**Final Reflection**

My time at Chadron State College has flown by! I have enjoyed working with my classmates and professors in all capacities. In every course that I took, my professors were all very helpful. If I ever had a question, I was able to reach out to staff and they would always get back to me with answers in a timely manner. I believe the courses of the PK-12 Reading Specialist program were all beneficial and purposeful. I was provided with so many resources and I will be able to use them in my day to day classroom. Reading and writing is a hard concept, but with every course I was provided with resources and new ideas to bring to my classroom to make learning fun and exciting for students.

I have grown so much as a professional educator. When I started my journey at Chadron State College, I was in my second year of teaching. Everything was all so new and I was trying to figure everything out in my classroom. My time at Chadron has helped me grow a better idea of reading and I have more knowledge of specific skills to help students’ reading success grow. It is so important to start students reading at a very young age. Early intervention is so important to close the gaps for students. I have been provided the tools and strategies to help my students but also collaborate with my coworkers on the best instruction to use with students.

During my time at Chadron, I was provided with so many opportunities to collaborate with my peers and be able to learn from them. I was able to take what I had learned from my classmates and apply it in my day to day classroom. I enjoyed being able to go through the diagnostics part of reading and understand the testing that school psychologists do with my reading students.

One thing I would change with the program is to have mandatory meetings: short weekly or monthly meetings. This could possibly take place of some of the forums, then we could work with the group face to face. It’s hard taking a class all online. In the zooms, we could have small mini breakouts and discuss a forum topic that a professor might have. It could be beneficial to have meetings just to clear up everything that is going on with a project or just a course overall.