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Ontario Science Centre Science School: Alkynes of Amazing

My semester at the Ontario Science Centre Science School (OSCSS) was definitely a highlight in my high school career. With the interactive approach and learning through discovery, I was reunited with the feeling of genuinely enjoying learning. We were exposed to workshops that not only enhanced the school curriculum and reinforced key concepts, but served to augment to our appreciation of science.

OSCSS has a greater emphasis on teamwork and innovative thinking than conventional school. I personally enjoyed using the already established exhibits as learning tools, and having an innovation class where we had the opportunity to conceptualize an exhibit.

The teachers and administration went above and beyond in ensuring that every individual was excelling and enjoying their time at OSCSS. They had office hours and would spend as much time as needed to make sure you understood the concepts. They also encouraged student run outings. For example, we used to go to the ROM, AGO, and laser quest after school.

I had a difficult time deciding on where to go post-secondary. Being in this environment with educators and hosts who have gone into the potential fields I was interested in provided me with an insight that I would not have gotten at my home school. Additionally, the administration and teachers at OSCSS organized for speakers in different fields of Science Technology Engineering Mathematics (STEM) professions to talk to us about their career paths.

I found OSCSS to be a good transition between high school and University. With the longer classes and slightly faster pace than my home school, I felt better prepared than some of classmates in my University program. My University program offers co-op, and during my interviews the potential employers always brought up OSCSS as a key discussion point. You build transferable skills when dealing with the public through facilitating mini-demonstrations.

The special bond of being an OSCSS student is stronger than an ionic bond. The friends you make at OSCSS will always be there for you. At University we still hang out, and some students end up being roommates. Although each individual gets something different from the experience, ultimately, going to Science School is a once in a lifetime opportunity that you will not regret. It is Alkynes of amazing!