



**NORTH CENTRAL COLLEGE**  
School of Graduate  
& Professional Studies

**North Central Master of Education  
Candidate Spotlight  
Nakita Stewart**

*“The development of character is valued from kindergarten to graduate school. It is the guiding light that shines from within especially in the educational setting.”*



Nakita is currently a high school guidance counselor at East Aurora High School. She is one who ensures that she knows each of her students effectively in order to best support their four-year high school plan. Reflecting on her North Central experience, she states, “Being an adult with teenagers, starting a new program was intimidating. I wondered if I would be able to balance my family, work and school obligations. The North Central faculty were amazing from day one. They helped me navigate the transition back to school, introduced me to the technologies we use in class and enabled me to be a successful graduate student.”

“The mission-driven leadership course MEDU 500 helped me to grow and identify my leadership style. The class is engaging and communicates the needs of today’s leaders in education from a perspective of ethical character and virtues. I have appreciated the opportunity to reflect on how to become an effective leader while engaging and understanding all stakeholders. I have learned how to implement my “why” in my current position and have introduced culture and character leadership modules to my peers. My educational leadership journey at North Central College has been exceptional.”