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For Immediate Release

Oklahoma Teachers Participate in Summer Math Institute at The Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics

OKLAHOMA CITY – June 16, 2008 – More than 30 middle school math teachers from across Oklahoma recently participated in a mathematics institute sponsored by the Hille Family Charitable Foundation held on the campus of the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics in Oklahoma City.

The Hille Foundation Summer Science and Mathematics Institute gives math teachers the opportunity to attend the five-day learning experience, which is facilitated and taught by faculty from OSSM.

Participants hear lectures and complete hands-on work in calculator basics, the development of study skills for middle school students, and the use of software specifically designed for teaching math. Teachers also receive instruction on coaching students to compete in state and national mathematics competitions, as well as learn various activities relative to teaching math at the middle school level. Some evenings are spent studying in groups, and many teachers take the opportunity to explore the Oklahoma City Metropolitan area.

Dr. Frank Wang, a nationally recognized leader in mathematics education, was this year's keynote speaker during the institute's closing session. Dr Wang has developed several groundbreaking math products for both students and teachers and he has also created a series of fun and educational video clips called *Dr. Frank's Math Minutes*. He is a former math professor at OSSM and has also taught at the University of Oklahoma.

“Our goal in offering the math institute is to translate lessons and skills learned into better teaching methods, said Dr. Edna Manning, president of OSSM. “We hope this week-long experience will have a great impact on math teachers and their students for years to come.”

The partnership with the Hille Foundation fulfills the OSSM mission to develop, evaluate and foster science and mathematics instructional programs.

OSSM was created through legislative action in 1983 and is designed as a two-year residential public high school for academically gifted junior and senior students in mathematics and science. OSSM serves all Oklahoma schools and students through research, teacher training and outreach activities. For more information, visit the school's Web site www.ossm.edu.