HOW STUDENTS SEE ESPORTS

by:

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When people hear about eSports, a picture of a nerd geek sulking alone in front of a computer or video game screen comes to mind. Well, forget that because that is not how it looks like nowadays. Since the rise of esports in 2010, there has been a significant increase in the number of gaming enthusiasts-people who loves gaming- all around the world. They are seen live streaming and playing their online game in social media like Facebook and YouTube showing off their high-end gaming set which includes two to three monitors, high end CPU, brightly lit keyboard, wireless mouse, gaming chair, and charming headphones. Esports is fascinating and enticing to everyone, young or old, especially our students.

What is eSports? It is a shortcut term for electronic sports. It is sometimes spelled as E-Sports or eSports which refers to competitive video gaming at the professional level. In the same way that traditional sports like basketball and billiards hold tournaments for the top players who compete globally for big amount of cash prizes, esports does the same, combining individual players or teams of players together to do battle in competitive video games like Dota 2, Player Unknown’s Battlegrounds (PUBG) and mobile games like Mobile Legends Bang Bang (MLBB or ML) and Call of Duty Mobile (CODM). These online competitions are thrilling and gain lots of spectators of all ages from different places. No wonder why even elementary students aging from 8 to 11 are already gaming enthusiasts.

What makes eSports interesting? It is currently a billion-dollar industry. Professional eSports athletes-people who play esports- earn as much as seven figures a year and are really raking it in. Some of the perks include high salary rate, free bootcamp
and food, national and international travel, lots of sponsorship and prizes from different competitions which they equally share with their teammates and their managing team. In the Philippines, the popular game Mobile Legends is now on its 7th season of MLBB Professional League (MPL) and has a total prize pool of Php 6,000,000. A lot of students are now eager to find out whose team will emerge as the champion.

Students in this 21st century see eSports as a promising career as they become inspired with their pro esports player “Iodis” who taking the world by storm. They watch their livestreams, cheer for them, support them all the way in every game of the league and wish that they become champions. These students also hope that they become a professional eSports player in the future. It is therefore a challenge for all the teachers to ensure that students not only show inclination to eSports but also to thrive in their studies.

References: