**Ms. Ellsworth “I Am What I Am” Poem**

**I am what I am.** I am grateful. I am a woman who is a daughter, sister and friend. I am trusting, trustworthy, caring, and considerate. I am my mother’s first born and only daughter. Of all the grandchildren in my family, I am the oldest. I am generations of habits and stories. I am what I am.

I am a daughter. I am lucky to have known unconditional love from my mother. I am following in her footsteps. I am a sister to my taller, wiser, younger brother. I am a granddaughter to two of the most loving grandparents that I know. I am so lucky. I am what I am.

I am a teacher. I am lucky to have had the opportunities to teach more than just English, but to teach how to live life and love life. I am encouraged by my former students to keep honing my craft. I am a mentor to hundreds of kids every year. I am advice about chances not taken and experiences of a lifetime. I am fortunate to love influencing younger individuals and helping them to achieve their potential. I am what I am.

I am a team player. I am a coach and a teammate. Field hockey was my life; now it’s a lovely addition. I am sweat on the playing field. I am ball-shaped bruises. I am encouragement from the sidelines. I am what I am.

I am a boy band fanatic. I am hours spent listening to music and memorizing dance moves. I am a Backstreet Fangirl. I am tears on stage and embarrassing comments made at meet and greets. I am red faced and smiling. I am a collector of Backstreet Boys paraphernalia. Don’t judge me because I am what I am.

I am a learner. I am achieving a Master’s but nothing is ever mastered. I am a messy stack of papers, paper cuts and red ink. I am a flustered mess when I lose my pencil. I take criticism to heart too often and sometimes I am not able to prevent my heart from bleeding on the pages. I am ten rough drafts. I am what I am.

I am Ms. E to my students and “Ellie” to my teammates but I will always be me, Ashley.