



*Connecting, engaging, growing, and empowering students through Esports*



# HISTORY OF OUR ESPORTS PROGRAM

- **AFTER SCHOOL MADDEN CLUB LAST YEAR**
- **THREE PLAYSTATION 5 CONSOLES**
- **CAPPED AT 40 STUDENTS**
- **WHY?** ACCOUNTABILITY, BELONGING, & OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUCCESS

When students experience small successes, they are more likely to engage in academic tasks with confidence, leading to increased effort and resilience.

*Schunk and Pajares (2002)*





# STUDENT PARTICIPATION & ENGAGEMENT

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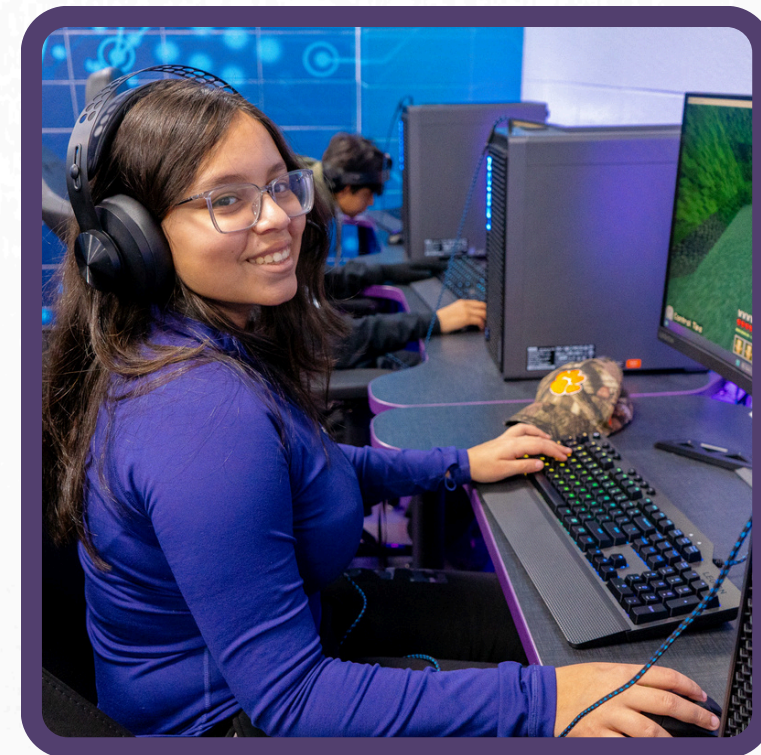
## 131 students enrolled in Esports Course

- 80% Male, 20% Female
- 43% Caucasian, 38% African American, 18% Hispanic, 1% Other



## 132 students participate in Esports Club

- 20% in Before School Club
- 39% in After School Club
- 41% in Flex Club



## 15 students on Esports Spring Competition Team

- Games- Super Smash Bros, Rocket League, Mario Kart 8 Deluxe, & Minecraft

78%

**Seventy-eight percent of students in the extracurricular club have *never* been involved in an extracurricular activity at school before.**



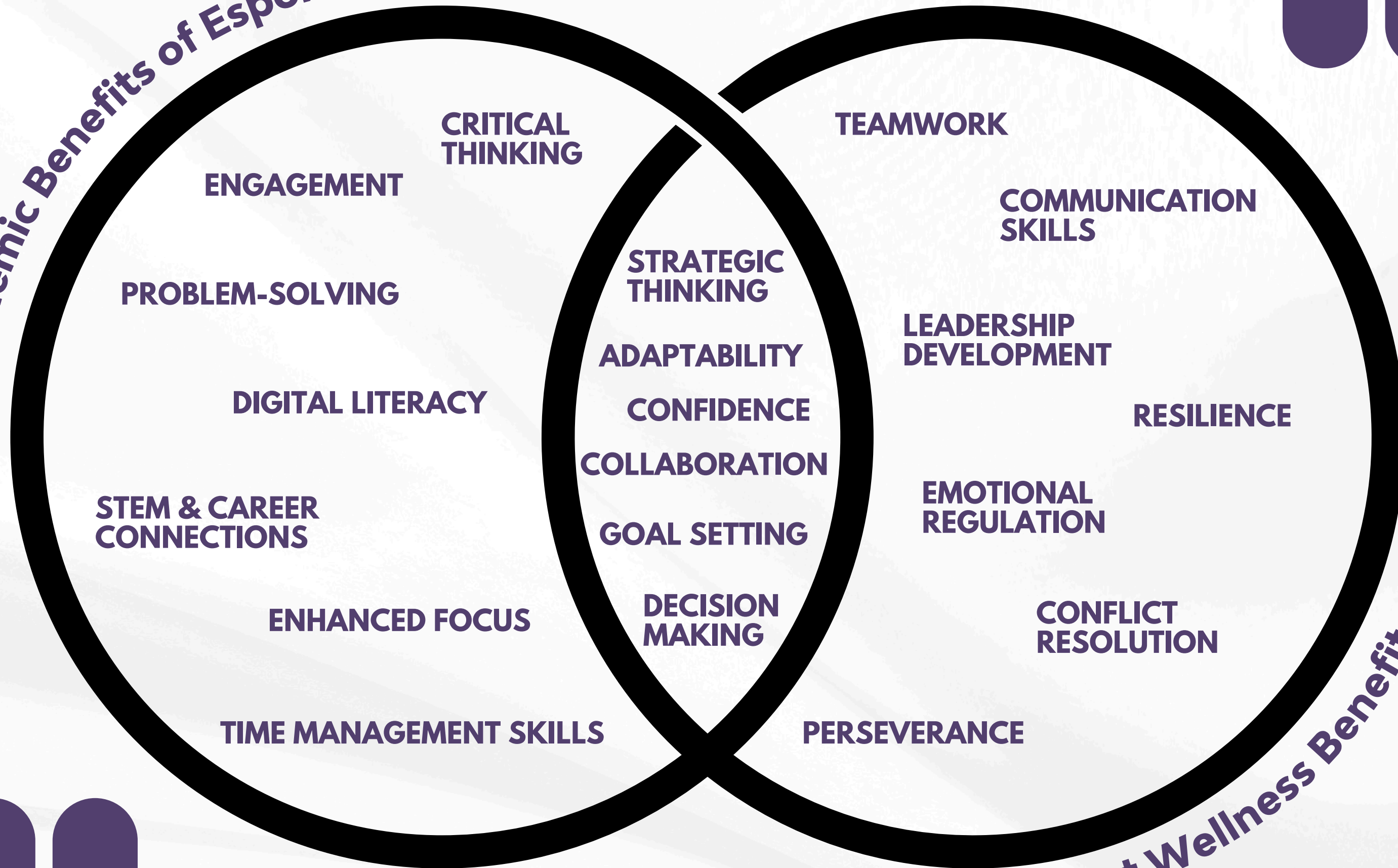




**EDUCATIONAL &  
DEVELOPMENTAL BENEFITS  
OF ESPORTS**



**Academic Benefits of Esports**



**CRITICAL THINKING**

**ENGAGEMENT**

**PROBLEM-SOLVING**

**DIGITAL LITERACY**

**STEM & CAREER CONNECTIONS**

**ENHANCED FOCUS**

**TIME MANAGEMENT SKILLS**

**STRATEGIC THINKING**

**ADAPTABILITY**

**CONFIDENCE**

**COLLABORATION**

**GOAL SETTING**

**DECISION MAKING**

**TEAMWORK**

**COMMUNICATION SKILLS**

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

**RESILIENCE**

**EMOTIONAL REGULATION**

**CONFLICT RESOLUTION**

**PERSEVERANCE**

**Student Wellness Benefits of Esports**







# COGNITIVE AND SOCIAL ADVANTAGES

- Children who play video games each day are faster and more accurate on cognitive tasks than those who never play video games.  
*Chaarani, et al (2022)*
- Students who feel a strong sense of belonging are more likely to have higher academic performance and persistence.  
*Eccles & Roeser (2011)*
- A single success can bolster self-efficacy for up to a year, leading to improved academic performance for all and significant improvement in academic achievement in males.  
*Uchida, Michael, & Mori (2018)*





# LONG-TERM BENEFITS FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

- In 2024, the National Association of Collegiate Esports distributed over \$16 million in scholarships to Esports players
- Involvement in collegiate Esports teams leads to increased communication and collaboration with peers  
*Shimokawa (2024)*
- Participation in Esports can develop skills relevant to the workforce, such as mental agility, processing speed, and executive function  
*Yin, et al. (2020)*





**\$1,000,000,000**

**The global Esports industry surpassed \$1 billion in revenue in 2023, with an average salary for an Esports professional being \$156,348 per year.**





# TWO CAREERS AT A GLANCE



- Air traffic control recruiters often target gamers because they have the following skill set:
  - Multitasking & situational awareness
  - Fast decision-making under pressure
  - Hand-eye coordination & fine motor skills
  - Pattern recognition & spatial awareness
  - Communication & teamwork

*Federal Aviation Administration Level Up (2022)*



- A study found that surgeons who played video games for at least three hours per week made around 37% fewer errors and completed procedures 27% faster than non-gamers.

*Rosser, et al. (2007)*



# LEADING THE WAY IN EDUCATION

- Hosted educational leaders from Orangeburg County School District, Anderson School District Five, Spartanburg District Six, Spartanburg District Seven, and are scheduled to host Spartanburg District Three
- Beech Springs' Esports Arena was used as an example of a premiere lab by Lenovo at the Future of Education Technology National Conference in January 2025
- Presenting at the South Carolina Association for Middle Level Education Conference in February 2025 and at the South Carolina Association of School Administrators Conference in June 2025





**WELCOMING  
TOMORROW'S  
LEADERS  
WHILE  
DEVELOPING  
OUR OWN**







- W Forward
- S Back
- A Left
- D Right
- SPACE Fly Up
- SPACEx2 Stop Flying
- E Inventory
- T Chat
- C Code Builder
- SHIFT Fly Down

Control Tips

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- ?
- 9

- Place
- Mine
- Drop

LEGION