When you get the opportunity, watch the video “The Last Lecture” by Dr. Randy Pausch on Oprah. You can find it at: 
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ncoSRKoU6GQ

He makes so many great points, but the two I think need repeated again and again – and goes along with the JUST BE JERSEY way – are the importance of gratitude and attitude. As far as attitude, he asks – Are you a TIGGER or an EYEORE? He explains both. Being a TIGGER is definitely the way to go! Waking up with a positive disposition will take you far!

The other point has to do with gratitude. Someone recently asked me about taking time out to write all those JUST BE JERSEY stories. I explained -Randy Pausch would say: “Why wouldn’t you? It’s THAT important.” I agree! So...here it goes with some more stories that should certainly bring a smile to your face.

Just Being Jersey comes two-fold! I attended the Breast Awareness Soccer game last night and sat by these kids. Wow! They impressed me: Mr. Wade, Miss Isringhausen, and Mr. Trask! We talked about the future and their dreams. They shared how excited they were about the pep assembly, the game, and homecoming. They love their school. Of course, Mr. Trask graduated a few years ago and has enlisted in the Navy, leaving in February. He has grown so much. One of their topics of discussion was how courteous and respectful the players are from the other team. I was impressed by the boys soccer team as well. After former cancer survivors were led down the track, each soccer player – along with Coach Burney and Coach Woelfel gave hugs to each of them. It doesn’t get much better than that. Oh – and we won, too! Go Panthers! I left the game yesterday feeling very proud – VERY VERY PROUD, INDEED!

And after I left the game, I checked my email – in my car before I started driving!! I received the email below from a fifth grade student who was at East last year. Our conversation follows. The fact that he wanted to email me makes my day, but his reply makes my week! 😊
Just wanted to share how the *Just Be Jersey* way is spreading thanks to all who are participating.

Hi Mrs. Hopkins its Luke Webster

-------------

Well hello, Luke! I hope you are doing well. I miss you!! I'm sure you are loving Illini. :-) 
It's so great to hear from you! Hope to see you soon!
Until then- *Just Be Jersey* and GO Panthers!!

Love,
Mrs. Hopkins

-------------

Thanks and i am loving illini and i will just be jersey.
Luke

After being unemployed for a little while, this gentleman was offered a job at Boeing. You might know him as Mr. Fry. As I was speaking with Mr. Fry Thursday night, I can’t even explain how I felt. I asked him how his new job was going. His eyes lit up and he began talking about how much he loved what he does. He talked about planes for which he gets to make parts, so many planes – the F-15, the F-18, the Harrier, the A2 – (and having provided security to these planes in the Marine Corps, I actually knew what he was talking about!) and he went on for a little while in such a way that is nearly indescribable. He was like a kid in a candy shop! He is immersed in a profession that brings him great joy. He loves his job and gets to go to work every day with a smile on his face. This is exactly how I think every one of us who has a job should feel. We should LOVE what we do each and every day. He inspired me. Sometimes when the going gets tough – the tough have to stand up, smile, and do whatever it takes to make a difference. I’m thrilled we are a family committed to working together for the good of kids. I thank Mr. Fry for reminding me of why I do what I do – because I LOVE kids! Thanks, Mr. Fry, for your enthusiasm and showing me what JUST BEING JERSEY is all about! 😊

Remember...

**Everybody gets a do over!**
This email was sent to me by Mrs. Miles. I love it! 😊

I was at the homecoming assembly at the high school this afternoon. I was very impressed. Barefoot blue jean night is the theme for homecoming and Erica Smith asked my daughter Clara to sing it. The students were awesome. You could hear a pin drop in that gym while she was singing and afterwards they students stood up. I loved it. They were Just being Jersey!! Just wanted to let you know.

Well, I was there! The students were incredible – and so was Miss Miles. Her performance was better than terrific. She NAILED it! 😊

Thanks to all for representing Jersey in such a courteous and respectful way. I’m so thankful for our students, faculty and staff!
Way to JUST BE JERSEY!!

Lori Franke-Hopkins
Superintendent
Jersey Community Unit School District No. 100
100 Lincoln
Jerseyville, IL 62052
618-498-5561

The contents of this e-mail message and any attachments are confidential and are intended solely for addressee. The information may also be legally privileged. This transmission is sent in trust, for the sole purpose of delivery to the intended recipient. If you have received this transmission in error, any use, reproduction or dissemination of this transmission is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please immediately notify the sender by reply e-mail or phone and delete this message and its attachments, if any.