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PRESS RELEASE

NUS High School's Pioneer Students Graduate *Graduating Class of 2008 Makes History*

1. On 1 December 2008, eighty-eight pioneer students of the National University of Singapore (NUS) High School of Mathematics and Science will receive their NUS High School Diplomas, marking a milestone in the journey Singapore embarked on when the idea of an independent high school which specialises in Math and Science education was first mooted by Rear Admiral (RAdm) Teo Chee Hean.

2. The Graduating Class of 2008 makes history by being the first cohort of students who will enter universities, and thereafter the society, with the stamp of an NUS High School education. Of the eighty-eight graduates, 36% of them will graduate with high distinctions and distinctions, and 58% of them will graduate with merit. The top student, Zhao Ye, will graduate with a respectable Cumulative Average Point (CAP) of 4.86 (out of a maximum of 5 points) with Honours in Mathematics, Biology, Chemistry and Physics. She is also one of five recipients of the A*STAR Young Researcher Award for her outstanding performance in local and international research-based competitions as well as her notable research achievements (as evidenced by the presentation of research work at international research conferences and the publication of a research paper in an international refereed journal).

3. Besides the A*STAR Young Researcher Award, other awards will also be presented to the top academic student of the cohort, the best students in each Math and Science subject, as well as students who have made outstanding contributions in non-academic areas (e.g. leadership and service to the community). (Please see Appendix A for a full list of awards.) All these awards will be presented on 1 Dec at the Convocation Ceremony.

4. The inaugural Convocation Ceremony will be held at NUS High School's Auditorium from 4.00pm to 6.00pm. Dr Ng Eng Hen, Minister for Education and Second Minister for Defence, will grace the occasion as the Guest of Honour.

5. By offering its own NUS High School Diploma, NUS High School has been able to tailor her own curricular modules to the learning needs and abilities of her students and provide her students with rich opportunities to engage in research and interactive learning, allowing us to fully reap the rewards of a specialised curriculum.

6. The NUS High School Diploma has earned recognition from the National University of Singapore, the Nanyang Technological University and the Singapore Management University, as well as the Ivy League colleges in the

United States and premier universities in Australia and the United Kingdom, including the University of Oxford and the University of Cambridge.

7. Since the NUS High School of Mathematics and Science first entered the educational scene in 2005, her students have been making themselves heard and seen at various competitions, Olympiads, international seminars and conferences, placing the high school on the world map of premium Math and Science education and research. (Please see Appendix B for a list of key achievements.)

8. “Our pioneer students took a bold leap of faith when they joined us in 2005, trusting that we would do all we can to stretch and realise their potential. We are glad and proud that we have not let them down,” says Dr Hang Kim Hoo, Principal of NUS High School.

You are cordially invited to cover the inaugural Convocation Ceremony. Should you wish to send a reporter and/or photographer to the event, please contact:

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About NUS High School of Mathematics and Science

The National University of Singapore High School of Mathematics and Science is a specialised independent school that aims to cultivate and nurture whole individuals through its curriculum, co-curricular activities and enrichment programmes. Its academic programme caters to the cognitive and affective needs of the best and brightest students in Mathematics and the Sciences. The school offers a six-year programme that follows a broad-based curriculum where innovative and interesting teaching methods are used and classes are held in technologically rich rooms. Emphasis is given to higher level cognitive and learning skills, such as critical thinking, independent learning, problem solving, formal writing, research and development. Students who graduate from the school are awarded the NUS High School Diploma.