School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

**Academic Excellence**
As the staff at Cooper strives toward academic excellence, we utilize our PLC Areas of Focus (Literacy Throughout the Day, Authentic Learning, Inclusionary Practices, Positive School Climate with a focus on social emotional learning) to drive our daily practices. Inclusionary practices have driven our staff to evaluate how we provide a rigorous instructional program while allowing all learners to access the core curriculum. Our 1:1 Chromebook environment allows us to use the Google Suite to encourage student and
teacher interaction on assignments.

**Developmental Responsiveness**
Cooper works in many ways to promote learning in an environment that maximizes each individual student's potential in the areas of intellectual growth, social emotional learning, citizenship, and physical development.
To encourage our positive school climate, we have units for all students through our advisory program.
Many of our extracurricular activities promote total inclusion and allow a chance for a diverse group of students to get involved.
Throughout the year Cooper offers opportunities for parent involvement and education as well as collaborates with the Link Together Coalition to provide educational sessions on relevant middle school topics for students and parents both during and after school.

**Social Equity**
At the beginning of each year, teacher grade level teams organize student groups for full inclusion in order to differentiate for students at all academic levels as well as coordinate co-teaching and push in.
Our school’s ESL program has expanded to include more course offerings for all ELL students.
Single and Double Accelerated Math courses are offered for gifted and honors students as well as Accelerated Communications (Reading).
Our Family Learning Program is a very unique outlet for families to be more involved in their school. Students whose parents were from different countries have the opportunity to share pieces of their culture including dances, games, and different food selections.

**Organizational Support**
Cooper’s School Improvement Team is structured to include representatives from each grade level team, the Special Education team, the Exploratory team, and our ELL team.
Cooper's COBRA committee focuses on positive behavior supports and classroom management.
Our Building Problem Solving Team has developed procedures and framework to support the MTSS structure. Coaching and planning with grade-level teams is implemented weekly by our Math Enrichment Teacher, Literacy Enrichment Teacher, and Literacy and Information Coach.
Cooper Middle School has made significant changes over the last few years to ensure that data-based decisions are made to match appropriate levels of support to students' needs including the restructuring of "Homebase" time to "What I Need" or "WIN," where students have an hour per day to access reteaching of curriculum, interventions, or extensions.