

Pre-Conference Sessions, Thursday



Mark Shellinger, pre-conference session speaker, **TCC: Questioning**, is the Director of NSIP. **Session Description:** This session is designed for Time Change Coaches to work on reflective practice questions, use of TimeTrack charts and graphs and the use of the performance rubric.



Eric Kramer and Jim Mercer, pre-conference speakers, **TCC: Tech**, are the Lead Software Engineer and Technical Coordinator at NSIP. **Session Description:** This session is designed to teach Time Change Coaches how to use the most recent features added to TimeTrack. Subjects will include NoteTrack, Mobile View and Applications, and Calendar Feed. Time will be set aside for questions and answers.



Will Bowen, pre-conference speaker, **The Mindful SAM Team**, is the best selling author of *"A Complaint Free World"*. **Session Description:** 90% of success is showing up. The problem is that although we physically show up 100% every day mentally and emotionally many of us are depleted and unable to function at our best. You are an educator because you are passionate about people. **You are a SAM team member because you want to build capacity in others.** What if you brought more of your best to your job? What if you were more focused, calm, peaceful, playful and content? Wouldn't this new version of you have an easier time at work and in life? Wouldn't you be able to expand your positive impact on others?



Paul Bernabei, pre-conference speaker, **Top 20 SAMs**, is the co-founder of Top 20 Training. **Session Description:** This workshop is designed specifically for SAMs, principals and principal supervisors who want to increase engagement with students and staff. The session will use the book, *Why Students Disengage in American Schools and What We Can Do about It* and will focus of strategies developed by Top 20 Training.



Diane Collier and Rick Delagardelle, pre-conference session speakers, **SAMs Academy**, are NSIP Implementation Specialists. **Session Description:** This highly interactive workshop is designed specifically for SAMs and will focus on reflective questioning, use of TimeTrack, use of the graph portal/dashboard in SAM Daily meetings, effective First Responder systems and the SAM Communications Protocol.



Mike Rutherford, pre-conference session speaker, **Effective Feedback**, is the author of *The Artisan Teacher: A Field Guide to Skillful Teaching*. **Session Description:** Mike Rutherford has been involved with SAM process for more than a decade. He will teach, model and have you practice effective feedback techniques that are proven to work. Everybody loves Mike!

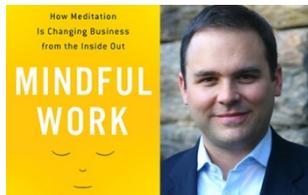


Ted DesMaisons, pre-conference speaker, **Mindfulness and Improvization**, is the U.S. Coordinator of the United Kingdom’s Mindfulness in the Schools program. **Session Description:** In this all-day session attendees will try mindfulness and improvisation activities that can positively impact their work with adults and children in their schools and districts.

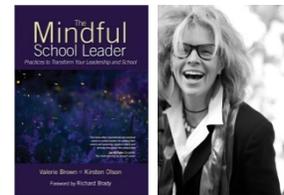


Kim Marshall, pre-conference speaker, **Improving Teacher Practice**, wrote the book on teacher evaluation and supervision. **Session Description:** Kim Marshall, the national expert on teacher supervision and evaluation, will center his work in this session on how SAM teams can best help teachers grow and improve their practice.

Keynote Presenters, Friday Morning



**First General Session:
Mindfulness**



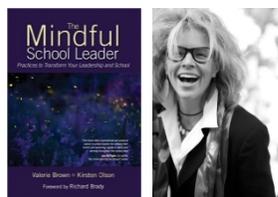
David Gelles, *New York Times* reporter and author of *Mindful Work: How Meditation is Changing Business from the Inside Out*, will share his findings on how mindfulness practices can create a happier and more productive workplace. David will connect his findings with the work of SAM teams and provide insights and stories of how meditation is transforming the business world in a positive way.

Kirsten Olson, leadership coach, activist, organizational consultant and co-author of *The Mindful School Leader*, will share her experiences on how mindfulness can transform school leaders and their schools. Kirsten visited a Boston SAM Team recently and saw their SAM Daily Meeting. She will show how mindfulness can connect with the work of SAM teams.

Breakout Session Speakers, Friday Morning



Keynote Follow-Up – David Gelles, *New York Times* reporter and author of *Mindful Work: How Meditation is Changing Business from the Inside Out*, will conduct an interactive follow-up session on his keynote presentation. He is looking forward to questions and group conversation about this subject.



Keynote Follow-Up – Kirsten Olson, leadership coach, activist, organizational consultant and co-author of *The Mindful School Leader*, will conduct an interactive follow-up session on his keynote presentation. She is looking forward to questions and group conversation about this subject.



Kim Marshall, breakout session speaker, **Double Role Play**, wrote the book on teacher evaluation and supervision. **Session Description:** Participants will see short video clips of a teacher and then role-play feedback with a series of interesting twists and discussion points aimed at improving effectiveness. This session rotates between short video clips, paired role-play, group discussion and guided instruction from Kim. Attendees will learn about the importance of narrowing feedback, directive, facilitative and celebratory, so the teacher can benefit.



Will Bowen, breakout session speaker, **The Mindful SAM Team**, is the best selling author of *"A Complaint Free World"*. **Session Description:** 90% of success is showing up. The problem is that although we physically show up 100% every day mentally and emotionally many of us are depleted and unable to function at our best. You are an educator because you are passionate about people. **You are a SAM team member because you want to build capacity in others.** What if you brought more of your best to your job? What if you were more focused, calm, peaceful, playful and content? Wouldn't this new version of you have an easier time at work and in life? Wouldn't you be able to expand your positive impact on others?



Jevon Lewis, breakout session speaker, **Using the SAM Process to Overcome External Factors in Poverty Stricken Schools**, is the Principal of Children First Academy in Arizona. **Session Description:** In a school of 100% McKinney-Vento, homeless and Free and Reduced Lunch students, success is achievable. Participants will analyze how to use the SAM Process to allow the principal and staff to become laser focused on quality instruction despite external factors that can so easily hinder student achievement.



Paul Bernabei, and **Fernando Branch**, breakout session speakers, **SAM Secretaries Live Above the Line**. Paul is the Co-Founder of Top 20 Training, and Fernando is the principal of West Generation Academy in Colorado. **Session Description:** The quality of our thinking often determines our effectiveness. This special session for SAMs secretaries will focus on when our thinking is working in our best interest and when it is not. It will provide the SAMs with a common language for supporting their principals in being more aware of their thinking, the indicators that their thinking is not effective, and how to reestablish more effective thinking.



Mojdeh Henderson, breakout session speaker, **Systematic Coaching Framework**, is the principal of Berewick Elementary School in North Carolina. **Session Description:** Principal Mojdeh Henderson will show how to develop a coaching framework that aligns members of the school's administration with teachers. Through this framework, coaching, data analysis, RTI work and relationships are supported and enhanced. Staff receives informal coaching, differentiated support, data analysis, and student instructional support while building a connected relationship with their coach. The framework uses the SAM feedback descriptors and provides a tangible structure to support the SAM principal's instructional work.



Sal Sedita, Joe Gentile, and Dave Caban, breakout session speakers, **First Responders Make It Happen**, are NSIP Time Change Coaches. **Session Description:** Generating a list of problems, school leaders can address factors to consider how to choose and identify FirstResponders. How to train, monitor, support and celebrate FirstResponders.



Anne Marie Keskonis, breakout session speaker, **Building Student Engagement: One Conversation at a Time**, is the principal at Harmony Elementary in Georgia. **Session Description:** Building relationships to target student engagement through goal focused conversations creates opportunities for school leaders to explicitly work with students. Participants will explore the practices and protocols that can lead to improved teaching and learning.



Debra Fitzpatrick, breakout session speaker, **The Simple Psychology of Developing All Leaders**, is the principal at Ballast Point Elementary in Georgia. **Session Description:** To maximize the effectiveness of schools, we will gain insight on the tips, tricks and tools of the trade of developing leaders and optimal school culture by understanding the belief system and mindset of staff members. Participants will learn about the simple psychology behind building leaders and the importance of approaching the areas of need while setting goals to maximize instructional time.

Keynote Presenter, Friday Afternoon



Second General Session: Influencer



Joseph Grenny is a four-time New York Times bestselling author, keynote speaker, leading social scientist for business performance and co-founder of Vital Smarts, a business consulting firm. Joseph will explain how each member of a SAM Team can be a more effective “influencer: leaders who understand how to create rapid, profound and sustainable behavior change.” For thirty years, Joseph has delivered engaging keynotes at major conferences including the HSM World Business Forum at Radio City Music Hall. Joseph's work has been translated into 28 languages, is available in 36 countries, and has generated results for 300 of the Fortune 500.

Breakout Session Speakers, Friday Afternoon



Mike Rutherford, breakout session speaker, **Effective Feedback**, is the author of *“The Artisan Teacher: A Field Guide to Skillful Teaching”*. **Session Description:** Investing in your peak performers is the best part of being a leader.



Will Bowen, breakout session speaker, **The Mindful SAM Team**, is the best selling author of *“A Complaint Free World”*. **Session Description:** 90% of success is showing up. The problem is that although we physically show up 100% every day mentally and emotionally many of us are depleted and unable to function at our best. You are an educator because you are passionate about people. **You are a SAM team member because you want to build capacity in others.** What if you brought more of your best to your job? What if you were more focused, calm, peaceful, playful and content? Wouldn't this new version of you have an easier time at work and in life? Wouldn't you be able to expand your positive impact on others?



Mitch Kuhnert, breakout session speaker, **Developing a 3 Principle SAM Partnership**, is the principal at Valley Southwoods in Iowa. **Session Description:** Do you suffer from anxiety? Do you worry about others more than yourself? Do you think others are the cause of how you feel? If you answered yes to any of these questions then it time for you explore 3 Principles- Mind, Thought, and Consciousness or in simpler terms, where your “real” mental health comes from. Mitchell Kuhnert is a new SAM principal in the West Des Moines Community Schools and he has been teaching the 3 Principles to students, teachers, and parents since 2010. This session will provide a basic introduction to this concept and how it can instantly improve your own resiliency and ultimately your SAM relationship. This session will help you live a much stronger and happier life and it can change your perspective almost immediately.



Kelly McMillan, breakout session speaker, **Bringing Your ‘A’ Game to SAM**, is the principal at Apollo Beach Elementary in Florida. **Session Description:** Participants will walk away with a game plan to stay in the green and transition with ease. If you find yourself facing a transition, whether it be a new school, a new SAM, or a new staff, this is the session for you. All presenters have transitioned in some way within the last six months. We will share tips and a game plan for how to be successful with the SAM process and stay in the green even during the stress of transitioning.



Mary Jo McKinley, breakout session speaker, **SAMs Top 10** is the principal at Academy Charter High School in New Jersey. **Session Description:** In the form of David Letterman's Top 10, I will review ten of the advantages of being in the SAM Innovation Project. After more than two years of working with a SAM there are several benefits - some anticipated others not anticipated that will be shared. Sharing our school's experiences should trigger other school leaders and SAMs to strive for similar results.



Kendra Washington-Bass, breakout session speaker, **How to Host a SAM Ed Camp**, is the Georgia State SAM Coordinator. **Session Description:** Learn how to host an Ed Camp. Network with colleagues around a related topic, and engage in professional conversations about leadership and school improvement.



Starlett Frenchie, breakout session speaker, **Making SAMs**, is the principal at Hamilton Elementary Community in Missouri. **Session Description:** How to operate effectively as a SAMs principal when there is not enough funding for a SAM, how SAMs administrators can be effective in improving their instructional leadership practices in the absence of the SAM and how to leverage all stakeholders in the work are the areas that we will explore.



Crystal Cooper-Thompson, breakout session speaker, **Building a Positive Culture as a "Go Green" Instructional Leader**, is the principal at Sycamore Elementary in Georgia. **Session Description:** Instructional leadership alone will not build a positive school culture. School leaders will learn how to build a positive cultural leadership view while being a strong "go green" instructional leader. From every staff encounter, culture can be impacted positively or negatively. Participants will learn how to intentionally build a positive culture. The presenters will offer several strategies while providing a hands-on approach to take away for their own leadership practice.



Erica Zigelman, breakout session speaker, **NoteTrack: A Principal's Running Record of Instructional Leadership**, is the principal at MS 322 in New York. **Session Description:** This workshop will inform principals on effective use and strategies to improve teaching and learning through the use of NoteTrack. Attendees will see first-hand evidence of how this tool is an important artifact for a principal's evaluation.

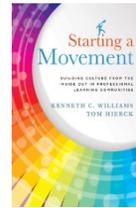


Shane Lis, breakout session speaker, **From SAM to Principal: An Organic Leadership Pipeline**, is the principal at Selwyn Elementary in North Carolina. **Session Description:** Engaging in the SAM process as an aspiring school leader gives you a "behind the scenes" view of the real life of a principal. As a SAM, I learned the "ins and outs" of school leadership with on the job, real world experiences. I will share my experiences as a SAM and how I increased my marketability as I made the transition into school leadership. My current SAM, an aspiring school leader, will share the valuable leadership lessons she has learned as she assists me in reaching my goals. Participants will be engaged in discovering the leadership pipeline that naturally develops SAMs into successful school leaders. SAMs attending will learn how to showcase their valuable experience into a school leadership position.

Keynote Presenter, Saturday Morning

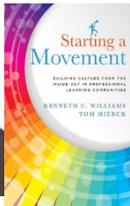


**Third General Session:
Starting a Movement**



Ken Williams transformed schools in Maryland and Georgia into effective professional learning communities leading to student success. He began speaking, training and consulting in 2008 and has worked with a wide variety of schools throughout the US. Ken “Starts a Movement” every time he works with educators. Ken keynoted the Georgia SAM Summer Conference, July 2015, and received a standing ovation. One attendee commented that Ken “...teaches important leadership lessons with humor, hammer, hope and celebration.”

Breakout Session Speakers, Saturday Morning



Ken Williams transformed schools in Maryland and Georgia into effective professional learning communities leading to student success. Ken will conduct an interactive follow-up session on his keynote presentation. He is looking forward to questions and group conversation about this subject.



Mike Rutherford, breakout session speaker, **The Artisan Teacher: 23 Themes of "Teachcraft" employed by the most successful teachers**, is the author of *“The Artisan Teacher: A Field Guide to Skillful Teaching”*. **Session Description:** This session is designed to build the observer's ability to spot episodes of great teaching, call the craft skills by name, and build teachers' confidence and intentionality.



Shelia Minns, breakout session speaker, **Customer Friendly SAM: Making the Pieces Fit**, is the SAM for a principal supervisor in Fort Wayne Community Schools. **Session Description:** In this day and age Customer Service is no longer just having a smile on your face. It now involves being organized, staying on task, helping others stay on task, and building relationships. This session will talk about being organized, staying on task as a SAM and building the relationships with your principal, peers, parents and students so that you can be a top notch SAM.



Cindy Talbert, breakout session speaker, **SAM, a Game Changer**, is the principal at Snipes Academy in North Carolina. **Session Description:** Participants will increase their understanding of how the SAM process has been a "Game Changer" in supporting the transformation of a challenging high needs school to a school with a positive culture focused on student academic achievement. The presenters will share their journey of how they have implemented the SAM process with fidelity.



Paul Willis, breakout session speaker, **Stronger Together: Making Meaning out of Merged TimeTrack Data**, is the principal at Fort Daniel Elementary in Georgia.

Session Description: In this session, SAM teams will become experts in analyzing merged data to make meaningful instructional decisions to increase their instructional impact. After reviewing live data, participants will draft focus questions to extract additional information and develop a plan to support their own SAM team. Participants will leave this session with a set of probing questions they can use to make meaning out of their Time Track data.



Beverly Gore, breakout session speaker, **SAM I AM**, is the SAM at Melwood Elementary in Maryland. **Session Description:** The attendees will learn how to implement the SAM process with fidelity.

Participants will also learn how to execute best practices by utilizing and creating FirstResponders. Lastly, the participants will observe and participate in a daily SAM meeting.



Amy Allen, breakout session speaker, **SAM: A Story of School Turnaround**, is the principal at Parker Varney Elementary in New Hampshire. **Session Description:** This is the story of one school - Parker-Varney. In 2014, Parker-Varney was designated as a Priority School by the State of

New Hampshire. In 2015, it was awarded the #1 Elementary School in New Hampshire, by winning the state's Excellence Award. Participants will learn how instructional leadership changed the school culture.



Tiffany Hardy, breakout session speaker, **Inspiring Teachers to Be Learners**, is the principal at Hampton High School in Virginia. **Session Description:** How can school leaders use professional learning to ensure significant, sustainable gains in teaching and learning? Personalized professional learning plans reflect an intentional commitment to personalized and relevant professional learning.

Participants will explore methods to model, facilitate, monitor, and coach self-reflection, buy-in, planning, participation, and investment in professional growth experiences aligned to individual goals.



Mojdeh Henderson, breakout session speaker, **Systematic Coaching Framework**, is the principal of Berewick Elementary School in North Carolina. **Session Description:** Principal Mojdeh Henderson will show how to develop a coaching framework that aligns members of the school's administration with teachers. Through this framework, coaching, data analysis, RTI work and relationships are supported and enhanced. Staff

receives informal coaching, differentiated support, data analysis, and student instructional support while building a connected relationship with their coach. The framework uses the SAM feedback descriptors and provides a tangible structure to support the SAM principal's instructional work.



Todd Langley, breakout session speaker, **Removing Road Blocks with Effective Use of Time**, is the principal of Alcova Elementary in Georgia. **Session Description:** I can better recognize where my time is needed and how to best implement the instructional time I have available. I can create opportunities for my teachers to facilitate and model culture building activities. I can model a focus on what is "important" attitude and facilitate behaviors that reduce stress and focus on the work.

Keynote Presenters, Saturday Afternoon



Fourth General Session: Rhythm of Success



Dan Thurmon, author of *Off Balance on Purpose*, electrified the attendees at last year's SAM National Conference in Fort Lauderdale. He closed last year's national conference with a keynote that was entertaining, packed with relevant content and inspirational. He is back this year with **Philip Solomon**, trainer for Cirque Du Soleil's Global Citizenship/Social Action effort and CEO of Way 2 Much Entertainment. Together they promise to amaze, inspire and electrify. *The Rhythm of Success* is a highly entertaining keynote presentation that will teach you how to build and strengthen your most vital relationships. Motivational performers, Dan Thurmon and Philip Solomon, employ an exciting mix of spoken content, percussion, thrilling stunts, and audience participation to teach and demonstrate three keys to powerful relationships: **Communication, Collaboration, and Trust.**