

COOPER HIGH SCHOOL



2023-2024 Campus Guide

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Website: <https://www.abileneisd.org/cooper-high/>

Facebook: [Cooper High School-ABILENE ISD](#)

Twitter: Find us [@GoCooperCougars](#)



Faculty and Staff

(Phone Extension Included)

Principal

Lyndsey Williamson, ext. 4441

Associate Principal

Tyler Edwards, ext. 1900

Dean of Instruction

Ashley West, ext. 8128

Assistant Principals

Carey Kitts (A-Go), ext. 8238

Randy Willis (Gr-O), ext. 5711

Michael Sanders (S-Z), ext. 1828

Guidance Counselors

Courtney Saunders (A-E), ext. 1064

Steven Childress (F-K), ext. 7356

Sandra Harbour (L-Ri), ext. 1282

Ginger Held (Ro-Z), ext. 2936

Support Staff

Kerri Kirby, Student Accessibility Services (SAS) Counselor, ext. 8657

Gerald Wilkerson, College Offers Opportunities for Life (COOL) Counselor

Lee Anne Wheeler, Campus Testing Coordinator, ext. 2902

Joan Turner, Community in Schools, ext. 8413

Principal's Secretary

Tracy Espinosa, ext. 4441

Counselors' Secretary

Connie Nanez, ext. 5620

Nurses

Melinda Willis (RN), ext. 3126

Kristy Rodela (LVN), ext. 1063

Alma Castillo de lara, Special Education LVN, ext. 5719

Attendance Clerks

Rosario Gauna (A-E), ext. 5467

Ola Alvarez (F-K), ext. 1514

Robbye Yeakle (L-Ri), ext. 2653

Bailey Proctor (Ro-Z), ext. 8443

SROs

Cody Josselet

Christopher Volirakis

Athletics Secretary

Campus Athletic Coordinator

Girls Athletic Coordinator

LRC Specialist

Kristen Benton, ext. 7164

Aaron Roan

Stacey Herring

Kalyn Gensic

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to Cooper High School! High school is such an exciting time for students, and it is my hope that your child takes advantage of all that Cooper has to offer. We always stress the importance of being involved and finding ways to connect to the Cooper community. This leads to greater success academically, socially, and emotionally.

Now more than ever I encourage parents to be involved in their child's education. Our goal is to come together with families to ensure students feel safe, encouraged, and successful at school. Working together in a positive manner will ensure our students are fully served educationally and socially.

The teachers and staff at Cooper are second to none, as they are truly outstanding and dedicated educators who seek to serve students well by ensuring safety and a high-quality education. I look forward to working alongside the Cooper staff and each of you. We will work to support our students as they make important decisions and ensure they are prepared for the next step in achieving their goals.

We look forward to working with you to make it a great year at CHS!

Go Coogs!

Lyndsey Williamson, CHS Principal

HELLO GRAND COOPER HIGH!

We are now entering our 2023-2024 school year! Welcome back, and if you're new here, Cooper is so excited that you are joining us! I cannot wait to meet as many of you as possible and see your smiling faces throughout the hallways! I hope you had a summer full of amazing experiences leaving you refreshed and invigorated to approach this upcoming school year.

Cooper has a variety of amazing extracurriculars and academic classes to plug into and build experiences in. The quality of Cooper just simply cannot be beaten. Whether it's reaching the playoffs in sports like football and basketball, to earning sweepstakes in groups like choir or band, to earning "best of the best" in Cougarettes, to Theatre advancing to Area, to members of art being recognized in VASE and getting scholarships, to groups like Student Council and S2S serving a multitude of families in our community, along with other groups that take pride in academic achievement such as the National Honor Society, UIL academics, and STEM classes — Cooper High has always held strong to our reputation of excellence. While I listed what may seem to be a great deal of different organizations, this school still has so much more to offer. There truly is a place for everyone.

I could continue to go through every activity and success that Cooper has accomplished but I hope your biggest takeaway is the community CHS has to offer. The only way to experience this is to jump in, dive in, flop in like a fish — go headfirst into any opportunity laid at your feet. We are incredibly fortunate to have an Amazing Administration, Spectacular Staff and Terrific Teachers who all come together to ensure we have the greatest educational experience. The support each and every student receives is unlike any campus and because of it, each of us has the opportunity to rise above not just academically, but socially... giving us a sense of ownership in our work and our school. This shows us working together only makes us stronger. This is our family and Cooper is our home. United we RISE, divided we fall.

Bernadette (Bernie) Moropoulos, Student Body President

Mission Statement

Cooper High School is a family achieving excellence and building leaders through teaching respect, responsibility, and accountability.

Guidelines for Success

Build Character-- Build Unity-- Build Relationships!

Motto

Cougar Nation...RISE Up!

Respectful and responsible Individuals Supporting Each other

School Colors: Scarlet and Air Force Blue

School Mascot: Cougar

CHS School Song

To Thee! C.H.S.

To Thee! C.H.S Comrades Hail!
Our finest tribute we will not fail!
In honor and pride, we're side by side.
Tho' great the vict'ries, these shall prevail
Grand Cooper High! Dearest and best!
Champion forever!
Thy faithful abound and swell this sound,
Honor and pride,
WE WILL NOT FAIL!

CHS Fight Song

Go Cougars, Fight Cougars, Win!
We Back Those Cougar Boys, They Go To
Cooper High. They'll Never Let Us Down.
We'll fight With Might
The Red & Blue Tonight
They'll Bring Us Victories
They Will Keep Us Tops
We've Got the Coach, the Team, the Pep,
and the Steam.
So Cougars Fight, Fight, Fight.
I Say Cougars Fight, Fight, Fight.

Cooper Office Hours

The main office in the Administration Building is open from 7:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

2023-2024 Daily Bell Schedule

The first bell rings at 8:05 a.m. and the first period tardy bell rings at 8:10 a.m. The instructional school day ends at 3:45 p.m. Students' lunch time is dependent on their 5th period class.

1 st Period	8:10AM	8:55AM
2 nd Period	9:00AM	9:55AM
3 rd Period	10:00AM	10:45AM
4 th Period	10:50AM	11:35AM
A Lunch	11:35AM	12:05PM
5 th Period	12:10PM	1:05PM
5 th Period	11:40AM	12:05PM
B Lunch	12:05PM	12:35PM
5 th Period	12:40PM	1:05PM
5 th Period	11:40AM	12:35PM
C Lunch	12:35PM	1:05PM
6 th Period	1:10PM	2:05PM
7 th Period	2:10PM	2:55PM
8 th Period	3:00PM	3:45PM

A Lunch	B Lunch	C Lunch
Science Building (except 2200 Hall and rooms 2302, 2318) Vocational Buildings Rooms 1200-1210, 1221, 1223	1100 Hall 1220-1236 (except 1221, 1223)	Athletics 2200 Hall, 2302, 2318 Fine Arts Building 1300 Hall Office Aides

Scheduled Early Release Days are from 8:10AM-1:30PM. Students will follow the regular bell schedule and be dismissed from 6th period.

In the instance a Late Start is necessary, school will begin at 10:10AM with buses running two hours delayed from regular pick-up times. Students will report to 3rd period and follow the regular bell schedule for the remainder of the day.

Student Behavior Management

CHAMPS/Safe and Civil Schools

All Abilene ISD classroom teachers, paraprofessionals, and auxiliary staff are trained in CHAMPS and Discipline in the Secondary Classroom programs by the [Safe and Civil Schools](#) organization. This program focuses on Tier I approaches to student discipline, with a focus on pro-active, positive intervention strategies based on clear expectations and relationship building. In addition, all secondary campuses participate in the Foundations process, which is a structured PBIS process in which building-wide culture and climate is addressed by focusing on the common areas of a school building.

Campus Behavior Coordinators

Each campus must designate an individual to serve as the campus behavior coordinator. This person or persons may be the principal of the campus or any other campus administrator selected by the principal. At Cooper High School, the campus behavior coordinators are the principal and all of the assistant principals of the campus.

Carey Kitts	Assistant Principal
Randy Willis	Assistant Principal
Mike Sanders	Assistant Principal
Tyler Edwards	Associate Principal

Dress and Appearance

Cooper High School will adhere to the Abilene ISD dress code. Students out of dress code will be offered items of clothing available at Cooper to change into or they must call home to have appropriate clothing brought to them. A student out of dress code will not be permitted back to class until they meet the dress code standard.

Judgements as to what is acceptable will be made by the principal, and the decision of the building principal in these matters is final.

The full Abilene ISD Dress Code Policy can be found on the Abilene ISD webpage.

Cell Phones

Students may carry cell phones and may use them during passing periods, but upon entering the classroom all phones must be out of sight and turned off or completely silenced. Cell phone use is permissible in the cafeterias and immediate patio areas around the cafeterias only during the student's designated lunch time.

If a faculty or staff member sees or hears the use of a student's cell phone in the classroom or in any instructional building during non-passing periods, the phone will be taken up. The parent, legal guardian, or student may come to the office **after school** and retrieve the phone on the first offense for a \$15 cash fee. On the second offense, there will be a \$15 cash fee charged, and a parent or legal guardian must be the one who picks up the phone after school. On the third and subsequent offense(s), the parent or

legal guardian must retrieve the phone after school, there will be a \$15 cash fee charged and additional consequences may be given. This policy is in place Monday through Friday, 8:10a.m.-3:45 p.m.

If at any time, including permitted cell phone use in the hallways or cafeteria, a faculty member or administrator has reasonable suspicion of conduct violations or illegal activity using the cell phone or other electronic device, the device is subject to confiscation and a school administrator will be allowed access to the device, SIM card, memory card, battery, and all components for the device. If any evidence of illegal activity is found, the device and/or evidence may be turned over to law enforcement authorities, charges will be filed and legal action may be taken.

Bullying

Bullying may occur when a student or group of students engages in written or verbal expression, expression through electronic means, or physical conduct that occurs on school property, at a school-sponsored or school-related activity, or in a vehicle operated by the district and a school district's board of trustees or the board's designee determines that the behavior:

1. Has the effect or will have the effect of physically harming a student, damaging a student's property, or placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or of damage to the student's property; or
2. Is sufficiently severe, persistent, and pervasive enough that the action or threat creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for a student.

This conduct is considered bullying if it:

1. Exploits an imbalance of power between the student perpetrator who is engaging in bullying and the student victim through written or verbal expression or physical conduct; and
2. Interferes with a student's education or substantially disrupts the operation of a school.

A student or parent who has a complaint alleging bullying should immediately report the complaint to a campus administrator, teacher or counselor for investigation. During this initial complaint, a bullying report form will be completed.

Bullying can also be reported through the Abilene ISD **Speak Up for Safety** application found at abileneisd.org

Cooper High School uses a Bullying Committee comprised of anonymous teachers, administrators, and staff members to thoroughly review each individual incident and determine the best course of action.

See the AISD Student Code of Conduct for more information on dating violence and Title IX

School Safety

The safety of our students is paramount. Cooper High School's faculty/staff will practice and promote safety and security daily. Monthly drills and exercises will be implemented throughout the school year. In order for us to do that, the following policies will be implemented:

- The main entrance to the school will be the only doors unlocked.
- All parents, visitors and guests must go to the office to sign in and receive a visitor tag.
- Visitors may not go to any part of the building that is not designated on the visitor badge.
- All teachers and staff will wear identification nametags.
- Students will be expected to follow the school dress code and abide by the rules as established in the Student Code of Conduct.

Speak Up for Safety

Abilene ISD utilizes the Speak Up for Safety application for any individuals to report concerns regarding school and student safety. Examples of reasons to reach out for help for yourself or others include the following: bullying, violence, personal health (physical or mental), suicide prevention (personal or friend), crisis at home, inappropriate behavior, loss of friend or family member, homeless or food insecurities. If you are about to recommend a student for a situation that is an emergency or life-threatening to the student or others, please call 911.

The Speak Up for Safety application can be found on at abileneisd.org.

School Resource Officers

Cooper High School has two full-time school resource officers through the Abilene Police Department who are responsible for working with school administrators, faculty and staff to ensure the school is a safe place for students to learn.

Daily Procedures

Morning drop-off

When dropping off students prior to 8:10 a.m., they may be dropped off in the front parking lot off of Sayles Blvd or the East Parking Lot off of Amarillo St. Drop off after the first tardy bell at 8:10 a.m. must take place in the front parking lot. Late arriving students must enter campus through the main doors of the administration building.

Early Arrival- before 8:05 a.m.

When arriving before 8:05 a.m., students should report to the cafeterias or the common area outside the cafeteria. They are not permitted to enter any other buildings without prior approval from a teacher or an administrator.

Dismissal

The instructional day ends at 3:45 p.m. Unless associated with a school sponsored activity or attending individual teacher tutorials, all students are to leave campus. Buses will be located in the East and West parking lots. Transportation is available to those who live outside of a 2 mile radius of CHS and within

the CHS attendance zone. Further information regarding eligibility may be acquired by contacting Abilene ISD Transportation at 677-1444 or the Abilene ISD website.

Traffic and Parking

The beginning and end of the school day generates a high volume of traffic around campus. Please practice safe and friendly driving. Handicap and visitor parking is clearly marked and located on the north side of campus in the main parking lot. Please avoid blocking any emergency lanes.

Student Parking Expectations

- The student must have the following in order to purchase a parking permit and park in the campus student parking lot:
 - A valid Texas driver's license
 - Proof of Insurance with student listed on the card as a covered driver
 - Provide license plate number and make/model of vehicle
- Student parking is in the East parking lot off of Amarillo St. by the cafeterias and the gyms.
- A new parking permit must be purchased annually.
- The cost for student general parking permit for the current school year is \$10.00.
- Seniors may purchase a reserved parking spot for \$40.00.
- The decal must be visible at all times when parking on campus.
- Student parking is located in the East parking lot. Student parking spaces are not numbered. Students parking in an assigned teacher spot may be ticketed and/or disciplined. All numbered parking spots are reserved for faculty and staff.
- The student may only return to their vehicle when ready to leave the campus for the end of the school day, when accompanied by a faculty or staff member or when an approved student is leaving for dual credit or an off campus course work.
- Students may not stand around or congregate in the parking lot at any time.
- Reckless or careless driving in the parking lot will result in the loss of parking privileges.
- CHS students may not transport another CHS student to another campus unless a student transportation form is on file. Extenuating circumstances may be reviewed by the principal or designee.
- Parking on the streets surrounding the campus marked as No Parking Zones is subject to a citation being issued by the Abilene Police Department. They are public roads and are monitored by APD.

Visitor Procedures

To ensure the safety of our campus, all parents and visitors must report to the administration building and present a valid driver's license. A visitor's pass will be issued through the Raptor security system. Visitors are expected to pick up their ID from the administration building when they leave.

Visits to individual classrooms during instructional time are permitted only with approval of the principal and teacher and only as long as their duration or frequency does not interfere with the delivery of instruction or disrupt the normal school environment.

IDs

The safety of your child is important to us. One way we ensure this safety is by having all students wear their current picture ID's. **It is extremely important that all students wear their student IDs at all times when on the Cooper campus.** If a student is participating in an activity which an ID could present a safety hazard (welding, PE, shop, etc.) then the ID does not have to be worn during that activity only. If your child has lost or misplaced their IDs, they may purchase a complete new one.

- The first ID and lanyard is issued free to each student at the beginning of the school year.
- All IDs thereafter are \$5.00
- Students who lose or deface their ID will be required to purchase a new permanent ID.
- Any student who fails to identify themselves or is not wearing a current ID may receive disciplinary consequences.
- A new ID may be purchased at the ID station before school begins.
- If costs incur for ID's, a hold will be placed, and students will not be able to purchase tickets for specific events or receive a diploma until paid.

Lunch Procedures

Student Lunch Period

All lunch periods are assigned through 5th period classes. There are three lunches-A, B, and C. A student's lunch period is determined by the class he/she has during 5th period (see bell schedule on page 5). When at lunch students are expected to remain in a cafeteria or in the outdoor sitting areas outside of the cafeterias. Cooper is a closed campus. Only students who are checked out through the attendance office by a parent/guardian are allowed to leave campus during this time.

Lunch Deliveries

If a parent/guardian brings a student lunch during their lunchtime, it may only be for that student. Parents or guardians may not bring food for other students during lunch as this is in violation of the Food of Minimal Nutrition Value regulations. Students will be asked to show their ID to ensure the food delivered goes to the correct student. Students will not be called out of class before lunch time to pick up their food. It is expected that lunch is brought in a timely manner to allow students to eat prior to 5th period. All outside food and drinks brought for your child during must be discarded before going back to class. **No deliveries from restaurants are allowed.**

Visitors During Lunch

Only individuals who are listed on the student's emergency contact information will be allowed to have lunch with their student. These names are put into the computer at the beginning of the school year. No additional names will be added after the first six weeks of school.

Community partners must be approved by the district through a volunteer application prior to visiting campus during lunches.

Absences and Tardies

Reporting Absences

Ensure the school is contacted any time your child will be absent from school. Refer to the *Faculty and Staff* page of this document to determine which attendance clerk should be contacted. Lost instructional time due to continuous appointments during the school day make it difficult for students to stay caught up in class. Please, whenever possible, make appointments outside of the school day.

Tardy Policy

Procedure:

- When the tardy bell rings, the teacher will close the door
- All students not in class will be swept to class
- Teachers will accept late student to class
- Students will fill out a sign-in sheet upon arrival to class
- Teachers will communicate with attendance clerks with sign-sheet documentation
- Consequences will be assigned by the assistant principal

0-3 Tardies:

- Warning Letter
- Administration contacts parents at 3 cumulative tardies
- Conference with assistant principal at 3

4 Tardies and Above:

- After School Detention for every even number tardy
- Notification call/letter to parents
- Administrative intervention between students and parents

Excessive Weekly Tardies(5 or more in one week)

- Friday Night Lights/Saturday School/Afterschool Detention/ISS if habitual
- Notification Letter
- Administration contacts parents

Tardies reset at the beginning of each six weeks. The expectation is that responsible students will find a way to be on time to all classes.

Release and Return of Students During the School Day

If your child needs to be released during the school day before the normal dismissal time, please sign him/her out at the office. When possible, please call the school ahead of time and we will ensure your child is ready to leave when you arrive. The teacher will be notified and the student will be sent to the office. As a safeguard for our students, teachers have been instructed not to release students to adults unless notified by the office. Students will only be released to individuals denoted in the contact information. It is the parents/guardians responsibility to ensure accurate and updated contact information.

If a student has a doctor's appointment during the instructional day, please request a doctor's note reflecting a visit. If feasible, please make sure the student returns to school as soon as the appointment is completed. Students returning with a doctor's note within the same school day will not be reported as a state reported absence.

Anytime a student returns to school during the school day, they are required to report to their attendance clerk to get proper documentation to return to class.

School Communication

The school uses a variety of ways to communicate with parents. Please ensure your contact information is updated and you have marked in Frontline that you would like to receive school notifications. Communication will be delivered through the school's Remind, School Messenger (call outs and emails), Facebook, Twitter, and the Cooper webpage.

Contacting Teachers/Conferences

Contacting a Teacher

The best way to contact a teacher during the school day is to contact them through email. We will not transfer calls to a teacher's classroom during the school day because it is a disruption to instructional time. Teachers' email addresses can be found on our campus website or through the Frontline Parent Portal. Please understand that many teachers do not check their email during the instructional day, so replies will likely be sent after school hours. When there are concerns regarding a teacher or class, the teacher should be the first point on contact.

Conferences

Parents of children receiving a failing grade on a progress report or on a report card are encouraged to schedule a conference with the teacher as soon as possible. Parents and teachers may request conferences at any appropriate time. The child's counselor can also assist parents in coordinating a conference. Parents are encouraged to communicate any concerns with their child's teachers.

School Nurse

Any time a student has a health or medical concern they are allowed to see the nurse. Students are required to get a pass from their teacher prior to going to the nurses' office. The nurse will contact parents in instances when information needs to be communicated or the student needs to be picked up.

Students who are on medication that must be taken at school are required to have a written request form filled out by the parent or guardian with the full instructions on how the medication is to be administered. The medication must be in a container labeled by the pharmacist and marked with the patient's name, the physician's name, the name of the medication and directions concerning the dosage. These medications must be kept in the clinic and will be dispensed by the nurse. All medication shall be picked up by the parent/guardian at the end of the school year. Medication not picked up will be destroyed appropriately.

Learning Resources

Learning Resource Center (LRC)

The LRC is open Monday – Friday from 7:30 am to 4:00 pm. There are 2 computer labs, an AV auditorium, three separate study areas on the library floor, and an extensive library collection. Information about database passwords, remote access, audiobooks you can download to your own phone/device and more can be found in the LRC.

Student Email Account

Every high school student is given a school email account. This is a Google email account students use for school related purposes. Safeguards are included that notify administrators anytime students are accessing inappropriate content or are sending/receiving concerning information. Misuse of this account will result in the student's account being disabled and him/her not being allowed to access the internet at school. All student email addresses are formatted by their ID#. Example: 123456@abileneisd.org. If a student password needs to be reset, the student should contact the LRC Specialist for assistance.

Frontline/TEAMS

Student grades can be accessed through the Frontline/TEAMS parent and student portal. This is also where parents can update student contact information. Go to abileneisd.org and click on GRADES in the top right area to learn more about creating a student and/or parent account.

Xello

Xello is an online program that helps both middle and high school students plan for future success. Xello allows students to take in-depth career, personality, and learning-style assessments, explore a comprehensive database of careers, schools, and programs, participate in interactive lessons, and utilize high school course planning tools to make course selections and develop four-year plans.

Parent Involvement

We encourage all parents to be involved in their child's educational and extracurricular experiences. Almost all the extracurricular activities at Cooper have a Booster Club that depends on a financial and time investment from parents and community members. Contact the coach/sponsor of the activity to learn more information about how you can be involved.

Volunteer Guidelines

Abilene ISD has guidelines for district volunteers and chaperones. All volunteers are subject to a name-based background check and fingerprinting. Contact Cooper for more information on guidelines related to specific activities.

Additional Information

Student Gifts and Deliveries

It is district policy that students will not be allowed to receive flowers, balloons, cookie bouquets, etc. at school.

Lost and Found

The lost and found is located in the Academic Building Attendance Office.