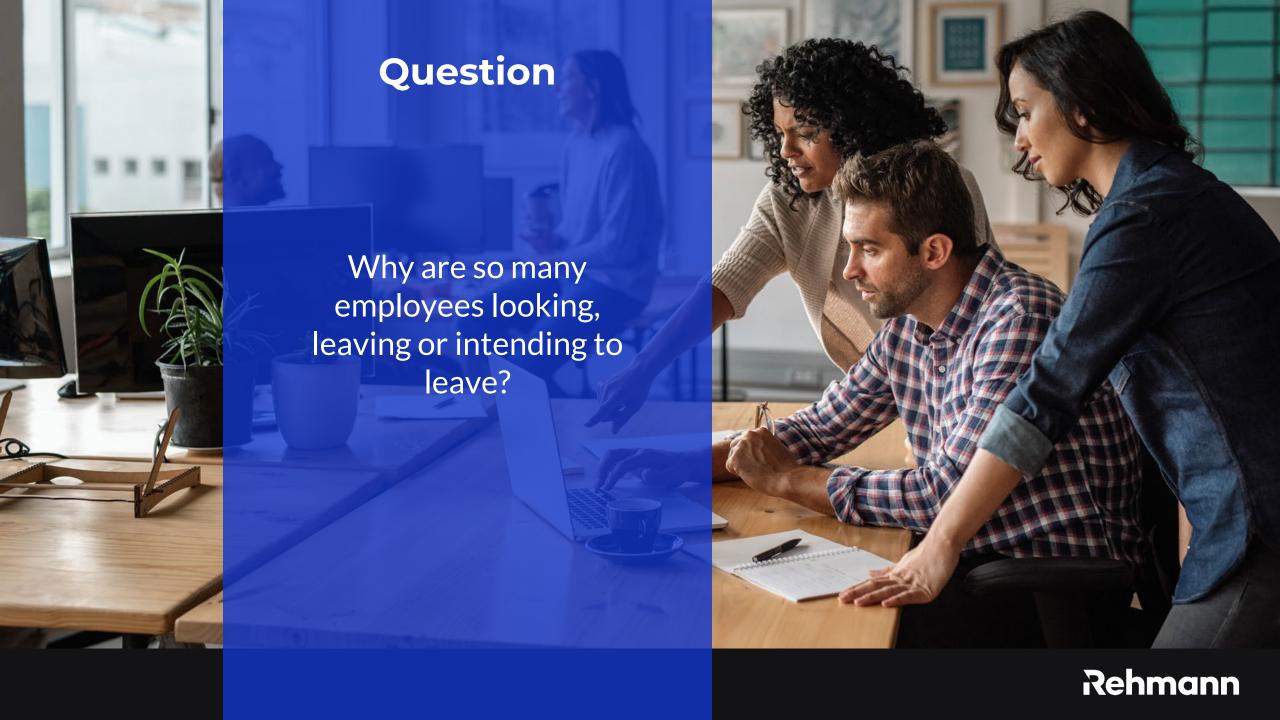


### **State of Retention Quiz**

- Stand up
- Take your index card (or paper pad) with you
- Find 1-2 people you aren't sitting by to work with
- Stand up anywhere in the room
- On the lined side of the card, number 1-6 for questions
- You don't have to agree, simply document your answer

### **State of the Workforce Quiz**

#	Question	Answer
1.	What percentage of the workforce is currently watching postings or actively looking for other work? <b>Public Sector?</b>	50% 52% Public Sector
2.	What percentage of the workforce is being actively recruited right now?	20%
3.	What percentage of the workforce say they are likely to change jobs in 2024?	26% Up from 19%
4.	What percentage of Gen Z (under 27 yrs) are planning to change jobs this year?	35%
5.	What percentage of turnover is preventable?	75%



True or False

Teacher turnover is HIGHER NOW than before the pandemic?

# TRUE

True! Turnover is 4% higher than pre-pandemic

Principal turnover is LOWER than teacher turnover?

## **FALSE**

FALSE! Principal turnover is 6% higher than teacher turnover. 16% vs. 10%

Teacher and Principal turnover is LOWER in urban districts?

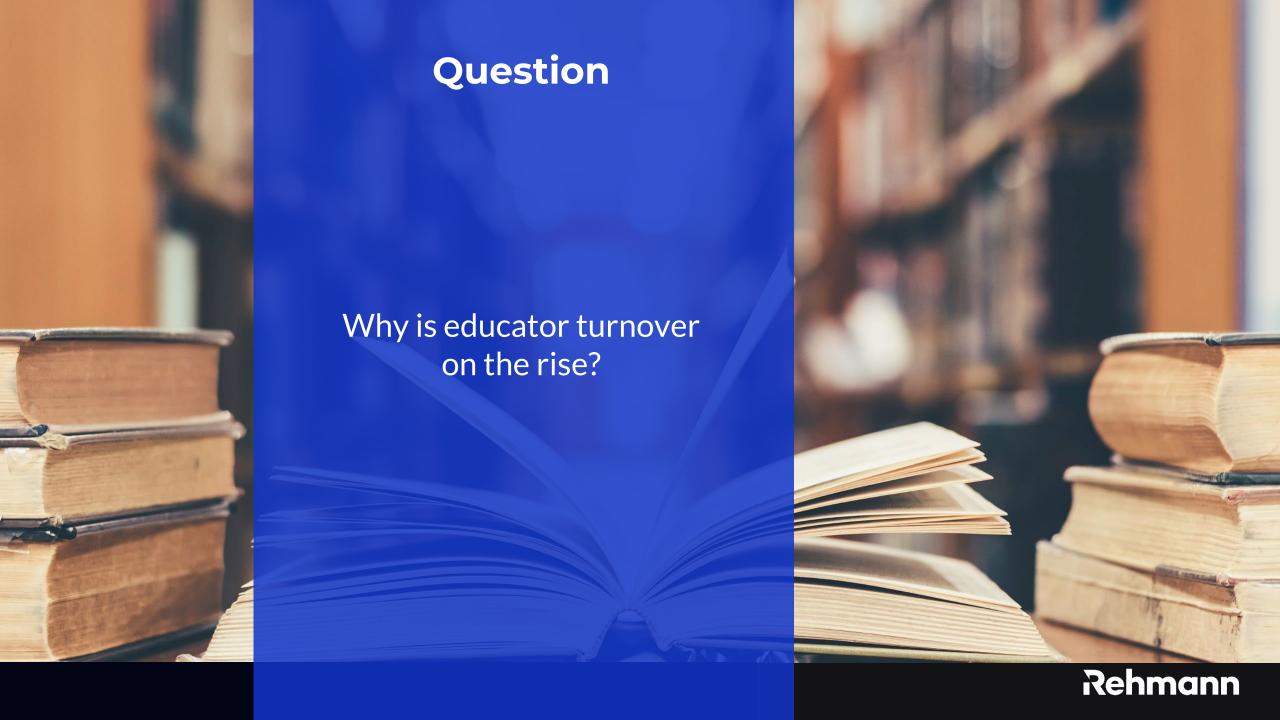
# **FALSE**

FALSE! It is highest in urban and high poverty districts. Teacher 12-14%; Principal 21-23% More new teachers (<3 yrs) left their school compared to seasoned (>7 yrs) teachers?

## TRUE

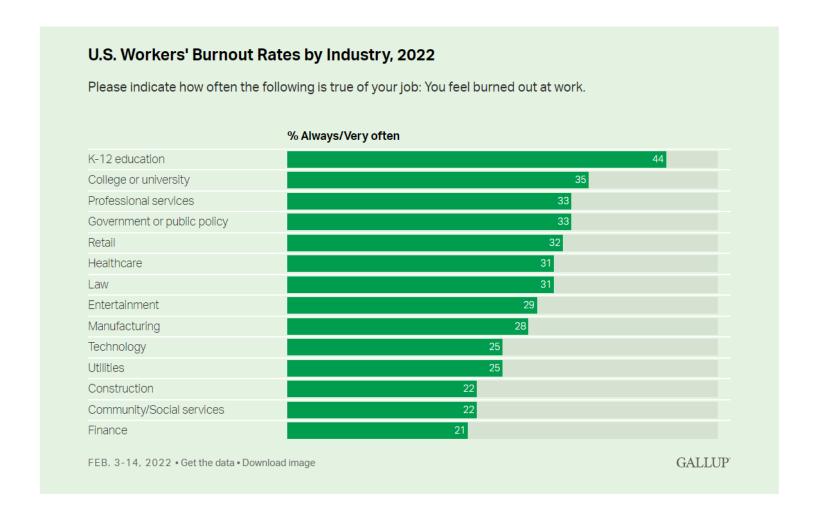
True! 30% of new teachers vs. 17-20% of seasoned





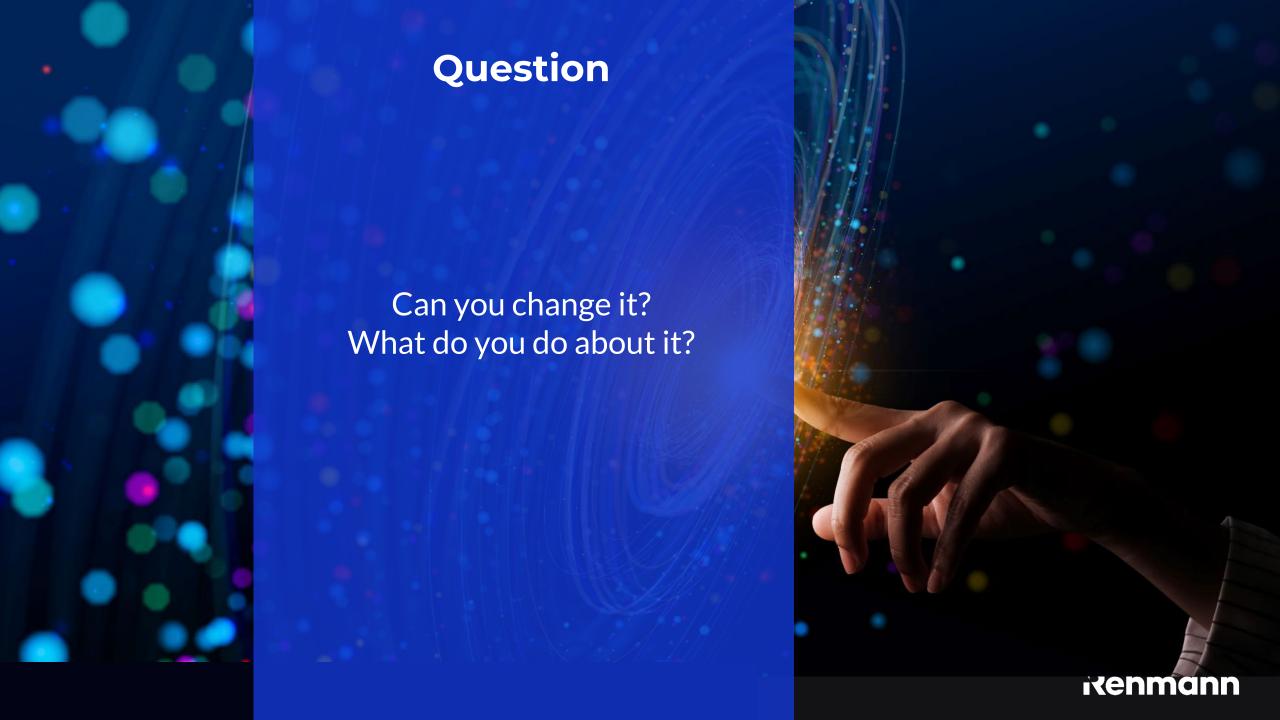
#### **Burnout Could Be a Factor**





- K-12 Education is the #1 burnt-out profession according to Gallup
- College or University professionals were #2 burntout profession
- 90% of teacher claim that feeling burnt out is a serious problem

Why is this?







## **Employee Engagement Definition**

Employee engagement is a state in which employees feel **passionate** about their jobs, are **committed** to the organization and put **discretionary effort** into their work.

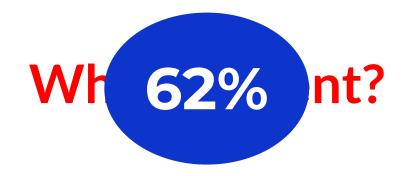
## Three types of workers in all organizations

	Engaged	Not Engaged	Actively Disengaged
	Thriving at work	"Quiet quitters"	"Loud quitters"
<b>—</b> 40 4.4	Passionate	Checked-out	Act out
Definition	Enthusiastic	Putting in time, not energy	Undermine engaged employees
	Committed	Lacks enthusiasm	Negative or unhappy
US/Canada ALL	33%	50%	17%
US Teachers	31%	56%	13%
Higher Ed Faculty and Staff	34%		



# How Important is Engagement for Teacher Retention?

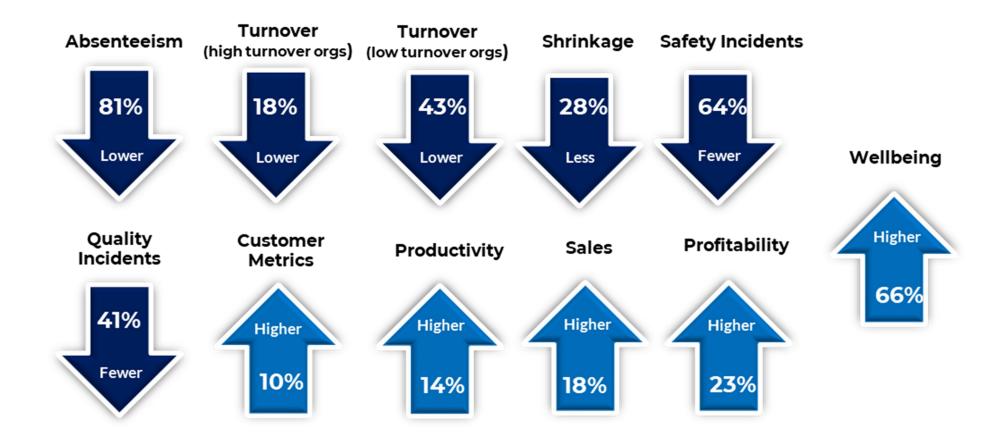
Teachers who are engaged are



<u>Less likely to leave</u> their district compared with teachers who are not engaged or actively disengaged

#### 17

# In addition to increase retention and decreased turnover, engagement impacts many important organization metrics



Source: Gallup
State of the American Workforce



# Question

Why are some employees engaged and others not?



Rehmann

### It's all about meeting Needs

Meet more needs = experience higher engagement

Meet less needs = experience lower engagement and more disengagement

What are the most important needs?

Why are some engaged and some not?



# Employee Engagement is Determined By Meeting Employee Needs

Growth

Do I have opportunities to learn and grow?

- Do we provide regular feedback to team members?
- Do we ensure all team members receive the development they need and want?

**Teamwork**Do I belong here?

- Do we encourage employees to build team relationships?
- Does the team know when they collectively do great work?
- Is the mission and purpose clear to everyone?
- Are we providing opportunities for team members to share their opinions and ideas?

#### **Management Support**

Are my individual contributions and talents appreciated and recognized?

- Does the manager discuss opportunities to expand my skills and knowledge?
- Does the manager care about me and my success?
- Does the manager recognize my good work?
- Does the manager provide opportunities for me to best use my strengths?

#### **Basic Needs**

Do I have what I need to do the work?

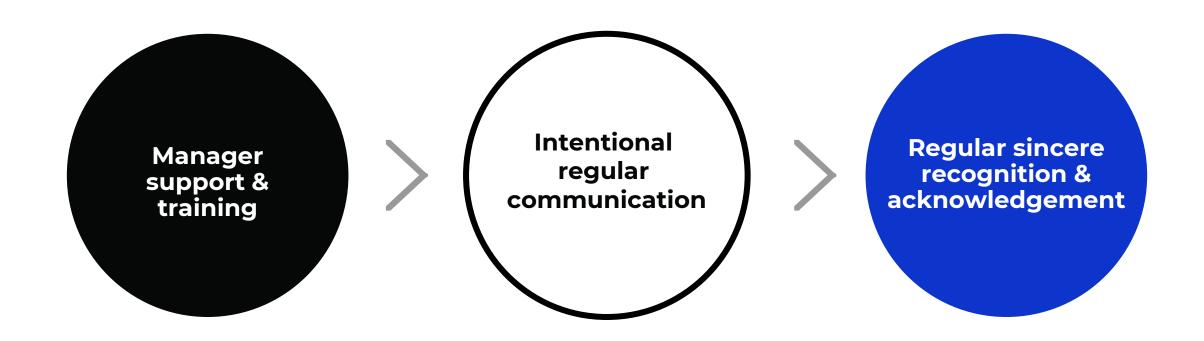
- Do team members have everything they need to complete tasks?
- Do all team members clearly understand their responsibilities, goals, and priorities?



Clear direction and goals	
☐Clear expectation, goals and priorities ☐Regular communication and touchpoints on workload	
Manager Support	
<ul> <li>Acknowledgement and recognition for good work</li> <li>Feel like someone cares about them as a person</li> <li>Care about my future growth and development planning</li> <li>Opportunity to use strengths in the job</li> </ul>	
Teamwork (Belonging)	
<ul> <li>Clear purpose and connection to the mission</li> <li>Ability to share ideas and thoughts</li> <li>Strong relationships with team members</li> <li>Team recognition</li> </ul>	
Growth	
Regular feedback and progress discussions	

#### (22)

### Three Pivotal Ways to Increase Engagement





# Ask Yourself These Questions

# How equipped are your managers to handle today's workplace challenges?

How do you train your managers to engage their teams?
How well are your managers' doing addressing today's challenges?
How engaged or overwhelmed are your managers?

#### **How To**

Provide regular recognition, acknowledgement and support to managers
☐ Provide training on leading and engagement in today's challenging workplace
☐ Ask managers what they need
Create a manager "community" that connects regularly and discusses
challenges

#### **Start Today!**

$\square$ Choose a leader today and share appreciation for their contributions
Ask a leader "how are you doing" or "what is your biggest challenge"
☐ Invite a manager to join you in a meeting, brainstorm or just lunch

#### By the numbers

Only **31%** of managers are engaged

A worker is **59%** more likely to be engaged if their manager is.

70% of the variance in team engagement is determined solely by the manager

Only **48%** of managers strongly agree they currently have the skills needed to be exceptional at their job



# How often do direct managers communicate and personally connect with each team member?

# Do your managers make an effort to communicate with each person daily? What are your managers doing to create trusting relationships? Do your managers hold 1:1 meetings with team members?

#### **How To**

Managers should connect with each person daily, even if through technolog	<b>3</b> γ.
Make it part of daily routine ("daily rounds")	
☐ Managers should hold weekly (15 min) 1:1 conversations/meetings focused	l on
progress, goals, challenges, recognition and personal connection	
☐ Provide tools and training on great communication, holding great 1:1 meet	ngs
and providing support for team members	

#### **Start Today!**

☐ Put meetings on the calendar! Schedule recurring.
$\square$ Ask a leader to join you for a 15 minute 1:1 conversation as a model
<ul> <li>Seek best practices and share them in manager roundtables</li> </ul>
☐ Start connecting with each of YOUR team members today and schedule 1:1s

#### By the numbers

Engagement is **highest** among employees who have some form of daily communication with their manager

Employees who have regular meetings with their manager are 3x more likely to be engaged

Almost 70% of managers say they are uncomfortable with face to face communication



# How often do we sincerely acknowledge and recognize great efforts and performance?

# What tools are available for recognition and acknowledgement? How is recognition and acknowledgement shared? Do your team members feel acknowledged? Why/why not?

#### **How To**

☐ Acknowledgement contributions for each team member at least 1x week
$\square$ Make it part of every meeting agenda and 1:1 meeting and check-in
$\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ $
☐ Don't assume if you don't hear, it is happening
☐ Words are best: Use their name, be specific and state why you appreciate them

#### **Start Today!**

☐ Acknowledge someone who was "handling things" in your absence
☐ Demonstrate what great acknowledgement sounds like
☐ Share with administrators when you see/hear great things

#### By the numbers

Only 23% of employees strongly agree they get the right amount of recognition for the work they do

20-30% of workers say their efforts are routinely ignored

Employees are **5X** more likely to stay and **4X** more likely to be engaged at their organizations if their managers regularly acknowledge them for great work.





- You can make a difference!
- It is a challenging time to lead organizations
- Retention is in your control
- Organizations with engaged employees experience greater retention
- Retain your workforce by focusing on their most important needs:
  - Connection with their manager
  - Regular communication
  - Regular acknowledgement and recognition



#### **Every Moment Counts**

- ☑ Make a plan to engage your team and organization
- ☑ Deliberately greet and acknowledge team members TODAY (even remote)
- ☑ Acknowledge a specific contribution, say thank you using their name
- ☑ Thank one of your managers for their commitment and contributions
- ✓ Ask something about something they are working on starting with "How": "How is the \_\_\_\_\_ going so far?"



Rerreen Conley

Principal

Human Resources Solutions

kerreen.conley@rehmann.com

# Thank you for joining this session!

Our team of public sector experts is here to support you as you navigate the unique challenges that impact this industry.

Stay up-to-date on valuable information and resources for your organization by scanning the QR code to the right or visit **www.rehmann.com**.



Stop by our booth (414/416) to connect with our team and get a craft coffee from our espresso bar!