

PUBLIC STORIES OF MATHEMATICS EDUCATORS

I Am From...

Tamika N. Ball

*Therrell Educational Complex
School of Health Sciences and Research*

I am from the ear piercing southern bell pearl wearing South

I am from curtsey practicing debutant balling church going any given Sunday
suburban world

I am from village raising lady like displaying surroundings

I am from toe-touching school spirit loving high volume talking atmospheres

I am from single parent living midnight studying straight “A” making higher learning
households

I am from nightly homemade biscuit making interior decorating walls

I am from day dreaming hopeful can’t stop wanting until I get it lifestyles

I am from learning more when you listen and treating others the way you want to be
treated living

I am from live by example someone’s always watching you, so be on your P’s and Q’s
environment

I am my environment, I live my environment, I am from here can’t you see

Well sure Mrs. Ball we see, the pearls, the “tude,” you reaching for the stars, but do you
see me?

I am from the hood wearing, tight leggings, walking out my mother’s house without a
head turning home

I am from late waking, no book carrying, asking for a pencil, yes a pencil, 180 days out
of the year bright star

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I am from calm your neck phrasing, curse sailing, hallway skipping except your class
“cause” you’re cool school

I am my environment, I live my environment, I am from here can’t you see
Well sure bright star I see, the style, the “tude,” you acting like you don’t really want it
but do you see “we”?

We are from afternoon tutoring, Cornell note writing, Math I, II, and III passing reality
We are from repeated practicing, White Board relay winning, tic-tac-toe “MATHO”
champion class

We are from reward card winning, homework pass receiving, online assignment doing
before Mrs. Ball calls my momma again order

We make our environment, we live our environment, we are from here can’t you see