

Elon Musk and Larry Ellison: A Deep Dive into Their Connection

I. Executive Summary:

The relationship between Elon Musk, the driving force behind Tesla, SpaceX, and X, and Larry Ellison, the co-founder and chairman of Oracle, is a multifaceted connection that extends beyond mere professional acquaintance. This report delves into the intricacies of their bond, revealing a significant friendship underpinned by mutual admiration and respect. Their connection is further solidified through substantial business collaborations, most notably Ellison's significant financial backing of both Tesla and Musk's acquisition of Twitter. Ellison also served on Tesla's board of directors for a crucial period. Furthermore, evidence suggests a mentorship dynamic where Ellison's guidance has played a role in shaping Musk's entrepreneurial journey. Their collaboration extends to emerging technologies, particularly in the realm of artificial intelligence, where Oracle has provided crucial infrastructure support for Musk's AI ventures, and their companies have partnered on innovative projects. While their relationship is largely characterized by alignment and support, instances of disagreement, particularly concerning the ethical implications of AI, have been reported. Ellison's eventual departure from Tesla's board appears to have been a planned transition, rather than a result of discord. Fundamentally, their connection is strengthened by a shared set of business philosophies and leadership styles that prioritize innovation, risk-taking, and a relentless pursuit of excellence. This report underscores the significance of this relationship within the technology industry, highlighting the combined influence of these two titans on the evolution of technology and business.

II. Introduction:

Elon Musk and Larry Ellison stand as towering figures in the contemporary technology landscape. Musk, with his audacious vision and relentless drive, has disrupted multiple industries, from electric vehicles and space exploration to social media. Ellison, a co-founder of the software giant Oracle, is renowned for his business acumen and transformative leadership in the database and enterprise software sectors. Their individual successes have not only shaped the technology industry but have also had a profound impact on the global economy. Understanding the connection between these two influential individuals provides valuable insights into the dynamics of power, innovation, and collaboration within the high-stakes world of technology. This report aims to dissect the various facets of their relationship, drawing upon recent reports and analyses to illuminate the personal bonds, business engagements, shared

ideologies, and any points of divergence that define their connection. By examining the available information, this analysis seeks to provide a comprehensive understanding of a relationship that holds considerable significance within the technology ecosystem.

III. The Foundation of Friendship:

The relationship between Elon Musk and Larry Ellison is rooted in a genuine and long-standing friendship, a fact that both individuals have publicly acknowledged. In a podcast interview conducted in March 2025, Elon Musk openly praised Larry Ellison's intellect, stating unequivocally, "Larry Ellison is very smart," and further emphasizing, "I will say Larry Ellison is one of the smartest people" he knows¹. Musk also alluded to the duration of their connection by mentioning their "long-standing relationship"¹. This public acknowledgment from Musk, a figure often perceived as discerning in his associations, suggests a deep personal bond built on mutual respect for each other's capabilities.

Adding further weight to the notion of a close friendship, an article published in March 2024 quoted Larry Ellison repeatedly referring to Elon Musk as a "close friend"². In the same context, Ellison also identified himself as a "big investor in Tesla," indicating an intertwining of their personal connection with significant business interests². Ellison's explicit and repeated declarations of their close friendship, particularly in conjunction with his financial involvement in Musk's ventures, underscore the depth of their personal bond and his confidence in Musk's leadership.

The positive sentiment is clearly reciprocated. In October 2024, Elon Musk responded to a resurfacing of an older video featuring Larry Ellison defending him. Musk enthusiastically tweeted, "Larry Ellison is awesome"³. The article reporting on this exchange also mentioned past instances where Musk had assisted Ellison in regaining access to his Twitter account, a personal favor that further illustrates the close nature of their ties³. Musk's spontaneous and positive reaction to Ellison's past support highlights the genuine appreciation and camaraderie between them.

The video that prompted Musk's appreciative tweet provides even more compelling evidence of their friendship. In the transcript of this older video, likely dating back to around 2018 when Ellison was actively supporting Musk amidst criticism, Ellison passionately defends Musk's achievements, particularly his success in landing rockets. Ellison rhetorically asks Musk's detractors, "You know, he's landing rockets on robot drone rafts in the ocean. And you're saying he doesn't know what he's doing? You ever land a rocket?"⁴. More significantly, Ellison refers to Musk as "my friend Elon,"

emphasizing their personal connection while vehemently defending his capabilities ⁴. This strong and public defense, using the possessive "my friend," showcases Ellison's loyalty and personal investment in Musk's reputation and success. It suggests a bond where Ellison feels compelled to stand up for Musk, even when facing public scrutiny.

The consistent public acknowledgment of their close relationship, marked by mutual praise and instances of personal support, strongly indicates a genuine and enduring friendship between Elon Musk and Larry Ellison. This personal connection likely serves as a significant foundation for their various business collaborations and shared endeavors. The public nature of their friendship also likely enhances their individual brand images, associating each with the other's success and influence within the highly interconnected technology industry. Furthermore, Ellison's proactive and often passionate defense of Musk in public forums suggests a deeper level of personal investment in Musk's ventures, potentially even hinting at a mentor-like protectiveness.

IV. Business Ventures and Investments:

The friendship between Elon Musk and Larry Ellison has manifested in significant business collaborations, most notably through Ellison's substantial financial investments in Musk's ventures and his former role in the governance of Tesla.

A. Ellison's Substantial Investment in Tesla and Board Membership:

Larry Ellison's involvement with Tesla went beyond mere admiration for its innovative products. Reports indicate that he served on Tesla's board of directors from 2018 to 2022 and was a "major shareholder" in the company ¹. This direct participation in Tesla's governance signifies a strong level of strategic alignment and confidence in Musk's leadership and the company's vision. Ellison's significant financial stake further underscores his vested interest in Tesla's performance and long-term success. For Ellison, a highly accomplished technology entrepreneur himself, dedicating his time and capital to serving on Tesla's board suggests a profound belief in the company's potential to revolutionize the automotive industry and beyond.

Quantifying Ellison's financial commitment, reports state that he held a stake of over \$1 billion in Tesla, identifying it as his second-largest investment ⁵. This substantial allocation of capital demonstrates a significant level of financial backing for Tesla and Musk's vision. Ellison eventually stepped down from the board in June 2022 ⁵. The magnitude of his investment underscores his strong financial support, while his departure from the board marks a shift in his formal role, prompting further

examination into the potential reasons behind this change.

Further details reveal that Ellison acquired his \$1 billion stake in Tesla, consisting of 3 million shares, prior to his appointment to the board in 2018 ⁶. This early investment made him the largest independent shareholder at the time, second only to Elon Musk himself ⁶. Ellison's proactive investment in Tesla even before joining the board suggests a strong initial conviction in Musk's vision and the company's potential. His position as a leading independent shareholder indicated a considerable level of influence over the company's direction and strategic decisions.

At the time of his departure from the board in June 2022, Ellison held a significant 15,290,975 Tesla shares, representing a 1.5 percent ownership stake in the company ⁸. This data confirms that even after stepping down from his formal governance role, Ellison remained a substantial shareholder in Tesla, indicating his continued financial alignment with the company's success.

B. Ellison's Billion-Dollar Investment in Musk's Acquisition of Twitter (X):

Ellison's financial support for Musk's ventures extended beyond Tesla. When Musk embarked on the acquisition of Twitter, now known as X, Ellison once again provided significant financial backing. Reports indicate that Ellison pledged \$1 billion towards this acquisition ¹. This substantial financial contribution demonstrates Ellison's willingness to invest in Musk's broader ambitions, even those outside the realm of electric vehicles and space exploration. Ellison's investment of such a large sum in Musk's acquisition of Twitter suggests a belief in Musk's vision for the social media platform and a continued willingness to back his endeavors in diverse technological domains. This reinforces the strengthening ties between the two over the years through significant investments ⁹.

Contextualizing this significant investment, it is noted that Ellison contributed \$1 billion to the \$7.1 billion financing round that ultimately facilitated Musk's takeover of Twitter ⁵. While a substantial sum, this detail also reveals that Ellison was one of several key investors in the deal. The phrasing used in some reports, such as Ellison "threw in \$1 billion," emphasizes the scale and seemingly readily available nature of his contribution ¹⁰.

C. Potential Collaboration on TikTok Acquisition:

Interestingly, the potential for a future business collaboration between Musk and Ellison in a completely different domain was also suggested. In 2025, former U.S. President Donald Trump publicly stated that he would support either Elon Musk or

Larry Ellison (or both) potentially purchasing the popular social media platform TikTok⁹. This public endorsement from a former president highlights the recognition of both Musk's ambition and Ellison's connections and financial resources within the highest levels of government. The fact that both were named as potential buyers, either individually or in tandem, suggests the perceived strength of their individual business acumen and financial capabilities, and hints at the potential for them to collaborate on large-scale technology acquisitions in the future.

In summary, Larry Ellison has consistently acted as a significant financial supporter of Elon Musk's ambitious ventures, making substantial investments in both Tesla and the acquisition of Twitter. His former role on Tesla's board further underscores a deep and multifaceted business relationship with Musk, indicating a strong belief in Musk's overall vision and leadership across different industries. This pattern of investment and involvement suggests a potentially long-term and strategic alignment in their business interests.

V. Mentorship and Guidance:

Beyond their friendship and business collaborations, evidence suggests that Larry Ellison has played a significant role as a mentor to Elon Musk, offering guidance and sharing business philosophies that have likely influenced Musk's entrepreneurial journey. An article titled "How Larry Ellison Mentored Elon Musk & Steve Jobs: A \$400 Billion Blueprint for Success" explicitly establishes Ellison's mentorship role¹¹. The title itself underscores the profound impact of his guidance on the financial success of companies led by both Musk and the late Steve Jobs.

The article details six key lessons that Ellison reportedly imparted to both Musk and Jobs, forming the basis of this "blueprint for success": 1. Be Visionary but Practical, 2. Product First, Always, 3. Take Risks and Learn from Failure, 4. Challenge the Status Quo, 5. Hire the Best, Lead the Rest, and 6. Obsess Over Quality¹¹. Each of these principles offers valuable insights into Ellison's own successful business career and highlights the core values he believed were essential for building transformative companies like Oracle, Apple, and Tesla. The article further provides examples of how Musk and Jobs applied these principles in their respective ventures, illustrating the practical impact of Ellison's mentorship.

Reinforcing this mentorship dynamic, another article identifies Larry Ellison as a key mentor to both Steve Jobs and Elon Musk¹². Interestingly, this piece also notes that both Musk and Jobs, in turn, inspired Ellison in different ways, contributing to the continued growth and evolution of Oracle¹². This suggests a reciprocal learning

relationship, where while Ellison provided guidance, he also gained valuable perspectives and insights from his mentees, highlighting the dynamic and mutually beneficial nature of their connection.

Further direct evidence of their mentorship relationship comes from a December 2020 tweet by Elon Musk himself, where he stated, "Just meeting with Larry Ellison to seek some advice" ¹³. This public acknowledgment from Musk, even after achieving immense success with Tesla and SpaceX, underscores the continued value he places on Ellison's experience and wisdom. It suggests that their mentorship was not a fleeting phase but an ongoing relationship where Musk continued to seek Ellison's counsel.

Another source refers to Ellison as "The man who mentored both Elon Musk and Steve Jobs," again emphasizing the significant "\$400 billion" in value created by the companies they led, attributing this success in part to Ellison's "blueprint for success" ¹⁴. This reiteration of the substantial financial outcomes associated with Ellison's mentorship underscores the potential impact of effective guidance in the high-stakes world of technology entrepreneurship.

In conclusion, Larry Ellison appears to have played a significant and influential role as a mentor to Elon Musk, sharing key business and innovation principles that have likely contributed to Musk's remarkable success with Tesla and SpaceX. The evidence suggests that this mentorship was an ongoing relationship, with Musk continuing to seek Ellison's advice even after establishing himself as a leading figure in the technology industry.

VI. Public Statements and Mutual Respect:

The strong personal and professional connection between Elon Musk and Larry Ellison is further underscored by numerous instances where they have publicly expressed admiration and respect for each other's intelligence and accomplishments. As previously mentioned, in a March 2025 podcast, Elon Musk explicitly stated that Larry Ellison is "very smart" and "one of the smartest people" he knows ¹. This direct and unequivocal praise from Musk, a figure often associated with high intellectual standards, carries significant weight and highlights the deep respect he holds for Ellison's cognitive abilities.

Similarly, the resurfaced video of Larry Ellison defending Elon Musk against critics provides a powerful example of Ellison's high regard for Musk's innovative capabilities. Ellison's rhetorical questions and passionate defense of Musk's rocket landing

achievements clearly demonstrate his admiration for Musk's groundbreaking work³. His statement, "I just want to know who you are so I know, why I should believe you, as opposed to my friend Elon?"³, not only defends Musk's competence but also emphasizes their personal bond. Musk's enthusiastic response to this resurfaced support, tweeting "Larry Ellison is awesome," further solidifies the image of a mutually respectful relationship³.

Furthermore, Musk has publicly acknowledged Ellison, along with other tech titans like Jeff Bezos and Larry Page, as being among the smartest individuals he has encountered¹⁶. Musk based this assessment on their significant achievements within the technology industry. This inclusion of Ellison in an elite group of highly successful leaders in Musk's estimation further validates Ellison's standing as a prominent and intellectually formidable figure in the tech world. Musk's perspective, often guided by a pragmatic view of intelligence measured by tangible results, suggests that he sees Ellison's accomplishments with Oracle as a clear testament to his intellectual prowess.

These consistent public expressions of admiration and respect from both Elon Musk and Larry Ellison indicate a strong foundation of mutual regard that extends beyond their personal friendship and business dealings. These endorsements likely contribute to their respective reputations and influence within the technology community and among the broader public, reinforcing their image as visionary and successful leaders.

VII. Collaboration in Emerging Technologies:

The connection between Elon Musk and Larry Ellison has also extended into direct collaboration, particularly in the rapidly evolving field of artificial intelligence. This collaboration highlights the complementary strengths of their respective companies and their shared interest in shaping the future of technology.

A. Oracle's Provision of Crucial Infrastructure for Musk's AI Development (Grok):

As Elon Musk ventured into the development of his own AI model, Grok, through his startup xAI, he turned to his long-time friend and business associate, Larry Ellison, for crucial infrastructure support. Reports indicate that Ellison played a direct role in helping Musk secure valuable Nvidia GPUs¹. These high-performance graphics processing units are essential for the computationally intensive tasks of training and running advanced AI models. Ellison's ability to facilitate access to these sought-after resources underscores his willingness to actively support Musk's new endeavors in this highly competitive field.

Further details reveal that Oracle, under Ellison's leadership as CTO, directly provided

Nvidia GPUs to Elon Musk to facilitate the initial development and launch of the first version of Grok ¹⁷. Ellison also mentioned that Musk and his team had a significant demand for even more GPUs, which Oracle was actively working to provide ¹⁷. This direct business transaction and collaboration highlight Oracle's tangible contribution to Musk's AI ambitions. The high demand for GPUs underscores the scale and ambition of Musk's AI project and the critical role that Oracle played in its early stages.

The collaboration in securing AI infrastructure appears to be ongoing. Reports indicate that Elon Musk and Larry Ellison were seen together seeking additional GPUs from Nvidia Corp. CEO Jensen Huang during a dinner meeting ³. This high-level engagement with the leader of the dominant GPU manufacturer signifies the continued importance of this resource for both their AI initiatives and highlights their coordinated approach to navigating the competitive landscape for AI hardware.

B. Joint Venture in Agricultural AI Mapping:

Their collaboration extends beyond providing AI infrastructure. In March 2024, it was announced that Elon Musk's SpaceX and Larry Ellison's Oracle were joining forces to develop an AI-powered mapping application specifically designed for agriculture ². This innovative tool aims to assist governments in planning and predicting agricultural output. Larry Ellison himself confirmed this partnership during an Oracle earnings call ². This joint venture represents a significant collaboration between two of Musk's and Ellison's flagship companies, leveraging their respective strengths in space technology (SpaceX's satellite imagery capabilities) and cloud computing/data analytics (Oracle's expertise) to address a practical, real-world challenge in the agricultural sector. This demonstrates a shared interest in applying advanced technologies like AI and satellite data to solve problems beyond their core business domains.

These collaborations in artificial intelligence highlight the complementary nature of their technological strengths and their shared vision for the transformative potential of AI across various industries.

VIII. Navigating Disagreements:

While the relationship between Elon Musk and Larry Ellison is largely characterized by friendship, business collaboration, and mutual respect, reports indicate that they have also navigated instances of disagreement, particularly concerning the ethical and safety implications of artificial intelligence.

According to Walter Isaacson's biography of Elon Musk, as reported in late 2023, Ellison and Musk, who were previously friends, experienced a falling out over disagreements regarding AI safeguards¹⁷. This suggests a significant point of divergence in their perspectives on the responsible development and deployment of this powerful technology. The fact that this disagreement reportedly led to a temporary strain in their friendship underscores the importance of this issue for both individuals. However, the same report also noted Musk's desire to rekindle their friendship, indicating that the disagreement might not have been irreparable.

Further insight into their differing perspectives on AI can be gleaned from Larry Ellison's views on the role of AI in government, as reported in February 2025¹⁸. Ellison advocated for the unification of all national data, including sensitive information like genomic data, into a single database to be analyzed by AI algorithms. Ellison believes this comprehensive data aggregation is essential for governments to effectively utilize AI for services and security¹⁸. This strong techno-optimistic view, prioritizing the potential benefits of comprehensive data analysis, might contrast with Musk's reported concerns about the need for stringent safeguards to prevent unintended negative consequences of advanced AI. Ellison's vision of a unified national database raises significant privacy and security considerations that could align with the AI safeguards Musk was reportedly concerned about, suggesting a potential underlying tension in their perspectives on the responsible development and deployment of AI.

Additionally, a public dispute arose in early 2025 between Elon Musk and Sam Altman, CEO of OpenAI, regarding the funding and viability of the "Stargate" AI project, a massive infrastructure initiative involving Oracle and Larry Ellison¹⁹. Musk publicly questioned the financial backing of the project, while Altman defended its feasibility. While the direct disagreement was between Musk and Altman, it indirectly highlights a potential divergence in opinion regarding a significant AI project heavily supported by Ellison's Oracle. Musk's skepticism about the project's financial foundations could stem from broader strategic or philosophical differences regarding AI development and investment priorities compared to Ellison's.

Despite these reported disagreements, particularly concerning AI, the overall narrative suggests a relationship that has largely weathered these differences. The fact that Musk expressed a desire to reconcile with Ellison after their reported falling out over AI safeguards indicates the value he places on their connection¹⁷.

IX. Ellison's Departure from Tesla's Board:

A significant event in the business relationship between Elon Musk and Larry Ellison

was Ellison's departure from Tesla's board of directors in June 2022. While this marked the end of his formal governance role within the company, the circumstances suggest a planned transition rather than a result of conflict.

Reports indicate that Ellison served on Tesla's board for approximately four years, from 2018 to 2022¹. The official explanation for his departure, as stated in a Tesla filing, was that Ellison "determined collectively with the Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee and the Board that he will not stand for re-election to the Board when his current term ends at the 2022 Annual Meeting"⁸. The filing also noted the board's expectation to reduce its size to seven members⁸. This suggests that Ellison's exit was a mutual decision and part of a broader plan for board restructuring.

Several sources speculate on additional reasons for Ellison's departure. Given that Ellison was 77 years old at the time, it is plausible that he desired to reduce his commitments and enjoy his considerable wealth⁸. Furthermore, some suggest that his initial involvement on the board might have been a personal favor to Elon Musk, not intended as a long-term commitment⁸.

Crucially, Ellison's initial appointment to Tesla's board in December 2018 was part of a settlement with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) following Elon Musk's controversial "funding secured" tweet⁷. The SEC had demanded the appointment of two new independent directors to enhance oversight of Musk. Ellison's role, therefore, might have been partly to fulfill this regulatory requirement. Once the company had navigated the immediate aftermath of the SEC settlement, the need for his specific oversight might have lessened. The fact that Tesla did not immediately replace Ellison on the board further supports the idea that his departure was part of a strategic resizing and not necessarily due to dissatisfaction or conflict²².

Despite stepping down from the board, Ellison remained a significant shareholder in Tesla⁸, indicating his continued financial interest and belief in the company's success under Elon Musk's leadership. Therefore, Ellison's departure from Tesla's board appears to have been a planned and mutually agreed-upon decision, likely influenced by a combination of his age, the potential fulfillment of regulatory requirements, and a strategic restructuring of the board, rather than a sign of significant discord between him and Musk.

X. Shared Business Philosophies and Leadership Styles:

The strong and enduring connection between Elon Musk and Larry Ellison is likely reinforced by a shared set of fundamental business philosophies and leadership

styles. Analysis of their careers and public statements reveals several common themes.

Both Musk and Ellison embody a philosophy of being "Visionary but Practical," as highlighted in reports of Ellison's mentorship ¹¹. They are known for setting incredibly ambitious goals but also possess a strong focus on the practical steps and execution required to achieve those visions. This ability to balance grand aspirations with a pragmatic approach to implementation is a hallmark of their leadership.

They also share a belief in the principle of "Product First, Always" ¹¹. Both leaders have built highly successful companies by prioritizing the development of innovative and high-quality products that resonate with customers and often disrupt existing markets. Tesla's minimal spending on traditional advertising, relying instead on product excellence and word-of-mouth, exemplifies this philosophy, which aligns with Oracle's focus on delivering cutting-edge software solutions.

A willingness to "Take Risks and Learn from Failure" is another shared characteristic ¹¹. Musk's ventures, particularly SpaceX with its initial challenges, vividly illustrate this principle. Ellison also instilled this mindset in both Musk and Jobs, recognizing that innovation often involves setbacks and that learning from these experiences is crucial for long-term success.

Both leaders are known for their tendency to "Challenge the Status Quo" ¹¹. Ellison's disruptive approach to the database market with Oracle and Musk's efforts to revolutionize multiple industries demonstrate a shared drive to question conventional wisdom and push the boundaries of what is considered possible.

The philosophy of "Hire the Best, Lead the Rest" also appears to be a common thread ¹¹. Both Musk and Ellison understand the importance of surrounding themselves with highly talented and capable individuals to execute their ambitious visions. They prioritize attracting top-tier talent who can contribute significantly to their organizations' goals.

Furthermore, both leaders demonstrate an "Obsession Over Quality," where a relentless pursuit of perfection is paramount ¹¹. This commitment to high standards and meticulous attention to detail is evident in the products and services offered by both Oracle and Musk's companies.

Larry Ellison's specific recruitment philosophy, which emphasizes seeking out individuals with exceptional intelligence and supreme self-confidence, likely resonates with Musk's own approach to hiring ²³. Both leaders appear to prioritize intellectual

horsepower and a strong drive in their teams.

Finally, Musk's philosophy of judging intelligence based on tangible accomplishments, "smart is as smart does" ¹⁶, likely aligns with Ellison's own success-driven mindset. Both value practical outcomes and measure success by real-world achievements and market impact.

These shared business philosophies and leadership styles likely contribute significantly to the strength and longevity of their personal and professional relationship. Their similar approaches to innovation, risk-taking, and talent acquisition provide a common ground for understanding and collaboration.

XI. Conclusion:

The connection between Elon Musk and Larry Ellison is a compelling narrative of friendship, business partnership, mentorship, and shared vision within the dynamic world of technology. Their relationship is characterized by a genuine personal bond, evidenced by public displays of affection, mutual praise, and instances of personal support. This friendship has translated into significant business collaborations, with Ellison providing crucial financial backing for Musk's ambitious ventures, including substantial investments in Tesla and the acquisition of Twitter. Ellison's former role on Tesla's board further solidified their business ties.

Beyond financial support, Ellison appears to have played a pivotal role as a mentor to Musk, imparting key business principles that have likely influenced Musk's entrepreneurial success. Their mutual respect is evident in their public statements, where they consistently acknowledge each other's intelligence and accomplishments. Their collaboration extends to emerging technologies, particularly in artificial intelligence, where Oracle has provided vital infrastructure for Musk's AI endeavors, and their companies have partnered on innovative projects.

While their relationship has generally been one of alignment and support, instances of disagreement, particularly concerning the ethical implications of AI, have been reported, highlighting the complexities of navigating cutting-edge technologies. Ellison's departure from Tesla's board in 2022 appears to have been a planned transition, influenced by a combination of personal factors, the fulfillment of regulatory requirements, and strategic board restructuring.

Ultimately, the enduring nature of their connection is likely rooted in a shared set of fundamental business philosophies and leadership styles that prioritize innovation, risk-taking, and a relentless pursuit of excellence. Their combined influence within the

technology landscape is undeniable, and their continued interactions hold the potential to shape the future of the industry. Despite occasional differences in perspective, the foundational elements of their friendship, shared values, and mutual respect suggest that their connection will likely endure, potentially leading to further collaborations and continued impact on the world of technology and beyond.

Date/Year	Event/Interaction	Description/Details (with snippet ID)
2018	Ellison invests in Tesla	Bought 3 million shares prior to joining the board ⁷ .
Dec 2018	Ellison joins Tesla's board	Named to provide independent oversight after Musk's tweet ¹ .
2018 - 2022	Ellison serves on Tesla's board	Served as a Class III director ¹ .
Dec 2020	Musk seeks advice from Ellison	Musk tweeted about meeting Ellison for advice ¹³ .
June 2022	Ellison leaves Tesla's board	Determined not to stand for re-election; board size reduced ⁵ .
Oct 2022	Ellison invests in Twitter acquisition	Pledged \$1 billion towards Musk's takeover ¹ .
Dec 2023	Oracle provides GPUs to xAI	Ellison revealed Oracle provided Nvidia GPUs for Grok's initial development ¹⁷ .
Mar 2024	SpaceX and Oracle partner on agricultural AI	Collaboration to develop an AI-powered mapping tool ² .
Oct 2024	Musk praises Ellison	Responded to an old video of Ellison defending him, saying "Larry Ellison is awesome" ³ .

Mar 2025	Musk praises Ellison's intelligence	Called Ellison "very smart" and "one of the smartest people" he knows ¹ .
Jan 2025	Potential TikTok Acquisition	Trump suggested either Musk or Ellison could buy TikTok ⁹ .
Early 2025	Musk and Altman disagree over Stargate	Musk questioned the funding of the AI project involving Oracle ¹⁹ .

Lesson/Principle	Description (with snippet ID)	Examples/Manifestations in Musk's Companies
Be Visionary but Practical	Big dreams must be rooted in actionable steps ¹¹ .	Musk's vision for colonizing Mars (SpaceX) is broken down into reusable rockets and infrastructure development. Tesla's ambitious electric vehicle goals are pursued through phased product development and manufacturing scaling.
Product First, Always	Great companies create products that sell themselves ¹¹ .	Tesla's focus on engineering and design has led to high customer satisfaction and minimal traditional advertising. SpaceX's advancements in rocket technology have garnered significant contracts.
Take Risks and Learn from Failure	Embrace failure as part of the journey, staying committed to the vision despite setbacks ¹¹ .	SpaceX's initial failed rocket launches before achieving success. Tesla's challenges in scaling production and overcoming technical hurdles.
Challenge the Status Quo	Question norms and never accept limitations; push	Tesla's disruption of the traditional automotive

	boundaries and disrupt industries ¹¹ .	industry. SpaceX's efforts to lower the cost of space travel. Musk's acquisition and transformation of Twitter (X).
Hire the Best, Lead the Rest	Surround yourself with top talent who can execute bold ideas and elevate the vision ¹¹ .	Musk's reputation for hiring highly skilled engineers and scientists at his various companies.
Obsess Over Quality	Relentless pursuit of perfection; "good enough" is never enough ¹¹ .	Tesla's focus on continuous improvement in vehicle performance and technology. SpaceX's rigorous testing and quality control for its rockets and spacecraft.

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