

FHSU Science & Mathematics Education Center
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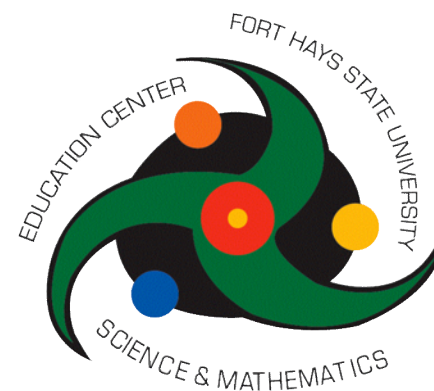
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Fort Hays State University

Science & Mathematics Education Center

2006 Annual Report



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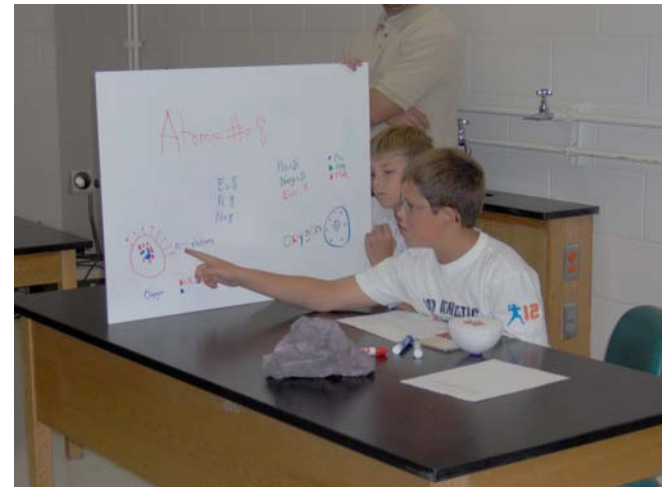


Events from 2006

- FHSU Girls' Math & Science Camp: Crime Scene Investigation was held during the 2006 summer with 24 participants
- Science Exploration Day for 36 middle school children
- Globe Environmental Workshop for Kansas teachers
- NASA workshops for Kansas teachers
- Video podcasts of Science Concepts with Hays High School
- Science & Mathematics Education Center presented at a school in France and continued communication through IPTV video conference
- Afterschool Program for K-5 children
- LEGO's Robotic Competition with Physics
- Podcasts of Science & Mathematics Research/Activities being done at FHSU and in the community
- Science Christmas Program held at the Sternberg museum with NSTA Group
- Light & Color Workshop in Sublette, Kansas
- Science Talks Series: Pluto

Grants

- NSF Physical Science with Mathematical Modeling Workshop
 - July 2005 – June 2008
 - \$720,000
- NCLB Western Kansas Mathematics Academy
 - March 2006-February 2009
 - \$300,000
- NCLB Southwest Kansas Middle School Science in Context
 - March 2004 – June 2007
 - \$190,000
- WaterLink Developing Water Quality Education Materials for K-5 Students
 - February 2006 – December 2006
 - \$5,000
- SCORE, Lunar and Planetary Institute Mission
 - August 2006 – January 2007
 - \$3,950



Science Exploration Day

The FHSU Mathematics and Science and Mathematics Education Center sponsored a one-day science exploration. During the day kids were actively involved in learning some fun science through hands-on activities. The science focus for the exploration day was chemistry. Presenters were master middle school science teachers from across the region.

NASA

FHSU Science and Mathematics Education Center held an Aerospace Education Workshop for pre-service and in-service teachers. The workshop was designed to enhance curriculum and knowledge of aerospace topics. Selected workshop topics presented by a NASA Space Educator included: Aeronautics, Earth Science, ISS Toys, Microgravity, and Rocketry.

France

Dr. Paul Adams, Anschutz professor of education and professor of physics at FHSU went to Toulouse, France as part of the education and public outreach of the CALIPSO satellite mission. Dr. Adams was invited by CNES, the French Space Agency, to conduct a workshop for 38 teachers from across France in May 2006. In addition he taught science lessons to high school classes at the Lycée des Arènes in Toulouse, France. One teleconference was held in collaboration with Hays High School and the school in France during the spring of 2006.

Project Evaluation

The Center is available for project evaluation. Currently we are working with Purdue University and Frankfort Schools in Indiana.

Mission Statement

The mission of the FHSU Science & Mathematics Education Center is to inform, reform, and improve science and mathematics education, awareness, and appreciation in K-12 schools, University, and the community in western Kansas. The Science & Mathematics Education Center will serve as a bridge between FHSU, K-12 schools, and the community by supporting, facilitating, and promoting outreach programs.

The Science & Mathematics Education Center started as a vision of Dr. Paul Adams, Anschutz Professor of Education and Professor of Physics. The center grew out of a desire to improve science and mathematics education for the western Kansas community. This includes improving the education of K-12 and college students, as well as improving the scientific literacy of the general populace. The Center operates through grant funding and donations and is not funded by the State of Kansas. If you would like to support the Center, please contact us.



Goals

1. Provide professional development in science and mathematics content for preservice and inservice science and mathematics teachers strengthening subject matter knowledge and develop pedagogical skills.
2. Seek external funds to support science and mathematics education programs for scientists teaching in classrooms or in the community.
3. Function as a central coordination for outreach activities and professional development offerings in science and mathematics available through the FHSU mathematics and science departments and community programs.



Highlights

FHSU Girls' Math & Science Camp: Crime Scene Investigation

Twenty-four girls were selected to attend the one-week residential summer camp. The girls accepted were between their 7th and 8th grade years. The camp offered a variety of educational and fun activities, provided role models working with science and mathematics professionals, and provided social experiences designed to build girls' desire to succeed in science and mathematics. The camp encouraged middle school girls continued interest in science and mathematics and helped them explore science and mathematics related careers.



Quotes from participants:

- "Camp made me realize it's okay to like science and math even if other don't."
- "Camp has shown me the importance of science and math together."