



INTRODUCTORY BUSINESS

Time Allocation: 10-15 minutes

Materials/Resources Needed: Building Ethical Employability (BEE-1) Virtual Content (Section 3, Session 2: Communication Types & Modes)

In-Person Directions:

1. After watching the Session 2: Communication Types & Modes video of the BEE-1 Content read out the Introductory Business scenario to the students (see next page).
2. Instruct students to break into groups of two, discuss and make a decision in regards to how they would handle the situation.
3. Then the two students will decide how they are going to communicate their decision to the rest of the class (will they both speak, or only one; what will they include from their discussion in that communication, etc.).
4. Have each group stop planning.

Virtual Directions:

1. After watching the Session 2: Communication Types & Modes video of the BEE-1 Content read out the Introductory Business scenario to the students (see next page).
2. Instruct students they will be breaking into groups of two, to discuss and make a decision in regards to how they would handle the situation. Advise them that they will need to also decide how they are going to communicate their decision to the rest of the class (will they both speak, or only one; what will they include from their discussion in that communication, etc.). Break the students into breakout rooms of two students.
4. Close breakout rooms.

Check for Understanding:

1. Have students share their decisions for full class discussion of their decisions and the case.

DECISION-MAKING & COMMUNICATION
Introductory Business

THE SITUATION:

You graduated and landed a great entry-level position in a great company. You get to work alongside the company leadership and you are learning a lot. Part of your responsibilities as Community Marketing Manager is attending public events alongside the CEO. You are in attendance at the regional Rotary banquet, where most of the community and regional elected officials are present. On your way in, a local business woman stops to introduce herself and informs you that they are sponsoring the event this evening and will be introducing your CEO. She then goes on to inform you that their business is going through challenging times right now, as they find themselves in the middle of a scandal around sexual harassment towards an intern at the hands of one of their leaders. She goes on to inform you that the intern left their company after the allegations were made and is now an employee at your company. This is the first you are learning anything about this situation. She makes a final comment before continuing on, stating “Your CEO and our CEO are dear friends, let’s hope it all works out.”

CRITICAL THINKING:

As you continue on into the banquet hall, you can’t help but think about what you have just been told. You are wondering if this could impact your company and maybe even your job somehow.

1. Should you discuss this with the CEO right now? Are they friends? Who is their CEO?
2. Who is the employee? Is anyone within your company aware of this situation?
3. If the CEO isn’t aware and you inform them, how will they receive it? What if the CEO doesn’t want this business to introduce them, how will that work? The program starts in 30 mins.?
4. What ethical concerns might this raise for you? For your company? For Rotary or any of the community partners at the event?

DECISION-MAKING:

You spot your CEO and start walking across the room. Having been thinking about this situation, it is now time to decide what you will communicate to them at this time. Having discussed as a group and critically thought about the situation as a whole, taking into consideration ethical lenses/perspectives, policies and institutional and system values, you share with the group what you have decided in regards to what you will communicate, and why? As well as what action you will recommend in regards to this business introducing your company in such a large, community event. What factors were important to your decision?

COMMUNICATION:

How will you communicate your groups decision to the whole class? (will you both speak, or only one of you; what information will you share in how you got to this decision, etc.)

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