



PERSONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHALLENGER

Who in your life tells it to you like it is—no holding back? This is someone who will say what others may think but don't have the courage to say. You don't have to agree with every opinion they share, but you do have to appreciate their willingness to tell it to you straight.

COACH

Who drills and prepares you to become a better you? This is someone who drives you to stretch yourself. Who helps you work out what you'd like to do, then helps plan the best way to get there?

MENTOR

Who offers guidance or advice? This is someone willing to take you under their wing. Who do you look up to? Who's influential? Who suggests resources to help you develop?

A personal board of directors is a group of individuals that can help you make sound decisions, give you advice and feedback, challenge your assumptions, broaden your professional network, brainstorm and gut-check ideas, and expand your perspective and thinking. Your personal board of directors generally won't be meeting together, but these are people you can count on for meaningful conversations around challenges and opportunities in your personal and professional life. You probably already have relationships with people who fill these roles for you, but you should make it a point to connect with them on a consistent basis.

Who supports you and gives you encouragement, no matter what? This is someone who celebrates your successes and picks you up when you stumble. Who listens while you vent? Who can you be yourself with?

Who can introduce you to others in your profession or industry? This is someone who knows people in your field of interest and can make introductions. Who broadens your network?

ROLE MODEL

Who can speak to your strengths and abilities when you're not around? Having a person who can talk about you is just as important as having someone talk to you. Who already has a seat at the table and will advocate for you to have one as well?

Who is where you aspire to be? This is someone who has achieved brilliant success in your area of interest. Whose shoes do you hope to walk in one day?

MY PERSONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

