

Laura Wagner – middle school initial licensure

Why did you choose your degree program? How has it helped you grow personally and professionally?

I began working at a middle school as a program assistant and substitute teacher. I quickly developed a love for teaching and found joy when encouraging students to embrace learning. I developed numerous relationships with students and staff, inspiring me to earn my degree in middle school education. As I matured throughout the program through the mentorship of several McKendree professors, I learned great teaching strategies, classroom management techniques, and different methods to engage students in reaching their full potential in the classroom.

What are you most proud of accomplishing during your time here?

I am extremely proud and confident in my academic growth while attending McKendree University. My knowledge on the delivery of instructions to students is strong and impactful, and I am confident when teaching content material. I am happy with my dedication to my self-development and my ability to work to my full potential.

Who helped you the most on your journey?

I would like to give recognition to my husband for helping me successfully complete the education program at McKendree. His great support and motivation inspired me to reach my goal as an educator. My entire family has shown unconditional love and encouragement while I have been working to earn my teacher licensure in middle school education.

What's next after graduation?

I plan on applying for teaching positions after graduation and furthering my education by earning endorsements.