

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 47th Legislature (1999)

SENATE
RESOLUTION 32

By: Henry

AS INTRODUCED

A Resolution praising the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics; welcoming them to the Oklahoma State Capitol; and directing distribution.

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics (OSSM) has graduated 412 students in the first seven classes. In the eight-year history of the school, students have come from 75 of Oklahoma's 77 counties and half of the enrolled students are from communities with populations of less than 5,000; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education Scholarships have been offered to 217 OSSM seniors and approximately 60% of the graduating seniors attend colleges and universities in Oklahoma. The 412 students to graduate from OSSM in the past seven years have received scholarship offers in excess of \$22 million; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics has produced 105 National Merit Scholars and 74 National Merit Commendation Scholars. The Oklahoma Foundation for Excellence has named 36 OSSM students Academic All-Staters. OSSM was the school with the highest average ACT composite score in the nation for the class of 1998; and

WHEREAS, one student from the Inaugural Class of 1992 and one from the Class of 1998 have been named National Presidential Scholars. OSSM has produced three semifinalists and 42 OSSM students have been nominated to become semifinalists in the Presidential Scholars Program. Eighty-seven OSSM students have received Robert C. Byrd Scholarships through the federally funded

program which recognizes exceptionally able high school seniors who show promise of continued academic excellence and achievements.

OSSM has graduated six students with appointments to the United States Naval Academy, seven to the United States Air Force Academy and one to the United States Military Academy at West Point; and

WHEREAS, in the National Competition of Engineering Aptitude, Mathematics and Science (TEAM+S) sponsored each year by the Junior Engineering Technical Society, OSSM teams have placed first regionally for six consecutive years. The 1995 Senior OSSM team placed first in this competition at the national level. In 1997 and 1998, both the senior and junior teams placed first nationally. In 1995, four OSSM students submitted a project to the SuperQuest program sponsored by the National Science Foundation. Their project was one of only eight selected nationally for further development at the super-computer center at Reed College in Portland, Oregon; and

Whereas, one OSSM student competed on the 1993 United States Physics Olympiad Team and on the 1993 United States Computer Science Olympiad Team. A 1996 OSSM graduate won a bronze medal in the International Computer Science Olympiad. A student from the OSSM Class of 1995 was a Gold Medal Winner in the XXVI International Physics Olympiad. The student placed second in the world in the international competition; and

WHEREAS, OSSM has had three finalists in the Scholarship Program for Outstanding Negro Students. Five OSSM students have been named National Hispanic Scholars; and

WHEREAS, each year at least one-third of OSSM seniors participate in mentorships in which they do concentrated research or project development under the direction of professionals in the scientific community; and

WHEREAS over 9,000 Oklahoma teachers have taken advantage of workshops and seminars provided by the OSSM faculty; and

WHEREAS, OSSM was recognized in the April 1996 issue of "Redbook" magazine as one of 'America's Best Schools'. Dr. Julian Stanley of Johns Hopkins University, a nationally known expert on gifted education, called the Oklahoma School of Science and mathematics "the most rigorous academic program of its kind in the nation".

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION OF THE 47TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate praises the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics.

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate welcomes the students, staff, faculty and administration of the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics to the State Capitol.

THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to the President of the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics.

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