A Work in Progress
Amanda Kain

Growing up I had always dreamed of becoming a teacher and studying education at Michigan State University. I fulfilled my dream and graduated in 2008 with an undergraduate degree in Elementary Education. When thinking about what I wanted to study for my Graduate degree there was no question about where I wanted to attend. So, when I found out about the Master of Arts in Educational Technology degree, that Michigan State offers, I did not need to look any further. This was the perfect program for me! So, in the spring of 2011 I applied to the MAET program.

When applying to the program we were asked to identify our goals. My professional goals at the time were to enhance my teaching with technology and to become a technology leader in my school. These goals were all influenced by my main goal of increasing student achievement. When I look back at these goals now, I can see that they still relate immensely to the goals I have for myself now, as well as developed into new goals.

My main goal when entering the MAET program was to enhance my teaching through the use of technology to increase student achievement. This program has taught me many new technologies and ways to use them in the classroom. It has taught me how to use the technology to help with student achievement and not just use it for the sake of using technology. Through the courses I have taken I have experimented with many technologies and applied them to my teaching. I feel like I have grown and learned so much through this program, but feel like this is a goal I will always be working towards because technology evolves and expands constantly.

The second goal I had for myself, upon entering the MAET program, was to become a technology leader in my school. This goal has changed slightly because I am not in a permanent teaching position, so I cannot be an actual technology leader in my school. I look forward to the day I am hired into a school and become a technology leader. Until this happens, I would still like to share my knowledge with my colleagues and I feel like the courses I have taken have given me the tools and skills to do this.

Through the completion of the MAET program I have grown so much as a professional. I am very happy with my success in learning ways to incorporate technology into education. As I look back on the goals I made when applying to the program, I can see how much I have learned and how my goals are changing because of this.