

April 22, 2010

Dear NCSSM Parent(s):

The computer and calculator are used extensively in mathematics courses and in science labs at the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics. These tools enable students to discover many concepts for themselves and solve more realistic problems.

As part of our program, we require that students have a TI-84 Plus Silver Edition, a TI-84 Plus, or a TI-83 Plus graphing calculator when they arrive in August. If you already have one of these calculators, you will not need to purchase a new calculator. In addition, if you have a TI-Nspire graphing calculator with a TI-84 keypad, you will not need to purchase a new calculator, keeping in mind that you **must** have the TI-84 keypad. The TI-Nspire CAS version of the calculator will not meet our requirements. If you will be purchasing a new graphing calculator, we recommend the TI-84 Plus Silver Edition. Any of these calculators will be useful to the students into their college career. Prices for the TI-84 Plus Silver Edition are also included.

If you feel that this requirement would keep your child from attending NCSSM, please contact my office at (919) 416-2886, for help in working out an alternative solution. If your child already owns a graphing calculator of another type, it may be useful for many applications but will not meet all of your child's needs in mathematics and science classes for the next two years.

Sincerely,

Steve Warshaw  
Director of Academic Programs

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