Hello. My name is Maryann Hayslip and I'm the principal at St. Aloysius Catholic School in Peewee Valley, Kentucky. As a leader, I believe that there are three basic components to being a great principal. You have to be positive; you have to be patient; and, you have to stay persistent. As a principal, I say these words every day and I try to model them to my school community as often as I can. You have to stay positive and find that positive spin no matter what the day may bring. You need to be patient, not only with students and faculty members, but you have to be patient with yourself as well, being a principal is a tough job so please be patient with yourself. And persistence, there will be days when you wonder why you ever entered into the field of education. Don't give up, be persistent.

Someone is waiting to see your smile. Someone is waiting for you to have confidence in them when they don't have it in themselves. And someone is waiting for you to bring out the best that they can be. Please don't give up, be persistent. As a principal, you will touch hundreds of lives every day, whether you know it or not. And over the course of your career you will touch hundreds of thousands of lives. And if you're able to stay positive, patient and persistent, great things will happen, like winning the Terrel H. Bell Award. I thank you for this award and I wish everyone the best of luck and continued success in all of their future endeavors. Thank you.