

Extreme Gamers Guild: A Reed City Middle School Success Story

by Tim Webster, Principal
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On Friday, March 9, a few daring teachers at Reed City Middle School chose to sacrifice time at home with families and a night's sleep to hold the first ever "Extreme Gamers Guild Overnighter." Almost 50 middle school students brought in their Play Stations, X-Boxes, Game Cubes and even a new Nintendo Wii to have fun and test their thumb strengths and endurance. The computer lab was open and supervised all night for students who wanted to play the popular "Massively Multiple Online Role Playing Game" (MMORPG) called Runescape.

The Overnighter was the brainchild of self proclaimed Gamer/Middle School teacher Mr. Nista. It was his goal to hold an activity that would include and engage students who might not otherwise take part in typical middle school activities. Without much convincing, Mr. Nista was able to enlist Mr. VanScoyoc, Mr. Howe, Ms. Stern and Mr. Langworthy to help organize and supervise a daring experiment to mix video games and sleep deprivation in a very social environment. Mr. Nista was also able to show off his talent as Grill-Master Extreme. The menu included hot dogs, chili, brats, grilled chicken, burgers, polish sausage, a full nacho bar, and a huge variety of chips and veggies. Mr. Nista was even able to talk his own father, Dr. Nista, into coming in to take pictures and grill onions and peppers for the hot dogs! The food was a delicious way to fuel the gamers as they circulated through the different activities. They could choose between the food and TV in the cafeteria, console games in the gym, computer games in the computer lab, or movies in the teacher's lounge.

Almost all of the adults and students were able to stay up and play from four in the afternoon until nine the next morning. Some of the games being played were Guitar Hero, Dance, Dance Revolution, Worlds of Warcraft, and even Clue. Plans are already in the works for future E.G.G. events.

In a world that is filled with bad news, it is good to see that there are still people in our school community who are willing to provide fun, safe, and supervised activities that our students really love. What a great way to meet the needs of another part of our student population. Thanks to all of the Reed City Middle School staff who helped to organize and supervise our first ever E.G.G. Overnighter.



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