



The Country Connection News

### Hydro-Eakly student accepted into Air Force Academy

Kyla Risenhoover has lofty career dreams—quite literally. Her goal: to become a military flight surgeon. That’s a part of the reason she chose to attend the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics (OSSM), the state’s leading public high school and STEM educator, located in Oklahoma City. Her goal was to attend the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo-- a desire that came true with her recent acceptance into the institution.

Kyla first learned about OSSM from her brother, who graduated in 2013. As a student at Hydro-Eakly High School in Hydro, Okla., Kyla was ready for more academic challenge.

With the encouragement of her family, she spent a day with an OSSM student and subsequently decided to pursue admission.

After spending her junior year at the school, she credits it for changing her outlook on education and for teaching

her to be a more responsible and professional student. “OSSM made me even thirstier for knowledge,” said Kyla. “It is so amazing because of the community that supports it, which is a key part of a students’ experience.”

She credits the faculty and staff for helping her and her classmates get the best education available. She has also helped educate students by helping her mother, a NASA employee. During the recent quarantine/pandemic, she created

video lessons of various science topics, some of which were featured on live TV in Tulsa. Check it out here.

OSSM was created by legislative action in 1993 with the purpose of educating students who desire careers in science or mathematics. Its curriculum is college level and includes courses such as, endocrinology, human embryology, organic chemistry, zoology and many more.