

Mr. Gonzales Strikes Back!!!

DHS Welcomes Mr. G back to school

by Jefferson Martinez-Arguelles

Mr. Gonzales is back! This funny teacher, who can be found running around the math wing screaming and laughing, is finally at 100% and feeling fantastic. Gonzales went through heart transplant recovery for six months which left him out of teaching all last year.

When asked how he felt on missing all of the school year Gonzales said, "It was a big adjustment. I missed a lot."

During his recovery he said that "People told me to stay focused on the whole process of recovery, but it was difficult for me because it was a huge change. I missed the people from school."

Since Gonzales wasn't able to teach for a whole year, he dedicated his time to exercise and video games. When asked what he did as recovery from his heart transplant he said, "My recovery was a lot of different stages. First, I moved in with my parents for six months so they could help me around. Starting at three months, I went to cardiac rehab. After I graduated from the class, I started exercising three to five times a week, walking and also balancing the workouts with a healthy diet."



DHS Staff showing its support for Mr. Gonzales last year. Photo by Molly Stawinoga.

Gonzales also found himself with some free time. "I also played a lot of video games. I played Pokemon Moon and a lot of Call of Duty. I also had board game nights with the family."

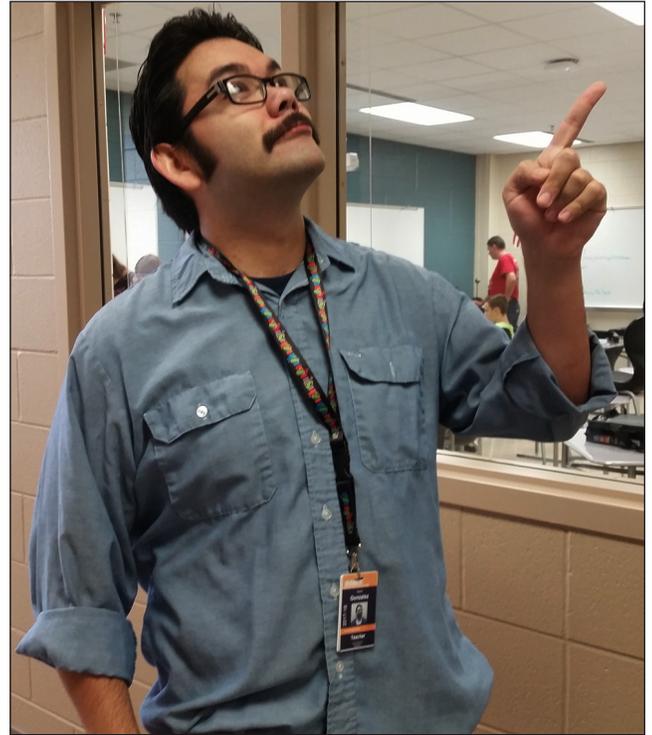
Since Mr. G missed a whole school year, he is happy to be back in school. Mr. G explained that he was most excited about being around people.

"When I was in recovery, it was hard because I'm really social and now that I'm back with the people I talk to I feel great."

One of Mr. G's best friends is Math teacher Mr. Severino. When asked how they became really good friends, Severino answered, "Video games. He was the one who got me into video games. We hang out a lot and play Destiny 2."

For those who are unaware, Gonzales and Severino are good friends. They can be seen joking around and talking with each other between passing periods.

Severino said that he and Gonzales stayed in touch throughout the whole process. Severino said, "I would talk to him three to four times a week just to see what was going on. I also went to the



Mr. Gonzales poses for a picture. Photo taken by Jefferson Martinez.

hospital around October, and he got out around Christmas. I also visited him at his place for the recovery process. Being told that your friend has to get a heart transplant can be hard to take in just knowing that not everything can go as planned or expected."

Severino explained that it can be hard to watch someone you care about go through a scary health situation. It was really hard for me and him, I'm a really emotional dude, but he was awesome through the whole thing. He was positive and he was stronger than anyone else even though he was going through some hard times.

Gonzales is a great teacher. His charisma and personality stand out among the rest. His laugh and jokes make the day better for every student. It's great to have you back, Mr. G!