Although I am nearing the end of my Master of Arts in Education Program I do not see this as an end of my education, but as opening another door of my lifelong educational journey. I can foresee myself pursuing more education down the road. I truly believe that continuing my education is very important to grow myself as an educator and help all my students grow as well. Showing that their teacher is still in school to better oneself is an important way to become a model of this positive behavior for them.

At the beginning of my MAED program I really wasn't sure what to expect. It was that start of the pandemic and I was stuck at home while teaching my students and tending to my 6 month old. I said to myself why not go back now when I am home doing everything. I was predominantly working with younger students in the physical education department and high school students coaching track. I was enjoying my time but felt like I was at a point that I needed to renew myself when it came to being a well-rounded educator and coach.

This new journey has led me to choose two different concentrations while pursuing my MAED. The first one was <a href="Sport Leadership and Coaching">Sport Leadership and Coaching</a>. I really enjoyed the courses that I took and they had an immediate impact on me and the way I taught physical education classes and coached my athletes. These courses really helped me to see things from a different teaching and coaching perspective and not just the norm. This concentration helped open my eyes to a completely different light which is in the administrator perspective. I now see them as an educator, a coach, and even was fortunate to get ideas for how administrators need to view athletes. Sports and physical activities need to be fun for children and these courses helped bring me back to that idea and not just see sports as a professional athlete and as a job.

My second concentration P-12 and Secondary Leadership proved to be very useful as I am working as the head sport administrator at the elementary level, Physical Education department head, and athletic administrator. I work predominantly in the sports and physical education department. The courses for this concentration have really made me think about how I can develop all my students into leaders in whatever they do. I have found myself constantly striving to create an environment where my students feel safe and being creative to become the type of leader they want to be.

My courses over the last two years have helped me gain much more knowledge and confidence when it comes to technology, being a better educator, and coach all around. As the world of technology is forever changing, I want to stay on top of the new apps and trends. I can do this through professional development opportunities that our school offers, but also want to still make my own time to read about, research and explore how technology can be used in and out of the classroom and when I coach.

I have a passion for learning and teaching others and I will continue to try to inspire others to be lifelong learners. As I finish my MAED program I feel very confident in what I have learned and how it has put a positive impact on me as an educator and a coach. This is the end of my program, but this is just the beginning of my journey as a leader and positive development advocate for others. The main thing I have taken away is that education is forever changing, and I just adapt with the change for the better. I will continue to strive constantly to be a better leader, educator, and coach for my students and athletes.