School Characteristics and Replicable Practices

**Academic Excellence**
- EDMS sponsors and supports several academic clubs in which many students participate including National Junior Honor Society, Tri-M Music Honor Society, STEAM, Battle of the Books, World Languages (French and Spanish), The Nerd Herd, and Chess Club.
- Teachers utilize several technology devices, software and programs in the classroom to make the curriculum more meaningful, memorable, and relevant to students.
- Student are equipped with a Chromebook for Anytime/Anywhere Learning.
  Teachers and students have access to our MakerSpace, which is equipped with a number of
different devices to promote technology and creativity in the classroom.
- Within the classroom, teachers use resources to help students think critically and work together to invent products that enhance the curriculum. These resources include Vocabulary.com, Plickers, Scratch, PowerSchool Assessments, NearPod, WeVideo, Quizlet, Quizizz, Kahoot, Google Classroom, NoRedLink, and CommonLit.
- Each teacher designs a project-based learning (PBL) experience for students. Some examples include but are not limited to Health and Wellness Night, The Oregon Trail, and a Cross-Curricular Scavenger Hunt.
- Students have multiple opportunities to continue learning and practice skills by attending an after school work session titled "Time on Task". Students living in the Greenleigh Mobile Home Community are also offered after-school tutoring on site in a learning cottage. Through a partnership with the local YMCA, these families are provided with free WiFi at the Learning Cottage.
- Our Instructional Innovation Specialist works with teachers to develop classroom lessons that integrate technology.
- Staff, students, parents, and community members are communicated with on a consistent basis throughout the school year starting with Back to School Night, weekly newsletters from the principal, emails and phone calls through SchoolMessenger and other school sponsored events.
- Each summer, staff members facilitate a rising 6th grade orientation program that introduces students to life in middle school.

Developmental Responsiveness
- At EDMS, each faculty and staff member is dedicated to the emotional, physical, and mental development and safety of each student in the building.
- One school counselor is assigned to each grade level to devote the majority of the day to developing and enriching relationships with students.
- The counseling department provides support to all of the students at EDMS, but those students that need additional services participate in the SUCCESS Group.
- The counseling department also provides life skills lessons for students to help their developmental process.
- Each month during our remediation time on Fridays, the counseling department hosts a series of career speakers.
- The counseling department hosts a high school information night, which is geared towards eighth grade students, to provide information about each school's specific specialty program.
- The counseling department works closely with students to aid them with the requirements of the application process for each high school program.
- The counseling department hosts a college and career readiness series. Students explore the different options available to them, and they learn valuable skills in preparing for either track.
- EDMS implements Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS) for our student population.
- A PBIS committee composed of faculty members meets once a month to discuss the successes and challenges with student behavior. In this meeting, the committee discusses strategies to promote positive behavior and choices among students.
- A monthly PBIS lesson is designed for teachers to present to students during Friday's SOAR time.
- In addition to PBIS, EDMS has student support groups including Boys to Men and Game on Girl. Special lessons are also shared with students focused on suicide prevention.
- To encourage the development of the child as a whole, we offer athletic opportunities to students including boys and girls soccer, boys and girls basketball, cross country, track and field and cheering. Through sports' teams, students learn life skills like teamwork, responsibility,
accountability, leadership, and time management.
- Students have access to performing arts programs as well including band, orchestra, chorus, and theatre.

Social Equity
- All students have equal access to technology regardless of their social status. Each student receives a Chromebook to use anywhere that they are.
- Faculty and staff use data analysis to ensure that all student needs are understood and met within the classroom and outside of the classroom. To generate academic data, EDMS utilizes the following programs and software including PowerSchool, MyAccess, and Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) testing throughout the school year.
- PBIS discipline data is analyzed to offer necessary services to students and teachers to ensure equity is provided. We use this academic and behavioral data to provide remediation for student challenges, and this ensures that all students receive the same opportunity to achieve success.
- The EDMS Diversity Club is a safe space for students who identify as straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and/or trans-sexual.
- EDMS partnered with a local non-profit group, Side by Side, to lead a professional development for staff members on how to best serve and support our LGBTQ students.
- Each quarter, teachers nominate students for exemplifying our four core values (honesty, respect, responsibility, and accountability), and they are recognized at a ceremony.
- Academic and athletic achievements of students are recognized through assemblies and sports banquets. Parents, families, and friends are invited to recognize and support students for their achievements.
- The staff at EDMS communicates with parents and the community through several means including social media (Facebook and Twitter), weekly newsletters and emails, and smartphone applications like GroupMe and Remind.
- The EDMS Band program partners with the 8th grade to facilitate a Veterans’ Day program.
- The Tri-M Music Honor Society has ranked #2 and #1 in the United States of America over the past three years for its fundraising efforts to support a local dialysis center and inner city music programs.
- Students are selected to serve as Raven Ambassadors to welcome new students on their first day at EDMS.

Organizational Support
- At EDMS, each core subject area in each grade level meets as a professional learning community (PLC). On specified meeting days, the PLCs discuss strategies and lessons to help students master the material. The teachers also share successes and challenges they have faced in the classroom to provide each other with the necessary support in the classroom.
- Grade level teams meet as a whole on a weekly basis to discuss the following: student discipline data, logistical issues, and student recognition.
- Each grade level has a smaller group of teachers that is comprised of a teacher from each core area. These smaller teams meet weekly to discuss individual student concerns and successes and for parent conferences.
- Each academic department of teachers in the building meet monthly as a team to pass along important school wide and division wide information. This information keeps teachers abreast of pertinent trends and policy changes or updates in education.
- The school improvement team works as a unit to determine different ways to improve and encourage high achievement among our entire student body. This group is dedicated to spearheading new and innovative practices to ensure such, and our entire school has benefited from such. This team consists of school administration and the leaders from each department and grade levels.
- All staff is required to complete Cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and EpiPen training. This increases the likeliness of a trained person being present at the site of an emergency should one arise.
- The administration team at EDMS ensures that the school complies with the required crisis drills (fire, bomb threat, lockdown and earthquake).
- The school safety team meets to discuss actions to improve areas that may need it to ensure safety throughout the entire building; additionally, the team discusses strategies that are already working.
- The master schedule is formatted on a traditional block schedule. Students attend four classes a day and a thirty minute remediation period at the end of the day. Students attend a different class for remediation each day to ensure all teachers see their students to provide extra help.
- All teachers participate in the PGPP-T goals process, where they have a SMART goal on student academic success and a professional goal of their choosing. Throughout the year, administration meets with each teacher to provide feedback on progress. At the end of the school year, goals are finalized and submitted for approval by administration.
- The principal holds quarterly discussion sessions with staff members to address concerns and possibly facilitate new ideas. The principal is accessible to the staff all day during these sessions.