Washington FPS

FROM THE AD'S DESK
DECEMBER 2019

A team from Odle Middle School with two of their coaches at 2019 State Bowl

Students from Leota Middle School at State Bowl 2019

Hello Coaches,

With both PPI and PPII completed by your students, you can begin to think about the Qualifying Problem, Gamification, which is due on January 14. I sincerely hope that this year, the weather cooperates and that you are all able to get to school regularly without having any major weather disruptions.

As you await your results, some of you will be helping your scenario writers edit their stories, some of you will be working with your students as they practice their scenario performances, and some of you will be trying to follow all the rules and regulations in order to complete your students' Community Problem Solving projects. Good luck.

So what is gamification? Gamification informally refers to making a system more game-like. It is theorized that gamification success depends on the game mechanics employed and their effects on user motivation and immersion. Gamification utilizes the use of game design and mechanics to enhance non-game contexts by increasing participation, engagement, loyalty and competition. Even though you may not have consciously used gamification, there are many marketing campaigns aimed at gamifying your loyalty by giving your points and rewards to keep you engaged. Today, almost every business has a loyalty program that uses statistics, based on collected data, to enhance its ability to keep you involved with its business or products.

Next time you use your Fitbit, consider what is being done to convince you to exercise more, sleep more or climb more stairs. Next time you are at Starbucks, consider how often they are trying to get you to buy more coffee at different times of the day, or to add food to your order. How about your next hotel stay? Stay four nights and get a free night and become a frequent traveler and get additional rewards.

As we start to think about the 2020 State Bowl, please consider sending photos of your students, either individually or in groups, to Kari Beyer, kaldrich@nr.k12.wa.us, in order for these photos to be included in the slide show at the opening ceremony.

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SHOWING RESEARCH*

Showing evidence of research is worth 10 points. Exactly how can your team show such evidence? Read on to review three basic techniques.

1. **Incorporate specific terms.**
   The FPS International Office (FPSPI) provides a list of terms and definitions in their publication Readings, Research and Resources (RRR). This is a great jumping off point for learning specific vocabulary related to the topic. In addition, when you come across terms as you research, add them to your vocabulary list. When writing challenges, a UP or solutions, look for opportunities to use some of this terminology. Some examples from the topic Surveillance Society are written below with terms in bold.
   - **Challenge**—Since **social media** was designed to facilitate communication among friends, **data mining** by department stores might erode **privacy** and undermine confidence in apps, damaging a useful and powerful tool of the Internet.
   - **Challenge**—Because so much information is gathered about ClassicMart shoppers, an unethical employee may engage in **bluesnarfing**, thus compromising shoppers' **privacy**.
   - **UP**—Since some customers (like Jane) may have made poor choices in the past, how might we decrease ClassicMart's profiling for surveillance, so that those stores are not violating **civil liberties** regulations in 2035?
   - **Solution**—SecureLock will **encrypt** all data gathered by ClassicMart. This will make it more difficult for **hackers** to obtain private information.

2. **Cite specific facts/studies.**
   When applicable, research information can be added to strengthen a challenge or solution. The following examples show the information from research in bold.
   - **Challenge—Research shows that credit rating bureaus will seldom fix inaccurate data.** Since stores like ClassicMart depend so heavily on surveillance technology capable of error, the potential for harming individuals could be considerable.
   - **Challenge—A University of Berkley survey indicated that people have a significant misunderstanding of security and privacy of information on their cell phones. For example, many thought that their cell phones were as private as a personal computer.** If shoppers at ClassicMart have a similar misunderstanding, they may unknowingly provide access to even more information.
   - **Solution**—Customers will wear **anti-Drone garments**, such as those featured in **Adam Harvey's Stealth Wear clothing line**. These garments will have **highly metallized fibers that protect against thermal imaging surveillance**, thereby masking the wearer's thermal signature.

3. **Choose agencies from your research that have the PIE.**
   Rather than use generic implementers of solutions (WHOs), use specific institutions or individuals who have the **PIE** – **P**ower, **I**nterest and **E**xpertise – to implement them. As you research the topic, keep a list of all the agencies and people you read about. Use this as a "data base" for experts who might implement certain solutions. The following examples use specific people/agencies from the research as WHOs:
   - **Civil liberties advocates** will pay for advertisements to alert customers of the extent to which ClassicMart uses surveillance to gather personal information. When customers are informed of what occurs when they shop, they can more effectively determine the appropriate actions to take that will protect their privacy.
   - **The European Telecommunications Standards Institute** will meet with all executives of companies like ClassicMart who are using surveillance technology to monitor their customers. Together they will agree on ethical standards to abide by when using surveillance, thus diminishing the chance that customer's privacy rights will be violated.
   - **Internet Eyes, an England-based website,** will develop an app that can be downloaded to one's phone. Surveillance cameras will only film customers who have activated the app upon entering the store. This way, those who do not wish to be filmed in the store can maintain their privacy.

*Courtesy of Wisconsin FPS

STATE BOWL FEES

If you are starting to plan for the 2020 State Bowl, here are the fees and costs. Registration and payment will be on the WAFPS website again this year.

State Bowl 2020 will be held at the Warm Beach Conference Center in Stanwood. Please note the State Bowl dates, which are **earlier** this year: March 18-20.

State Bowl Registration: $60 per participant; $25 per adult
Options 1 and 2 below are in addition to the registration fee:

1. Room and Board* $124 (includes 2 nights, 5 meals)
2. Commuter $55 (includes 5 meals, no lodging)

Day Adult Visitor: $35 (includes registration and one meal, additional meals may be purchased at $11 through the WAFPS website)

***Linens add $12**

Important Dates

12/31: Last day to register for any component for 2019-20

1/9: CmPS progress reports due

1/14: QP due

1/23: Scenario Writing due

2/4: Scenario Performance due

2/20: CmPS projects due

2/28: Advancing Scenario Writing Cover Sheets due to IO

3/3: State Bowl registration deadline

3/9: Advancing Scenario Writing due to IO

3/18-20: State Bowl at Warm Beach

4/3: Advancing CmPS Cover Sheet due to IO

4/14: Advancing CmPS projects due to IO

6/3-7: 2020 International Conference, Amherst, Massachusetts

FINAL WORDS FROM THE AD'S DESK

I'd like to take a moment to thank our coaches, who have been working with their students for the first two practice problems. Also, special thanks go out to our evaluators who worked diligently to complete the PPI evaluations and who are now finishing up PPII so that the results can be sent to our coaches as soon as possible.

Thank you to those of you who have linked your Amazon purchases with Amazon Smile to WAFPS. If you shop at Amazon, please consider signing up with Amazon Smile and linking your Amazon donations to Washington Future Problem Solving. It doesn't cost you anything extra, but it would really help WAFPS.

If you would like to donate money to help support the program, one of the ways is to donate through our "Giving Tuesday" Facebook campaign currently running through December 3. A special shout out goes to all the Walla Walla alumni and parents who have already donated to WAFPS during this campaign.

As you enter the holiday season, I wish you all the best. May the weeks leading up to winter break be enlightening, informative and stimulating so that your break is relaxing and regenerating.

Please call/text (509) 386-6297 or email me (jbuissinkwafps@gmail.com) any time you have questions.

Next Month: **Scenario Guidelines, Tips for Presentation of Action Plan, and more**

"Don't let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do." **– John Wooden**