To Cooper’s 7th Grade Orientation
Cooper MS Mission

The Cooper Middle School Mission focuses on the nurturing and preparation of our students, helping them to function as informed, productive, responsible citizens.
Portrait of a Graduate

**Communicator**
- Oral and written
- Formal and informal presentations

**Ethical/Global Citizen**
- Mission/Vision
- “Informed, Productive, Responsible Citizens”

**Critical/Creative Thinking**
- Explaining ‘how’ and ‘why’
- Project-Based Learning

**Goal-Directed and Resilient Individual**
- Cooper Kindness

**Cooperator**
- Cooperative Learning
- Google Docs
The Cooper Code of Conduct

**Courteous**
- We use appropriate language
- We follow the dress code
- We accept others’ uniqueness
- We cooperate and have a positive attitude

**On Time**
- For school
- For class
- For lunch

**On Task**
- We focus
- We participate in class activities
- We follow procedures

**Prepared**
- We advocate for ourselves
- We bring supplies to class
- We complete assignments in a timely manner

**Excellence**
- We follow the Cooper Honor Code
- We give our best effort
- We take responsibility for our actions and learning

**Respectful**
- To staff
- To students
- To property
Cooper is Connected...

BYOD
BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE
### What Is Different About Middle School?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students</th>
<th>Parents/ Guardians</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• More course options</td>
<td>• Encourage self-advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Check Blackboard daily</td>
<td>• Allow your child to struggle but not fail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• After-school activities</td>
<td>• Encourage positive risk-taking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• School day starts at 7:30 am and ends at 2:15 pm</td>
<td>• Multiple teachers with whom to communicate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Weekly grade reports from SIS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Team Approach

- English Teacher
- Social Studies Teacher
- Science Teacher
- Counselor
- Math Teacher
- PE Teacher
- Special Education Teachers
Lockers, Lunch & Late Buses
# After School Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Science Olympiad</th>
<th>Model UN</th>
<th>Math Counts</th>
<th>Newspaper</th>
<th>Drama</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GEMS</td>
<td>History Club</td>
<td>AMC Assessments</td>
<td>Literary Magazine</td>
<td>Student Government</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eco Team</td>
<td>Civics Club</td>
<td>Chess Club</td>
<td>Yearbook</td>
<td>National Junior Honor Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Best</td>
<td>Geography Bee</td>
<td>Homework Club</td>
<td>Spelling Bee</td>
<td>Kindness Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Library</td>
<td>Computer Lab</td>
<td>Running Club</td>
<td>Ultimate Frisbee</td>
<td>Open Gym</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
School-Wide Enrichment

- Project Based Learning
  - Framing content around authentic applications
  - Inquiry-based
  - Focus on voice and choice
Curriculum Information

Divided into academic areas

- **Core Curriculum**
  - English
  - History
  - Science
  - Math
  - Health & Physical Education

- **Electives**
Becoming Real-Life Readers

- Fiction
- Non-Fiction
  - Narrative
  - Fact-based
  - Books and Articles
- Poetry
- Drama
- Paired Passages

In class and independent reading requirements
Improving Writing Skills

- Writing Foundations
  - 6 Traits of Writing
  - Grammar study
  - Regular practice
- Writing Process
- Creative Writing
  - Journals
  - Personal Narratives
  - Poetry
- Analytical Writing
  - CECc Style Paragraphs
  - Multi-Paragraph Essays
  - Research

Writing is a collaborative process thanks to responsible use of technology!
Studying Language

- Vocabulary
- Word Parts
  - Prefixes
  - Greek and Latin Roots
  - Suffixes
- Word Usage
- Connotation vs. Denotation
- Impact on Author’s Style
Is your child an avid reader?

Is your child a fluent writer?

Is spelling and vocabulary acquisition above grade level?

Does your child use critical thinking skills?

Does your child have a strong work ethic, taking ownership of his/her own learning?

Does your child want to take honors?
History
Examine trends in U.S. history:
- Identifying and analyzing the role of individuals, ideas, and important events

Developing skills:
- Public speaking
- Technology
- Debate
- Document analysis
- Geography
- C-E-C paragraph structure
- Cornell notes
Critically Examine Primary Sources to:

- Evaluate a source’s trustworthiness
- Understand how context influences the content of a document
- Corroborate historical accounts to determine what is probable
- Develop hypotheses and justify them both orally and writing.
- Confront multiple perspectives
Decision Point:

History 7 vs. History 7 Honors

- Are you ready to learn about history from the primary sources themselves?
- Are you prepared to read, write, and compliment your English skills while learning history?
- Are you ready for more independence, organization, and self-reliance?
Investigation
in Environmental Science 7
Three Strands are Emphasized

- Understanding the Environment
- Observing Living Things
- Exploring Heredity & Diversity
Focus on Scientific Skills

Students are taught scientific skills such as:

- Designing Experiments
- Collecting and Organizing Data
- Interpreting Results and Finding Sources of Experimental Error
- Constructing Models to Illustrate Concepts
- Exploring the Nature of Science
- Research and Writing in the Sciences
Is your child passionate about science?

Is your child goal directed and resilient?

Does your child independently explore scientific information?

Is your child genuinely curious and dedicated to learning?

Decision Point:

Science 7 vs. Science 7 Honors
Divided into academic areas

- **Core Curriculum**
  - English
  - Social Studies
  - Science
  - Math
  - Health & Physical Education

- **Electives**

*For students found eligible through a central selection process*
Advanced Academic Program

- English:
  - The Scientific Summary
  - Technical Writing
  - Technical Reading

- Science:
  - Cross-Curricular Projects
  - Common Vocabulary
  - Ancillary Experiences
  - Universal Concepts and Generalizations
  - Cornell Notes
  - CEC Writing
  - Flipped Lessons

- History:
  - Q3 - To Kill a Mockingbird
  - Change across time and place
  - Scientific History
  - The impacts of technological change
Advanced Academic Program

Focus on Universal Concepts:

- Unknown
- Systems
- Change
- Conflict
- Relationships
- Culture
- Patterns
- Order vs. Chaos
Advanced Academic Program

- **Connections** - We work closely with the Secondary Advanced Academics Leadership Team, as well as with colleagues across the county.

- **Content** - Our school-wide focus is critical and creative thinking; we integrate curricula to provide for an enriched academic experience.

- **Students** - Teachers focus on students’ unique social and emotional needs and provide a variety of after-school enrichment opportunities.

- **Teachers** - Teachers continue to take advantage of professional development opportunities to support individual students’ academic/socio-emotional needs.
Curriculum Information

Divided into academic areas

- Core Curriculum
  - English
  - History
  - Science
  - Math
  - Health & Physical Education

- Electives
Math Sequencing from 6th Grade

- 6th Grade:
  - Math 6
  - Adv Math 6

- 7th Grade:
  - Math 7
  - Math 7 Honors

- 8th Grade:
  - Math 8
  - Algebra I or Algebra I Honors
  - Geometry Honors
# Math 7 & Math 7 Honors Comparison

## Math 7
- Concrete to Abstract with Hands on Activities
- Focus on Making Children Math Literate with Tools to Function in Society
- Strong Foundation for Higher Learning and Solid Preparation for Algebra
- **Students Take 7th Grade SOL**

## Math 7 Honors
- Assumes Math Literacy and **Fluency of Math 7 Skills**
- Non-Routine Problem Solving and Rigorous Mathematical Explorations
- Reinforce, Extend, and Enrich Students’ Reasoning Skills as They Explore Advanced Topics
- Assumes Student Interest in Mathematics, Insight into Mathematical Concepts
- **Students Take 8th Grade SOL**

## Both
- Rigorous Courses Based on Individual Needs and Maturity
- **Prepare Children for Algebra in 8th Grade**
- Build Bridges for Higher Mathematical Learning
Math 7 Skills Not in Math 7 Honors Curriculum

- Model and Solve Problems Involving Computation with Integers
- Absolute Value, Scientific Notation
- Basic Exponent and Square Root computation
- Arithmetic and Geometric Sequences
- Properties of Quadrilaterals
- Similarity of Plane Figures
- Theoretical vs. Experimental Probability
- Combinations and Permutations
- Frequency Tables, Circle Graphs, Stem & Leaf Plots, and Histograms
- Proportions to Convert Units of Measure
Decision Point For Advanced Placement: Math 7 vs. Math 7 Honors

- Did your child take Advanced Math 6?
- Does your child really like math?
- Is your child really good at problem solving?
- Has your child shown self discipline, motivation, and maturity as a learner?
- Does your child seek to make connections, understand processes, and reflect on their mistakes?
- Will your child be able to devote the time needed to be successful in the class?
## Algebra 1 Honors

*one high school credit*

### Criteria for Placement

1. Score $\geq 91$ on Iowa Placement Tests
2. Pass-advanced on 7th grade SOL

**NOT OPEN ENROLLMENT!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topics</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Numerical and Algebraic Expressions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linear Equations and Inequalities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Systems of Linear Equations and Inequalities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linear Relations and Functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polynomials and Factoring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quadratic Equations and Functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exponents and Exponential Functions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Algebra II Extensions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Curriculum Information

Divided into academic areas

- **Core Curriculum**
  - English
  - History
  - Science
  - Math
  - Health & Physical Education

- **Electives**
Divided into academic areas

- Core Curriculum
  - English
  - History
  - Science
  - Math
  - Health & Physical Education
- Electives
Elective Options

- Option 1: Two full year electives
- Option 2: One full year elective and two semester electives
- Option 3: No full year electives and four semester electives

Elective Fair
January 18
6:30pm
**DUE:** Thursday, January 25th

to designated Elementary teacher/counselor

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### 7th Grade Course Selection Sheet

**Due:** Thursday, January 25, 2018

**Student Name:** [Last] [First] [Middle]

**Check ALL that apply:**
- ESOL Level
- Special Education
- 504
- AAP Level IV Only

**Step 1: Select Required 7th Grade Courses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A. English, Social Studies, Science, &amp; Health/PE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Please check the box to the right of the appropriate course/level. Only students who are AAP level 4 eligible may select AAP level courses. Students who were principal placed in AAP courses in 6th are eligible for Honors or Standard courses.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>AAP</th>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Honors</th>
<th>Team</th>
<th>85</th>
<th>80</th>
<th>GPA</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English 7 (1145)</td>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History (235J)</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Science 7 (4415)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health &amp; PE (71203/34)</td>
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**Step 2: Select Electives Courses (Full Year and/or Semester)**

**FULL YEAR ELECTIVES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Music (Courses may be used)</th>
<th>World Language (HS Credit Courses)</th>
<th>Special Education (As determined by IEP)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Band*</td>
<td>922810 Chorus*</td>
<td>923710 Orchestra*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>923510 Percussion</td>
<td>110865 Broadcast Journalism</td>
<td>731540 Personal Development</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SEMESTER ELECTIVES (HALF YEAR)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ART</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Art Foundations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computers in Art ++</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3D Art Exploration ++</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>925462 Guitar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TECHNOLOGY, BUSINESS, &amp; IT EDUCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Solutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using Systems (Coding)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering Design &amp; Modeling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HNE &amp; LITERACY ARTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Journalism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theater Arts (Drama)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WORLD LANGUAGE</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spanish 1 Part A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French 1 Part A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GENERAL EDUCATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Action Literacy 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategies for Success</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADDITIONAL SUPPORT</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family &amp; Consumer Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Responsive Writing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**I understand that staffing is based on course selections and my student’s selections represent a commitment. Schedule changes requested after June 1, 2018 must be requested in writing and approved by administration. I understand that the school reserves the right to change a student’s schedule based on scheduling needs, course availability due to enrollment and/or other conflicts. Your signature indicates approval of this course selection sheet. Please sign/return this form to your designated Elementary Teacher/counselor no later than Thursday, January 25th.**

**Parent/Guardian’s Signature**

**Student’s Signature**

**Date**
Transition Visits

School Counselors  (January)
Students will receive their course selection sheets at that time. The course selection booklet can be found online.

Special Education Transition IEP’s  (Jan-March)

Principal Randall  (Spring)
Meet-n-greet with rising 7th grader students, discusses daily life at Cooper.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Curriculum Info Sessions</td>
<td>January 10, 9:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>January 11, 6:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective Fair</td>
<td>January 18, 6:30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooper Prep</td>
<td>Week of August 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown Bag Lunch</td>
<td>August TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>With the Principal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rising 7th Grade Orientation</td>
<td>August 23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locker Night</td>
<td>August 23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Step Up to Middle School

- Literacy Boot Camps  TBD*
- Math 7 HN Boot Camp  TBD*
- Cooper Prep  Week of Aug. 13

*ALL DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
Please look for more information via News You Choose emails and Cooper’s website!
Summer Reminders

Check the Cooper Website in June for the following resources:

- Summer Reading Requirement
- Enrichment Opportunities
- Supply List

We encourage typing practice as well!
CooperMS Website → Student Services → Curriculum Information

https://cooperms.fcps.edu/student-services/academic-advising
Questions?

Arlene Randall, Principal
• acrandall@fcps.edu

Cherith Pierson, Assistant Principal
• clpierson@fcps.edu

Braden Peterson, Director of Student Services
• bjpetersen@fcps.edu
Thank you!
World Languages
7th Grade Options

- Spanish level 1A – 1 semester
- French level 1A – 1 semester
- German level 1A – 1 semester
- Japanese Immersion (Pre-requisites apply)
Continuing 8th Grade Options

- Spanish level 1B – 1 year, 1 HS language credit
- French level 1B – 1 year, 1 HS language credit
- German level 1B – 1 year, 1 HS language credit
- Japanese Immersion 1 (Pre-requisites apply)
Continuing 8th Grade Options

- Spanish level 1B – 1 year
  1 HS language credit

- French level 1B – 1 year
  1 HS language credit

- German level 1B – 1 year
  1 HS language credit

- Japanese Immersion 2
  (Pre-requisites apply)

- Spanish 2

- French 2

- German 2

- Japanese 3
Beginning 8th Grade Options

- Spanish level 1: 1 year, 1 HS language credit
- French level 1: 1 year, 1 HS language credit
- German level 1: 1 year, 1 HS language credit
- Japanese 1: 1 year, 1 HS language credit
Advantages of the A/B Route

- Starting earlier
- More time to cover level 1
- Language choices
- Getting High School Credit
- Improved language skills