February 1, 2016

Dear Students:

The faculty of the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics (OSSM) Regional Center at Drumright would like to invite interested students to apply for the 2016-2017 school year.

The OSSM Regional Center curriculum is taught at a collegiate level and is designed to help students prepare for college. Due to the intensity of the curriculum, small class size, and time with instructors, students have every opportunity to succeed.

Classes are held at Central Tech in Drumright. Students attend the Regional Center for a half day, and the remaining time is spent at the home high school. This allows the students the opportunity to attend college preparatory classes and still be involved in various extracurricular activities.

There will be two course options that are available for students. The first option consists of AP Statistics and AP Computer Science. The second option consists of AP Calculus BC and AP Physics C: Mechanics. Students may obtain college credit through AP testing at the end of the school year. Please note that seating is limited for AP Statistics and AP Computer Science.

A completed OSSM packet is due to your high school counselor by Friday, March 11, 2016. Applicants will be notified if they have been selected as a semifinalist. These students will be invited to Central Tech for personal interviews during the month of April. The finalists will receive written notification from the selection committee by May 2, 2016. Late applications will be accepted until the class is full.

We look forward to receiving your application. If you have questions, we may be contacted by email or at Central Tech, 918-352-2551, extensions 274 and 293.

Sincerely,

Jessica Decker
OSSM Physics Instructor
Jessica.Decker@centraltech.edu

Brandon Bettes
OSSM Calculus Instructor
Brandon.Bettes@centraltech.edu
Jessica Decker
Physics Professor

Jessica Decker has a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics Education from Northeastern State University and studied applied math, science, and engineering at the University of Tulsa. She has taught math for Booker T. Washington High School and Calculus and Physics for the Oklahoma School of Science and Math. A former OSSM student herself, Jessica has a passion for bringing advanced coursework to students in rural areas and joined OSSM in 2012. In her spare time, Jessica enjoys spending time with her family and dog, Moly (short for Molybdenum), cooking, and reading everything from scientific journals to British classics and Orson Scott Card.

Brandon Bettes
Mathematics Professor

Brandon Bettes has a Master of Arts degree in Mathematics from the University of Oklahoma and a Bachelor of Science in Pre-Actuary Mathematics from East Central University. While at the University of Oklahoma, he instructed classes in Intermediate and College Algebra, Trigonometry, Calculus, and Math for Critical Thinking. Brandon taught one year at the OSSM Okmulgee Regional Center before transferring to Drumright and has been employed by OSSM since 2007. During this time he has also instructed various algebra courses for Tulsa Community College and Bacone College. Brandon enjoys bowling, billiards, any type of strategy game, and writing computer software for solving math problems or creating basic video games. One of his favorite areas of mathematics is Game Theory.
History & Mission
The Regional Centers for the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics were created through state legislative action during the 1997 session. The Drumright site was the first regional center established, the first students were accepted during the spring of 1998. The goal of OSSM is to provide college-level rigor and opportunities for Oklahoma students in a supportive, controlled environment. Most classes have fewer than ten students!

The regional center allows the student to remain at their high school for half the day while achieving academic rigor as well. This creates an excellent opportunity for students at small, rural high schools to gain college experience and study skills while continuing to participate in meaningful extracurricular and community activities.

Setting, Transportation, & Cost
OSSM Drumright classes are held at Central Technology Center in Drumright and provided at no cost to students within the district. This includes transportation between the high school and the Central Tech campus. Again, there is no cost to students to attend OSSM.

Curriculum
There are two options that students can choose for enrollment.
Option 1: AP Statistics and AP Computer Science, both year-long courses. Students are required to have completed Algebra II to enroll.
Option 2: AP Calculus BC and AP Physics C: Mechanics, both year-long courses. Students are required to have completed a trigonometry or pre-calculus course to enroll.

All of these are college-level courses and are intended to prepare the students for the corresponding AP exams in May, which can lead to college credit. Even if students do not gain college credit, they are much better prepared for college expectations and rigor.

Expectations
Students are expected to maintain a strong work ethic, passing grades, and exemplary behavior. Because attending OSSM is a privilege with college-level coursework, students who do not meet these educational or behavioral expectations may be asked to return to their home schools.

Attendance is a vital part of the OSSM program. Students are encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities at their home schools, but excessive absences should be avoided.
ADMISSION PROCESS for the 2015-2016 ACADEMIC YEAR

- Applications due to high school counselor: March 11, 2016
- Counselors send applications to OSSM Steering Committee: April 1, 2016

  OSSM Steering Committee
c/o Central Technology Center
ATTN: Cindy Gann
3 CT Circle
Drumright, OK 74030

- Notification of semi-finalists: Week of April 4, 2016
- Semifinalist interviews: Week of April 11, 2016
- Notification of finalists: Week of May 2, 2016
- Orientation/Recognition Ceremony May 18, 2016

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

☐ Copy of official transcript
☐ Copy of ACT scores
☐ Social Security Number recorded on all requested forms.
☐ Social Security Number recorded on any additional pages attached.
☐ Application signed by student and parent(s).
☐ Handwritten Essay
☐ Recommendations requested and received from:
  ______ Mathematics teacher
  ______ Science teacher
  ______ 3rd teacher of the student's choice
  ______ Counselor
☐ Copy of Spring 2016 class schedule
☐ Copy of Fall 2016 Class Schedule
OSSM Application for Admission

Applications should be turned in to the local high school counselor by Friday, March 11, 2016. The student’s official high school transcript must be included.

SECTION I. To be completed by student or parent. (Please print or type)

Applicant Name (first, middle, last): __________________________ Social Security Number (optional)

Please check one of the following enrollment options:

Option 1: □ Statistics and Computer Science       Option 2: □ Calculus and Physics

Mailing Address: ____________________________ Home Phone Number: (____) ____________

City and Zip Code: ____________________________ County: ____________________________

School Now Attending: ____________________________ Current Grade Level: ____________________________

School Address: ____________________________ School’s County: ____________________________

Number of students in your high school: ____________________________ Number of students in your current grade: ____________________________

Parent/Guardian Name: ____________________________ Daytime Work Phone Number: (____) ____________

Parent/Guardian Address (if different from above): ____________________________

Attach a handwritten essay (100 words or less) on “Why I would be a good candidate for the OSSM Regional Center.”

The Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics does not discriminate based on race, sex, creed, national origin, age, or handicap.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Central Technology Center, in compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VII and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1974, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religious creed, national origin, age, sex/gender, disability or veteran status in any of its policies, practices or procedures. These equal opportunity provisions include, but are not limited to, admissions, employment, financial aid and educational services. Central Tech offers career and technical training under the national career cluster framework. Admission is open to interested students. Questions, complaints, or requests for additional information regarding these laws may be forwarded to Patty Pouncil, Assistant Superintendent, the designated compliance coordinator, at 918-352-2551, Monday through Friday between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm.
TO THE PRINCIPAL OR COUNSELOR

Student’s Name: _________________________________________________

Instructions: The student named above has applied for admission to the OSSM Regional Center. Please complete the information requested below for that student.

Applications should be turned in to the local high school counselor by Friday, March 11, 2016. The student’s official high school transcript must be included.

1. Standard rank in class ___________ Number of students in class ______________

2. STANDARDIZED TEST RECORDS: Please provide this information even if provided on the transcript.
   
   ACT: Test Date: ________________________
   English_______ Math_______ Reading_______ Science_______ Composite_______

3. If ACT has not been taken, list the name of a standardized test administered within the past two years. Results from this test should accompany the official transcript. ______________

________________________________________________________________________

4. If ACT has not been taken, when will the student take the ACT? ______________________

I certify that the information given above is correct.

__________________ ___________________________________________________
Date Signature of School Official

***Counselor, please mail the completed application & attachments by Friday, April 1, 2016 to:

OSSM Steering Committee
c/o Central Technology Center
ATTN: Cindy Gann
3 CT Circle
Drumright, OK 74030
To be completed by student and parents.

The information contained herein is true and accurate. If the applicant is accepted for admission to the Regional Center for Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics, we agree to adhere to the rules and regulations of OSSM and Central Tech. We also agree to permit the information in this application and in other records used to apply to OSSM to be made available on a confidential basis to the student’s home school, other educational institutions, and for other purposes pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, and applicable regulations.

RELEASE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION
We, the parents of the applicant, hereby consent to the release of this application to the OSSM Regional Center review committee. We understand that the review committee is designed to ensure fair representation for students from across the Central Tech district. The review committee is comprised of individuals appointed by OSSM for the specific purpose to review all applications of prospective students. We understand further that this release to the review committee will not allow any other person not otherwise privileged to review this application to have access to it. By our signatures below, we indicate that we have read this release, understand it, and agree to the terms contained in it.

AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF EDUCATION RECORDS
In accordance with federal regulations regarding the privacy rights of parents and students under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, the undersigned hereby consent to the release of all education records, including recommendations and such other information as may be requested to the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics for the student listed below.

PARENT RELEASE/APPROVAL
I do hereby grant permission for my son/daughter to be examined and treated by qualified medical personnel in an emergency situation.

________________________________________
Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian

____________________________
Date

________________________________________
Signature of Student

If you do not want your student’s information (including photographs and new releases) to be published, please send written notice.
This student is applying for admission to the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics (OSSM) Regional Center. In order to consider the student carefully, we ask the professional educators who have worked with him/her to evaluate his/her strengths and weaknesses, both as a student and as a person.

Your candid assessment of this student’s potential for success at the OSSM Regional Center is extremely valuable to the admissions process.

**This recommendation should be returned to the high school counselor by Friday, March 11, 2016.** Thank you for your assistance.

I recommend this student for the OSSM Regional Center.

**Math Teacher:** ____________________________

**Signature**

**Please note which of the following phrases best describes the applicant.**

**Overall, how would you compare the applicant to his/her entire class?**
- ___ average or below
- ___ good
- ___ excellent (top 10% this year)
- ___ outstanding (top 5% this year)
- ___ one of the top few students I have met in my career of ____ years

**Work Habits**
- ___ no basis for judgment
- ___ indifferent, careless
- ___ needs frequent prodding; usually completes
- ___ complete but not thorough or organized work
- ___ well organized; thorough & completes work assignments

**Industry and Initiative**
- ___ no basis for judgment
- ___ needs constant pressure; vacillates
- ___ meets basic requirements
- ___ conscientious but not inspired
- ___ genuine eagerness to learn; seeks additional challenge
**Relation of Achievement to Ability**  
- no basis for judgment  
- achievement far below capacity  
- irregular achievement pattern; has not yet been challenged  
- generally achieves to capacity  
- achievement consistent with capacity

**Class Participation**  
- no basis for judgment  
- too easily distracted; non-contributor  
- participates but does not make much of a contribution  
- politely attentive; occasionally involved  
- usually constructively involved

**Personal Maturity**  
- no basis for judgment  
- immature, unreliable, often in trouble  
- cooperates only when serves personal interest; makes excuses  
- appropriate for age, well mannered, generally cooperative  
- exceptional; relates to people with genuine concern and interest

**Comments:**  
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Your candid assessment of this student’s potential for success at the OSSM Regional Center is extremely valuable to the admissions process.

This recommendation should be returned to the high school counselor by Friday, March 11, 2016. Thank you for your assistance.

I recommend this student for the OSSM Regional Center.

Science Teacher: ________________________________

Signature

Please note which of the following phrases best describes the applicant.

Overall, how would you compare the applicant to his/her entire class?

___ average or below
___ good
___ excellent (top 10% this year)
___ outstanding (top 5% this year)
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Counselor’s Recommendation for _____________________________________________
Name of Student

This student is applying for admission to the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics (OSSM) Regional Center. In order to consider the student carefully, we ask the professional educators who have worked with him/her to evaluate his/her strengths and weaknesses, both as a student and as a person.

Your candid assessment of this student’s potential for success at the OSSM Regional Center is extremely valuable to the admissions process.

This recommendation should be returned to the high school counselor by Friday, March 11, 2016. Thank you for your assistance.

I recommend this student for the OSSM Regional Center.

COUNSELOR: _____________________________________________________
Signature

Please note which of the following phrases best describes the applicant.

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I recommend this student for the OSSM Regional Center.

Teacher: _____________________________________________________

Signature

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