



DATE: August 7, 2024

TO: Board of Education

FROM: Mrs. Kerstin Kramer, Superintendent Chief Learning Officer

SUBJECT: Accept Donation from Optimist Club of Truckee for the Esports Club

PRESENTED BY: Mr. Edward Hilton, Chief Technology Officer

ACTION REQUESTED

Accept the donation from the Optimist Club of Truckee for the Esports Club.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On June 21, 2024, Michael Arington from the Tech Department presented a proposal to the Truckee Optimist for establishing a school-sponsored Esports team at TTUSD. The proposal highlighted the need for equipment to support 3-6 players in practicing and competing in Esports tournaments. The Truckee Optimist generously granted \$1,000.00 to purchase 2-3 Nintendo Switches, kickstarting this initiative.

Esports, or Electronic Sports, is a rapidly growing \$1.5 billion industry offering collegiate scholarships. While often associated with gaming, Esports mirrors traditional sports teams in terms of competition, strategy, teamwork, leadership, and practice. Beyond competing, students can contribute through roles like sportscasting, event planning, marketing, and journalism, fostering a sense of shared purpose, belonging, and positive social connections. Research indicates that Esports attracts students who might not otherwise participate in extracurricular activities, broadening its potential impact.

Currently, TTUSD lacks funding for an Esports team. The grant from the Optimist program will help launch the program and encourage students to seek further funding sources like sponsorships and fundraising.

The primary goal of this team is to create a competitive Esports community, strengthening student bonds with peers and the school. The long-term vision is to establish a high school-sponsored team with coaching positions and official school recognition. With initial funding secured and a clear vision, the TTUSD Esports team is poised for success.

RESOURCES REQUIRED: \$1,000.00 – Optimist Club of Truckee

PREPARED BY: Michael Arington, Technology Department

Attachment: Donation Form