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"Today I am going to tell you a story about aspiration and this story is for anybody who's considering career advancement or thinking about the next promotion for what you want to be when you grow up. Years ago I joined an IB school. I was fortunate to join the edit in its startup phase. I had no experience. It was only my third year of teaching, but it was my first year working with IB and it was my first year teaching mat division, in primary school.

This ended up being an incredibly challenging year and I found myself in November just in desperate need of some inspiration. So I approached our digital director, and asked him, where are these iPads everybody keeps talking about and how can I check them out? And it turns out he had been waiting for somebody to come and show that initiative. We worked together for several months to about the pedagogy around using digital tools and learning. After that time he asked me to be the digital learning leader for grade one. I was shocked and something broke free in me when that happened. I began this journey and, and it was my first introduction to potential, this whole concept of finding your own potential. Fast forward a few more months and in March he sat me down for a conversation. We'd come quite close during this time he became a mentor of mine.

Um, so he sat me down and he pointed out to me that our ELC coordinator had decided to move on. He asked me what I thought about that. I said, I hope to find somebody good. I'm in grade one, so we're going to have a lot of work together. And he said, well, have you thought about applying for it? And I said, okay, I'm not capable of that. The first words that came out of my mouth before I didn't even think was, I'm not capable that I'm not qualified. I don't have any experience. And he paused for a minute and he looked at me and he said, I think you can do it and I think you'd be great at it. And this instant paradigm shift happened in my mind off was down and down was up.

And this whole world that I'd never even considered for myself, I was starting to get a glimpse into [inaudible] after weeks of deliberation and interviews, um, I accepted the position that they offered me and I started my leadership journey. Therefore my, Pearl today is when you're considering your career trajectory, draw strength and inspiration from your mentors



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and allow people to believe in you. But most importantly, your reaching should exceed your grasp. You'll be put into positions that are really challenging, but you'll see incredible growth and you'll find out that you're actually capable of more than you think."