



Jackson Elementary  
Davenport, Iowa

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# Mr. Goins' Jackson Elementary SAM Newsletter

## Instructional Time Tracking

Since our SAM team was formed at the beginning of this year with all the collaboration between Teresa and I, the percentage of time spent on instruction has increased from 45.67% in the 2012-2013 school year to 50.17% for the current school year 2013-2014. This is a growth of 4.5%.

This increase is as a result of tight scheduling and a result of our daily SAM meetings to pre calendar the days out to reach our established goals for our team. The amount of unscheduled time has gone from 13.61% in 2012-2013 school year to 3.76% this year 2013-2014. That is a decrease of 9.85%.

We also shown great growth in the area of classroom walkthroughs. We went from 15.33 hours for the total for 2012-2013 school year to 35.87 hours for the current school year 2013-2014. This is a growth of 20.54 hours.

In the area of Directive Feedback we went from 15.87 hours in the 2012-2013 school year to 36 hours in the current school year 2013-2014. That is a growth of 20.13 hours. This is due to focusing on the goal of increasing direct meaningful feedback with all teachers to help improve and drive instruction.

## SAM Reflections Corner

### Students:

"SAM helps Mrs. Bechen".

"Is like a counselor".

"Second person in charge if Mrs. Bechen is gone".

"I see Mr. Goins everywhere in all of the classrooms".

"Mr. Goins deals with a lot of kids".

"Substitute for Mrs. Bechen."

"Substitute/Counselor/Teacher/Principal".

"Mr. Goins' does a lot of jobs".

"Helper to everyone, students, teachers, parents, cafeteria".

"We feel safe because he is in the Army".

### Staff:

"Our SAM is such a fundamental part of helping our building run. The SAM is available at a moments notice to help a teacher with a student whose behavior is disrupting the learning and teaching that goes on in the classroom. He helps by stepping in and redirecting the student or removing the student until that student is able to return to the classroom and show appropriate behavior. Our SAM is available to our students who want to report mean behavior or just need a listening ear. Our SAM assists with extra-curricular activities, like our talent show, and our ROAR assemblies. Our SAM helps out in the office answering the phone and questions, so that our secretary can eat her lunch. Our SAM helps out the principal with administrative duties; so that she can be more available to help our teachers improve teaching and learning. Our SAM seems to be constantly on the move, helping wherever help is needed. We are lucky to have our SAM, Mr. Goins; he helps make Jackson a great place to learn."



# Building a culture of School Excellence

## 2013-2014 Highlights

### **Veteran's Day**

Coordinated a Veteran's Day assembly to honor our Military Service personnel both past and present.

Collaborated with Davenport Central ROTC and Patriot Guard Riders. Also, I helped to reunite a 4<sup>th</sup> grader with her father who was back home from another deployment tour surprising her by being disguised as Spiderman.

### **Roar Assemblies**

Coordinated monthly ROAR assemblies to celebrate students who are demonstrating the specific skill worked on each month within the ROAR acronym. Also to celebrate staff and boost staff culture and morale.

### **Talent Show**

Took the initiative to continue the Talent Show tradition at Jackson for the students to share their talents.

Coordinated parent permission, practices, rehearsals, as well as the actual show itself by writing the script, organizing the acts, running the stage lights, and sound.

### **Fluency Checks**

Conducted Tier 4 interventions for struggling STAR students with fluency checks each week. Charted and graphed progress as we went and celebrated their growth.

### **Data Teams**

Fluid part of refocusing the data teams and having the teachers have more accountability for their data and student progress.

### **Instructional Strategies**

Took the initiative to create and or locate resources for teachers to help teach specific building level/state standard activities.

### **Technology**

Handle smart board issues. Took initiative to update school website with dates and events after our media specialist resigned.

### **SAM's Principal's Thoughts:**

"What gets measured, gets done," has been an axiom attributed to Peter Drucker and clearly at the heart of the work of our S.A.M., Gary Goins. His work this year involved keeping my focus on direct feedback, teacher modeling and running an effective Building Student Achievement Team (BSAT). Our daily meetings provided time to reflect on current student or teacher concerns, plan for professional development or update my data to ensure I was meeting my goals. Gary has been flexible throughout the year experiencing various roles, whether substitute teaching, behavior interventionist, leading our Site Council or coordinating a ROAR assembly. He has built relationships with families, students and teachers understanding that our visibility is critical to building a culture of caring and accountability for implementing the non-negotiables with fidelity. Working as a team has proven to have a positive impact here at Jackson with only one drawback. Gary has realized a lunch break is a rare occurrence in the life of a S.A.M.

**"The process continues with building school culture/climate while using data driven decision making to help staff professionally develop and build a community of learning" .....**  
**Gary Goins**