

STUDENT AND FAMILY HANDBOOK

WELCOME TO THE COPE FAMILY!

2025 / 2026

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Welcome to Cope Middle School!

The staff of Cope Middle School welcomes all new and returning students and families. We believe students are responsible for their learning, demonstrating this responsibility through their attitude, attendance, behavior, and effort, with the ongoing support and guidance from families and Cope Staff.

We invite family communication, participation, and support to help instill a positive campus environment focused on the physical, emotional, and academic success of all students. We invite families to connect and be involved, and openly communicate any needs or concerns. We are a family of Cope Eagles, and staff, families, and students are all a part of that family.



Wendy
Caress
Principal

Cope Mission Statement:

We, the members of the Cope community, students, families, and staff, together are committed to mutual respect, critical thinking, and problem-solving through participation in our own education, demonstration of our own work ethic, and the pursuit of our own personal potential.



Davi **Belmore** Assistant Principal



Christopher
McClung
Assistant
Principal

History of **E.M. Cope Middle School**



Edward Mitchell Cope, our school's namesake, was born in Germantown, PA, and moved to Redlands in 1898. He bought the Redlands Commercial Co., which later became known as the E. M. Cope Commercial Co., dealing mainly in farming operations, hardware, housewares, paint, and ranch equipment.

In 1918, Cope became chair of the Civilian Relief Committee, which later became known as the Home Service Committee. He also established the Redlands Chapter of the Red Cross, forming a temporary committee on April 21, 1917, to establish the Redlands chapter. Additionally, Cope and his wife donated over fifteen acres on Terracina Blvd. to build Redlands Community Hospital.

Cope was a strong supporter of public education, serving as a trustee from 1918 to 1947 for the Redlands Public School District. His expertise in school finance fostered the wise use of more than \$16 million. He died in January 1954, at age 79. A year after his death, construction began on a new junior high. Redlands Daily Facts editor Frank E. Moore suggested that the new school be named in honor of E. M. Cope. On April 22, 1957, 457 seventh and eighth-grade students met for the first time on the campus of E. M. Cope Junior High School. New buildings were constantly being built, and in five years, Cope's enrollment more than doubled to 1184 students. Today, we have over 1350 eager students and over 50 wonderful teachers.

When Cope opened, Dwight Eisenhower was president. His military background and patriotism inspired Cope students to choose the golden eagle as their mascot, and gold and white as their colors. When Cope transitioned from a junior high to a middle school in 1993, students voted on green and blue as their new school colors. In 2010, the colors were reverted to the original gold and white, and today, gold, white, and blue are used to represent Cope's school spirit.

Our proud history has been filled with wonderful students, amazing staff members, and strong support from our community. Therefore, we have always been, and will continue to be, the best middle school in Redlands!

General Information



OFFICE HOURS

The main office is open for visitors from **7:30 AM - 4:00 PM** daily. Hours do vary occasionally due to campus activities or staff professional development. Changes will be posted on the door and communicated on the school website or through Parent Square in Aeries Communication.

CONTACT INFORMATION

All Cope staff members can be reached by calling the main office line, 909-307-5420, and either leaving a message or asking to be transferred to an extension. This number also provides general information about athletics, facilities usage requests, making an appointment with a teacher or counselor, or visiting the campus.

Cope staff members can also be reached via email by using the following: first name_last name@redlands.k12.ca.us.

COPE WEBSITE

Cope Middle School Website: https://www.redlandsusd.net/cope

The website provides daily bulletin announcements, the rotation and bell schedule, reminders, upcoming events, notifications, and the school calendar.

Families are encouraged to bookmark the website and refer to it often, as it is updated regularly.

VISITOR PROCEDURES

Family members wishing to visit a classroom (i.e., to observe their child) must provide at least 24 hours' notice to the student's counselor and teachers. Other campus visitors who would like to volunteer to assist with school events or assist in a classroom must be cleared through the RUSD volunteer process. More information about the paperwork and process can be found here: https://www.redlandsusd.net/volunteer

All campus visitors must check through the main office, show a valid ID, and wear a RAPTOR visitor's pass the entire time visiting on campus. (See General Information section.)

General Information



DROP-OFF OF ITEMS

Family members may drop off lunch, homework, PE clothes, or other items for their child, but it will be the child's responsibility to come to the Student Center during passing period or lunch for such items. Lunch drop-off is only for the individual child and should not be intended for multiple students. (i.e., pizzas, large orders, cakes, etc.) Families should pick up ahead of time if possible. Classrooms will not be interrupted for students to retrieve an item from the office.

Deliveries of outside food (including by outside vendors such as Uber Eats, GrubHub, or pizza delivery services), flowers/balloons, or other distracting items are not permitted.

LOST AND FOUND

Lost items found on campus are turned in to the Student Center. Inquire there if you've lost items. Unclaimed clothing and other items are donated to various charities at the end of each semester.

SCHOOL MEALS

All students are eligible to eat a free breakfast and free lunch every school day. Breakfast is served from 8:00 AM (when the campus opens) until 8:45 AM (when school begins). Students who miss breakfast before school can eat during the Breakfast Break between the first and second hour of the day. Lunch is served during two separate lunch periods, and a Grab-and-Go After School Snack Program is available for all students. More information about Child Nutritional Services and related programs can be found here:

https://redlandsmedleystation.org/





Cope Middle School 2025-2026 BELL SCHEDULE

Campus opens to students at 8:00 AM. The front entrance gate will open for 0-Period at 7:30 AM. 0-Period classes meet every day, Monday – Friday.

Otherwise, students should not arrive to campus earlier than 8:00 AM.

REGULA	R DAYS	COLLABORATION/MINIMUM DAYS								
Tuesday -	Friday	Monday								
First Bell	8:40 AM	First Bell	8:40 AM							
First Hour	8:45 AM - 9:44 AM	First Hour	8:45 AM - 9:25 AM							
Breakfast Break	9:44 AM - 9:51 AM	Breakfast Break	9:25 AM - 9:30 AM							
Second Hour	9:51 AM - 10:45 AM	Second Hour	9:30 AM - 10:07 AM							
Third Hour	10:50 AM - 11:44 AM	Third Hour	10:12 AM - 10:49 AM							
FIRST LUNCH	11:49 AM - 12:20 PM	FIRST LUNCH	10:54 AM - 11:24 AM							
Fourth Hour (2nd Lunch)	11:49 AM - 12:43 PM	Fourth Hour (2nd Lunch)	10:54 AM - 11:31 AM							
Fourth Hour (1st Lunch)	12:25 PM - 1:19 PM	Fourth Hour (1st Lunch)	11:29 AM - 12:06 PM							
SECOND LUNCH	12:48 PM - 1:19 PM	SECOND LUNCH	11:36 AM - 12:06 PM							
Fifth Hour	1:24 PM - 2:18 PM	Fifth Hour	12:11 PM - 12:48 PM							
Sixth Hour	2:23 PM - 3:17 PM	Sixth Hour	12:53 PM - 1:30 PM							
Dismissal	3:17 PM	Dismissal	1:30 PM							

NOTE: Students will be assigned to either First Lunch or Second Lunch based on their 4th hour teacher. Students may have different lunches on some days due to the rotating schedule.

September	October
1 – Labor Day (No School)	6, 13, 20, 27 - Collab/Min Day
8, 15, 22, 29 – Collab/Min Day	3 – End of Quarter 1
December	January
1, 8, 15- Collab/Min Day	1 - 9 – Winter Break
18 – End of Semester 1	12, 26 – Collab/Min Day
23 - 31- Winter Recess (No School)	19 – MLK Holiday (No School)
March	April
2, 9, 16 - Collab/Min Day	1 - 3 Spring Break (No School)
20 – End of Quarter 3	6, 13, 20, 27 – Collab/Min Day
22 - 31 – Spring Break (No School)	
June	
1 - Collab/Min Day	
4 - Last Day of School Minimum Day	
End of Semester 2	
	1 – Labor Day (No School) 8, 15, 22, 29 – Collab/Min Day December 1, 8, 15– Collab/Min Day 18 – End of Semester 1 23 - 31– Winter Recess (No School) March 2, 9, 16 – Collab/Min Day 20 – End of Quarter 3 22 - 31 – Spring Break (No School) June 1 – Collab/Min Day 4 – Last Day of School Minimum Day

Attendance

Cope Attendance Office:

Phone: (909) 307-5420 ext. 42111

Email: Milissa_Lewis@redlands.k12.ca.us

Office Hours: 7:30 am — 4:00 pm

REPORTING AN ABSENCE

To report an absence, a family member should call the school (909-307-5420) each day a child is absent. Families may also email Cope's Attendance Clerk at (Attendance Clerk) to report an absence. If an absence is not reported via phone call or email, a signed note is required to be provided when the child returns to school.

After two days, unexcused absences will be recorded as truancies and show as a "C" in their attendance record. Attendance can also be checked and verified in Aeries Parent Portal. For any discrepancies, please contact the child's teacher or the Attendance Clerk directly.

If a student needs to be absent for five or more consecutive days for a trip or personal reasons, families should call the office and ask for the student to be placed on Short Term Independent Study (STIS). For shorter absences, families are encouraged to check the teacher's Google Classroom page and/or contact the teachers directly.

CLOSED CAMPUS

Cope Middle School is a closed campus, which means once students arrive at school, they must remain on campus; this applies to before school, lunchtime, passing periods, and class time. Students must remain on campus unless a parent/guardian signs them out or an administrator permits them to leave.

CHECKING OUT STUDENTS

If a student must leave campus during the school day, the student must check out through the attendance office and be picked up by a parent or guardian.

For any parent/guardian picking up their child, a valid picture ID of a name listed on the student's emergency card is required. All information will be verified in Aeries prior to the release of any child, so please be sure all information is accurate and up to date.

TRUANCY

Truancy is defined as any intentional, unauthorized, or illegal absence from compulsory education. It refers to absences caused by students of their own free will, excluding legitimate "excused" absences related to medical conditions. Students who don't come to school without a legitimate excuse or leave campus without written parent permission will be considered truant. Initial truancy violations will result in a parent phone call/conference. Additional truancy violations will result in a SART meeting, and continued truancy will result in a referral to the district SARB committee.

^{**}Truancy violations may also result in a citation issued through the Redlands Police Department.

Tardy Policy

Arrival to First Period:

Students who are tardy to their first-period class should report directly to class unless they are more than five minutes late. In that case, they must check in at the Attendance Office. Teachers will record all tardies. Any tardy not related to a documented medical appointment is considered unexcused.

Definition of Tardy:

A student is considered tardy if they arrive to class after the late bell rings without a valid pass.

Tardy Accumulation:

Tardies are combined across all periods (1st–6th) and reset each semester. Any discipline assigned due to tardy accumulation remains in effect until completed.

Tardy Exclusion List:

Once a student accumulates 7 or more tardies, they are placed on the Tardy Exclusion List. While on this list, students may not participate in school events such as dances, fairs, field trips, RSCL, etc., until all consequences are served and the student is cleared.

- A separate exclusion list is generated for each event.
- Students and parents are encouraged to monitor attendance through the Aeries Portal.

Removal from the Tardy Exclusion List:

To be removed from the exclusion list, students must complete the tardy consequence assigned by the Assistant Principal.

- All tardy consequences must be completed at least one week prior to the event.
- Detention is the student's responsibility—notices will not be issued.
- Detention clears the student from the exclusion list, but does not remove the tardy from the attendance record.
 - o Detention Conversion:
 - 1 Lunch Detention = 2 Cleared Tardies (Exclusion List only).
 - Lunch Detention is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays during all lunches.
 - Be proactive—do not wait until the last minute to clear your tardies.

Tardy Sweeps:

To support school-wide punctuality, random tardy sweeps will be conducted. Students found outside of class without a valid pass will be directed to a designated location and must:

- Participate in an impact lesson on timeliness.
- Complete an impact reflection.
- Have their parent/guardian notified.
- Be subject to progressive discipline if swept more than once.

Cope Counseling



COPE COUNSELORS

Counselors are on campus from 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Please call the main Cope Office Line - 909-307-5420 - to set up an appointment if you need to meet with a counselor during school hours.

All students are assigned a Cope Counselor based on their last name. Cope Counselors are assigned as follows:

Students A - Go

Mr. Ethan Helenihi Ethan_Helenihi@redlands.k12.ca.us

Students Gr - O

Mrs. Amy Aument Amy_Aument@redlands.k12.ca.us

Students P - Z

Mrs. Cassidy Klohr Cassidy_Klohr@redlands.k12.ca.us



Cope Counseling
Corner

ROLE OF THE SCHOOL COUNSELOR

Cope Counselors are available to assist students with their academic, social/emotional, and behavioral needs. Counselors assist students with class and high school scheduling, resolving peer-to-peer conflicts, supporting those in crisis, providing skills for success, finding alternative ways to solve problems, and serving as a listening ear when needed.

Cope Counselors can also be found outside at lunch and on campus during passing periods. They often organize outreach activities to support students during these times.

Counselors are available to support families with connections to outside resources as well. Families that are struggling in any way are encouraged to connect with their child's counselor as a first step.

COUNSELING RESOURCES

The Cope Counselors and School Psychologist maintain a website of resources for families - the COPEing Corner. Please visit the website for additional information and resources, including crisis hotlines, parent resources, self-care, and mental health.

https://sites.google.com/redlandsschools.net/copeingcorner/home

Cope Counseling



ADDITIONAL COUNSELING RESOURCES:

Cope also utilizes an on-campus School Psychologist and a full-time Academic Case Carriers to further support students.

School Psychologist

Mrs. Kristen Williams Kisten Williams@redlands.k12.ca.us

Academic Case Carrier

Ms. Ruth Sotomayor Ruth_Sotomayor@redlands.k12.ca.us

EAGLE OASIS - COPE'S WELLNESS CENTER

The wellness center will be a place for counselors to meet with students in small groups, hold restorative circles, provide training/support for staff and families, and to serve as a resource center on a variety of topics. This is a new program so additional information will be provided as the program develops.





SOAR like an Eagle!

What is SOAR?:

At Cope Middle School, we expect all students to conduct themselves in a positive, respectful manner while on campus, in the classroom, and in the community. To support all students on campus in their social, emotional, and academic success, Cope has implemented a Positive Behavior Intervention System (PBIS) entitled SOAR, which reinforces students to be Safe, Organized, Accountable, and Respectful at all times.

SOAR posters of behavioral expectations in the classroom, on campus, and online, are posted in every teacher's classroom on campus.

Cope's emphasis on SOAR is intended to foster and promote a safe and positive school learning environment. SOAR enhances student learning by establishing high behavioral expectations and interventions for all students, and serves as a reminder for students to SOAR in all they do!

Recognition and Awards

Students who SOAR are recognized each quarter for their achievements and positive contributions to the Cope campus culture and community. Students are recognized and awarded by their teachers for demonstrating the SOAR expectations. This year, we will be emphasizing positive rewards for students who SOAR, and will be opening the SOAR Store for students to utilize their earned SOAR Bucks for purchases.

SOAR Card Guidelines

- SOAR Incentive/Recognition Cards
 - Given at any time to students who exemplify our SOAR values.
 - The card is to recognize those students who do more than just follow the rules, they go above and beyond.
 - Each card awards them points towards prizes, spirit items, incentives etc.
- SOAR Store
 - Students can redeem their SOAR points for incentives.
 - Open each Friday during both lunches.
 - Every SOAR card that is redeemed will be entered into a monthly drawing for more prizes and recognition.
- How cards are handed out
 - Adult on campus will sign the card and mark the area of SOAR that is being recognized
 - Student being recognized will have their name on card
 - When a student is presented with a card; the student will be told why they are being selected and what SOAR trait they exemplified.

SOAR like an Eagle!

SOAR Expectations on Campus:

SAFE:

- See Something, Say Something
- Walk and Keep Your Hands to Yourself
- Stay Out of Restricted Areas
- No Illegal Items on Campus

ORGANIZED:

- Prioritize Your Personal Needs During Passing Periods
- Stay on Walkways
- Walk and Keep Your Hands to Yourself
- Use Time Effectively During Passing Periods

ACCOUNTABLE:

- Keep a Clean Campus
- Take Responsibility for Your Choices
- Use Campus Facilities and Property Appropriately
- Tell Staff if there is a Dangerous Situation

RESPECTFUL:

- Answer to Authority Figures and Follow Their Directions
- Be Polite and Treat Everyone with Kindness
- Keep Displays of Affection to Hand Holding

Allow Everyone the Opportunity to Learn and Feel Safe



SOAR like an Eagle!



SOAR Expectations in Class:

SAFE:

- Follow the Classroom Rules
- Keep Your Hands and Feet in Your Space
- Use Positive Language and Responses Towards Others
- Make Others Feel Comfortable and Welcomed in the Things You Say and Do

ORGANIZED:

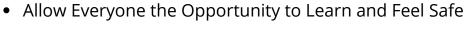
- Have Your Materials Ready at the Beginning of Class
- Use Your Agenda Daily
- Maintain a Clean, Orderly Backpack and Binder
- Clean Up After Yourself

ACCOUNTABLE:

- Arrive On-Time to Class, Ready to Learn
- Use Time Effectively in Class
- Be Responsible for any Missing Assignments
- Take Responsibility for Your Actions and Your Grades

RESPECTFUL:

- Be Polite, Tolerant, and Accepting of Others
- Follow Instructions
- Respect the Rights and Property of Students and Staff





SOAR like an Eagle!

SOAR Expectations Online:

SAFE:

- Think Before You Post or Send Something
- See Something, Say Something
- Protect Your Personal Information and Logins
- Use School Computers for School Tasks Only

ORGANIZED:

- Check Your Grades in Aeries Regularly
- Email Your Teacher When You Need Assistance

ACCOUNTABLE:

- Be Aware: Your Online Activity Can Result in On-Campus or Legal Consequences
- Respect the Privacy of Others
- Your School Chromebook is for Learning Keep it Safe, Charged, and Clean

RESPECTFUL:

- Be Polite, Tolerant, and Accepting of Others
- Use School Appropriate Language
- Respect Others' Workspace or Screens
- Be a Positive Role Model Online

SOAR in All You Do!

Students who remember to focus on learning, treating others with respect and kindness, and following SOAR expectations in the classroom, on campus, and online will have an amazing year full of positivity and success! We hope all students will choose to **SOAR in all they do!**



Student Expectations

Cope Middle School expects students to foster a positive campus culture focused on learning and respect for self and all others at all times. We believe that proper behavior on the part of every student is essential for students to learn to their maximum potential.

GENERAL RULES

In addition to following the SOAR expectations, Cope has specific policies regarding some other behaviors on campus. All students are expected to follow the following general rules at all times:

- 1. Know and follow all SOAR Expectations.
- 2. Move in a calm and orderly manner throughout the campus.
- 3. Be on time for school and all classes. Do not arrive on campus before 8:00 AM.
- 4. Remain in designated areas for breakfast, lunch, and during passing periods.
- 5. Use appropriate language toward other adults and other students; treat everyone with respect.
- 6. Follow the directions of all staff members daily, including lunch time, safety drills, assemblies, and other campus activities, and within any classroom or campus building.
- 7. Respect all personal and school property, including classroom materials, textbooks, desks, the interior and exterior of campus buildings and grounds, and the property of Cope's neighbors and businesses.
- 8. Comply with the school dress code standards while on campus or off-campus at other school events. Pajama onesies or costumes are only allowed on school dress-up spirit days.
- 9. Exit the campus within 15 minutes after school is dismissed unless involved in a school activity or practice, or waiting for the bus. Loitering on campus, in restrooms, or restricted areas will not be allowed.
- 10. Maintain a clean campus by disposing of trash and recycling in the designated containers during lunch and throughout the day. Clean up after yourself and encourage others to do the same. Show pride in being a Cope Eagle.
- 11. Stay in designated areas at lunch by sitting at a table.. Students are not allowed to sit on the ground, grass, or brick walls, or leave the lunch area without a pass granting permission to do so. Food and drinks (aside from water) are not allowed on the upper fields.
- 12. Maintain orderly behavior during lunch by sitting to eat and walking to move. Use the ramp to go to the restroom and do not cross fencing or other barriers meant to keep students in the lunch area. Throwing food and horseplay is not allowed. Students who wish to run and "play" need to do so on the upper field area.
- 13. Participate in activities safely when on the fields or in PE. Students may not bring their own sports equipment (i.e., footballs, basketballs, bats/gloves, baseballs, etc.) and should check out sports equipment at lunch only. IDs are required to check out all sports equipment. Tackle football is never allowed.
- 14. Always carry a campus pass when on campus and show it to the adult if asked.
- 15. TAs should wear a TA badge when on campus as well.
- 16. Keep phones and all other electronic devices off and in backpacks during the school day unless teachers permit for their use.
- 17. Keep displays of affection to holding hands. Hugging and kissing are not appropriate at school or school-sponsored events; parents will be contacted, and detention will be assigned.
- 18. Bring only the necessary items to school. Weapons, real or simulated (including camping type knives), lighters, laser pointers, cameras, audio players/portable speakers, iPods, electronic items, toys (spinners), animals, liquid white out, super glue, permanent markers, paint pens, slime, glitter, gum, personal sports equipment, or any other item(s) that may disrupt the educational process, are not appropriate at school and should be left at home.
- 19. GUM IS NOT ALLOWED to be chewed while on campus.
- 20. Selling of any item (i.e., candy, drinks, snacks, etc) is not allowed unless part of an approved fundraiser.

Phone Policy

MOBILE PHONE-FREE CAMPUS

To support a focused learning environment, Cope Middle School, like all RUSD middle schools, operates as a phone-free campus. Students must keep their phones silenced and out of sight in their backpacks throughout the entire school day, starting from arrival until dismissal.

MOBILE PHONE ISSUES

The presence of phones on Cope's campus has unfortunately led to incidents of cyberbullying, threats against others, and the unwanted recording of altercations or individuals. Furthermore, phones frequently fuel student issues involving gossip, relationship drama, and inappropriate language or behavior. These situations significantly detract from the academic integrity and learning environment in the classroom, negatively impacting the overall positive campus culture at Cope Middle School.

MOBILE PHONE / ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY

While we recognize that parents often rely on phones for communication and that students may use smartwatches for social access, these devices frequently disrupt the focus of our educational setting. To ensure a productive learning environment for all students, the following guidelines regarding phone, smartwatch, and electronic device usage will be implemented:

- Student possession on campus of any electronic devices (i.e., mobile phones, smart watches, iPods, iPads, AirPods, earbuds, etc.) is strongly discouraged. If students choose to bring these items to school, they should be silenced and should be in a backpack <u>at all times</u>. Electronic devices may NOT be used during school hours for any reason.
- In the morning, mobile phones and other electronic devices should be put away before coming on campus; if we see devices being used, they will be confiscated. This includes checking the time, reviewing messages, including those from parents, and so on.
- At the end of the day, once the bell rings and students exit the campus, phones may be used to contact families.
- Violations of these guidelines will result in the confiscation of the item. Confiscated items will be kept in the Student Center for pickup by the student (1st offense) or by the parent/guardian (2nd offense).
- Using a phone to video other students/adults can be an invasion of privacy. If students violate "bullying" or harassment/intimidation laws, they are subject to consequences specified by the CA. Education code and/or other criminal violations.
- Mobile phones and any personal device are always a target for theft. It is a student's
 responsibility to secure their mobile phone, smartwatch, or other electronic devices at all
 times, as the school cannot take responsibility and is not required to investigate if items
 are missing or stolen.

NOTE: Education Code 48901.5, AB 272 became effective January 1, 2020 and explicitly authorizes the governing body of a school district to limit or prohibit the use by its pupils of smartphones while the pupils are at school site or while pupils are under the supervision of an employee or employees of that school district.

Dress Code Policy

The Board of Education has determined that a student may not remain at school dressed in a manner that (1) creates a safety hazard for said student or for other students at school, and/or (2) when the dress disrupts campus order. When the site administration determines that a student's attire is in violation of this policy, the student will be required to modify their clothing and/or apparel in such a way that no longer violates this policy. Refusal to take steps as directed by the administration may result in disciplinary action.

- Shoes must be worn at all times. A substantial sole is required, and enclosed toe and heel footwear is highly encouraged. Athletic shoes are required for Physical Education classes.
- Clothing will **always cover all undergarments**. Undergarments may not be worn solely as clothing (e.g. bra tops, boxer briefs). A jacket or cover-up to conceal brief clothing that reveals undergarments is not acceptable. **Extremely brief garments are not appropriate**; this includes tube tops, halter tops, and strapless tops. Spaghetti straps (straps must be at least 1 inch wide), tops with low-cut necklines or large armholes, crop tops or shirts that expose the midriff even when arms are raised, shorts, skirts, or dresses that do not adequately cover undergarments when seated or standing. Clothing that resembles an undergarment, such as a sports bra or swimwear top, is not allowed.
- Clothing or accessories shall be free of writing, pictures, or any other insignia or logos
 which are crude, violent, obscene, or sexually suggestive or which advocate racial, ethnic or
 religious prejudice. Slogans or pictures depicting or promoting drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or
 controlled substances are not appropriate (this includes Playboy logos, Cookies brand
 clothing and logos, clothing with marijuana leaves, and any other logo or brand promoting
 pornography or drug/alcohol use). Additionally, clothing that might incite hatred or unrest
 between students is not allowed.
- Earrings, jewelry, or accessories, which present a safety hazard to the wearer or others, are not suitable for school wear. Spiked/sharp accessories of any kind will not be allowed.
- Only prescription sunglasses may be worn in class. Other types of sunglasses may be worn on campus outside of class.
- Identified gang attire or any gang paraphernalia is prohibited. The administration has the right to ban any clothing or accessory that indicates gang affiliation.
- Hats or any type of sun-protective headgear may be worn on campus, as long as it does not violate any other section of the Dress Code. Hats should be removed while indoors on campus.

If this policy is violated, students will be asked to report to administration and will be provided the opportunity to change into an approved garment. Multiple violations will result in progressive disciplinary action consistent with other means of correction for defiance of school policies.

Failure to comply with the school dress code policy may result in the following:

- 1st Offense Confiscation of and change of clothing, and parent/guardian contact
- 2nd Offense Confiscate item of clothing and change of clothing, parent contact, lunch detention
- 3rd Offense Confiscate item of clothing and change of clothing, parent contact, campus beautification
- 4th Offense Confiscate item of clothing and change of clothing, parent contact, after-school detention

Bus & Bicycle Policy

BUS RIDERS

Students who ride the bus must show their bus pass daily and must ride to/from their assigned bus stop. Families requiring student transportation to school must apply for a bus pass through the RUSD Transportation Department. More information can be found here:

https://www.redlandsusd.net/transportation

The bus driver's first concern is safety. Respectful behavior on the bus is essential, and all school rules apply to bus riders on the bus and while waiting for the bus. Bus riders must maintain orderly and safe behavior while waiting at bus loading areas on and off campus. The opportunity to ride the bus may be revoked for misbehavior.

Students who ride the bus in the afternoon should be at the bus pick-up area no later than 5 minutes after school ends. Bus drivers will not wait for students.

Students who receive bus referrals will be given the following consequences:

- 1st Referral Warning, parent contact, and lunch detention
- 2nd Referral Parent contact and 3-day suspension from the bus
- 3rd Referral Parent contact and 5-day suspension from the bus
- 4th Referral Parent contact and suspension from the bus for the duration of the semester
- 5th Referral Parent contact and suspension from the bus for the duration of the year

NOTE: Severe misbehavior may result in immediate suspension of bus privileges.

The bus driver, by State Board regulation, is responsible for the orderly conduct of pupils transported. Continued disorderly conduct or persistent refusal to submit to the authority of the driver shall be sufficient reason for a pupil to be denied transportation.

BICYCLES/SKATEBOARDS/SCOOTERS/ROLLERBLADES

Students who ride bikes, skateboards, or scooters to school must be aware of and follow the guidelines below. If the rules are not followed, students will not be allowed to ride to school.

Riding bicycles, skateboards, scooters, or rollerblades is not allowed on campus. The campus features a parking lot and sidewalks located at the front of the school. These items should be parked and secured in the Cope Middle School bike lock-up area as soon as students arrive on campus. Students should not expect to leave them in offices or classrooms. If a student is riding on campus, the bike, skateboard, scooter, or rollerblades will be confiscated and returned only to the parent/guardian.

Every effort is made to safeguard bikes, skateboards, scooters, and other similar items while they are parked in the bike lock-up. However, as with other personal property, the school cannot assume responsibility for theft or damage.

Students riding bikes, skateboards, scooters, or rollerblades are required to wear a helmet. If a student does not have a helmet, he/she will not be allowed to ride home. A helmet will need to be brought to school, or the item will need to be picked up. This is a state law – see Section 21212 of the CA Vehicle Code.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

Students should write their names on all personal belongings, including backpacks and PE clothes. Students should refrain from bringing to school anything that is not school-related or anything of high sentimental or monetary value. Students are responsible for all personal belongings brought to school, and the school cannot assume responsibility for theft or damage of such items.

Student Discipline

At Cope Middle School, we expect students to **SOAR** in all they do. We expect all students to conduct themselves in a positive, respectful manner while on campus, in the classroom, and in the community, and to follow all classroom and school rules.

If students choose to break the rules or interfere with the learning process of other students, they must accept the consequences for their actions.

CORRECTIVE MEASURES

The following corrective measures may be utilized by administrators, teachers, counselors, or safety officer (s):

The student may be warned regarding inappropriate behavior, counseled regarding appropriate behavior, participate in a restorative practices activity, and may receive classroom detention, lunch detention, campus beautification, after-school detention, on-campus suspension, or an off-campus suspension.

Serious violations will result in immediate suspension. Students may also receive a citation for serious violations. A citation is processed through the Redlands Police Department and requires that the student and parent attend a court session. (Violations of Ed. Code. 48900 (a)-1 and (a)-2 causing physical injury, and/or fighting will most often result in a citation.)

CAMPUS BEAUTIFICATION

Campus beautification may include activities such as picking up trash, cleaning lunch tables, wiping down desks/walls, organizing shelves, sweeping, pulling weeds, or other similar tasks. Students will be provided with gloves and appropriate cleaning materials or tools as appropriate.

RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

Counselors or administrators will lead students through a restorative practices activity when appropriate. Restorative circles, for example, bring multiple students together to resolve conflict by building and restoring a relationship through equal opportunity sharing and listening. Restorative practices help students learn how to navigate conflict resolution, take ownership of their behavior, and practice empathy, perspective-taking, and forgiveness.

LUNCH DETENTION

Teachers may assign lunch detention to be served in their classrooms. Administrators or safety officers will assign lunch detention to be served in room B-1. Students must be in B-1 within the first five minutes of the lunch period. Students assigned to lunch detention are still allowed to eat lunch and use the restroom as needed.

AFTER-SCHOOL DETENTION

Administrators or safety officers will assign after-school detention as needed. The location will be determined based on the availability of facilities, and students must report to detention by 3:20 PM to be admitted. Students who fail to attend after-school detention on their assigned day will be subject to an on-campus suspension the following school day.

ON-CAMPUS SUSPENSION

Students assigned to OCS are to report to the office to check in with an administrator. Students will most often serve OCS in B-1 but may occasionally be in the main office, library, or Wellness Center. Students will have access to Chromebooks and are expected to complete their missed classwork. Students will remain in OCS the entire school day, with restroom breaks and lunch provided.

Student Discipline

SUSPENSION

Suspension Education codes 48900 and 48915 identify the behaviors which can lead to student suspension and/or expulsion. Some of the reasons a student may be suspended are (Note: list below is not complete):

- 1. Causing, attempting to cause, or threatening to cause physical injury to another person.
- 2. Possessing, selling, using, or otherwise furnishing or being under the influence of any controlled substance alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind; Including drug paraphernalia.
- 3. Possession of any firearm, (including imitation) knife, explosive or other dangerous object.
- 4. Committing robbery or extortion.
- 5. Committing an obscene act or engaging in profanity or vulgarity.
- 6. Knowingly receiving stolen school or private property.
- 7. Intimidation, harassment (bullying), sexual harassment.
- 8. Disruption of school activities or otherwise willfully defying the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, or administrators.

Students who are suspended may not be on or near campus at any time for any reason during the time of suspension.

A student may be suspended or expelled for the above offenses if the offense occurs at any time including but not limited to:

- 1. While coming to or going home from school (school jurisdiction).
- 2. While on school grounds.
- 3. During the lunch period, whether on or off campus.
- 4. During or while going to or coming from any school-sponsored activity either on campus or off campus.

EAGLE ACADEMY - ON CAMPUS ALTERNATIVE TO SUSPENSION

Cope utilizes Eagle Academy, an on-campus alternative to suspension, for some suspendable offenses and for students who violate classroom rules and policies. Eagle Academy may not be appropriate for use in all situations.

Eagle Academy is a site-operated classroom for students who have committed Education Code 48900 violations or have been placed in the class by an administrator as an alternative to suspension. The administrator will decide whether Eagle Academy is an appropriate setting based on the egregiousness of the violation and will review the contract with families before placing a student in Eagle Academy. The students will be under the supervision of credentialed teachers, counselors, and/or administrators who will present a restorative program that offers a proactive approach to instilling the skills, habits, and behaviors necessary for success in school and life, and hopefully prevent the related behavior from being repeated.

During the restorative program, students may engage in impact lessons, role-playing activities, restorative circles, reintegration action planning, academic planning, campus beautification, and other behavioral activities.

The program is designed to give students a second chance and opportunity to learn from and reflect on their behaviors. Students who complete the program will not have a suspension reflected on their attendance or behavior record, unless the student is pending expulsion. Students are responsible for completing all assignments missed during their time at Eagle Academy. An absence by the student on an Eagle Academy day is a violation of the contract, and the school reserves the right to implement a suspension for the original education code violation.

Campus Safety

SAFETY OFFICERS

Safety officers and Campus Monitors are on campus to ensure the safety of everyone on campus – students and adults. They work alongside counselors and administrators to resolve difficulties and investigate issues as they arise. Feel free to report your concerns to a safety officer. Get to know our safety officers. They are here for you!

SUPERVISION

There is no supervision on campus before 8:00 AM. Students should not be dropped off or arrive at school before that time unless they are attending 0-period PE.

IDENTIFICATION CARDS

Students are to keep their Cope Middle School student identification card with them at all times. The ID card is needed for campus passes, to check out books, to purchase tickets for school-related activities, and to attend school activities. There is a \$5.00 charge for a replacement card. Students are expected to present their ID card whenever asked by any school staff member.

VISITORS

All visitors must enter through Cope's single point of entry, the main office. All visitors must check in at the main office and wear a RAPTOR visitor's pass for the entire duration of their visit on campus. (See General Information section.)

DISTRICT TIP LINES

The Redlands Unified School District maintains an anonymous tip line, encouraging students to report vandalism, graffiti, or other crimes. The phone number is (909) 703-8736, or you can access it online at app.sprigeo.com. Families may also use the Sprigeo app to report safety-related concerns to themselves, other students, or the campus.

BULLYING / HARASSMENT / INTIMIDATION / RELATIONAL AGGRESSION

Bullying can be defined as the use of intimidation, aggression, and/or cruelty with the result of hurting another person. Bullying carries the ramifications of causing pain and stress to the victim. Bullying is never justified and is not excusable as "kids being kids," "just teasing," or any other rationalization.

Specific types of bullying may include, but are not limited to: physical, verbal, mental/emotional, racist/intolerant, and sexual. It may also include the use of social networks and cell phones. If a student believes they or another student is being bullied or harassed, they should report it to a counselor, administrator, safety officer, or through the Sprigeo App. Students will be encouraged to fill out the Redlands Unified School District Bullying/Harassment form for ongoing issues. Each report will be investigated, and students will be referred to their counselor for support/resolution.

The Redlands Unified School District Board of Education has established the following: "No student or group of students shall, through physical, written, verbal, or other means, harass, sexually harass, threaten, intimidate, cyberbully, cause bodily injury to, or commit hate violence against any other student or school personnel." Those who choose to bully will be disciplined according to district policy and the California Education Code. (48900)

Academics

LIBRARY AND BOOKS

The library opens at 8:00 AM for students to use and is open during lunch with a campus pass. The library is also open after school until 4:00 PM. Students must use their Cope school identification card to check out books, Chromebooks, and textbooks. Students are expected to return books and Chromebooks in the condition they were received.

INTERNET/MOBILE DEVICES USE AGREEMENT

Students at Cope Middle School have access to the Internet through classroom, library, and lab computers for educational purposes only. To gain access, students must have the RUSD Acceptable Use Policy form, which must be signed by both a parent or guardian and the student. Students must abide by the terms outlined in the agreement or lose the privilege to use the Internet. If the agreement is not signed and submitted; the student is not permitted to use the Internet anywhere on campus, in accordance with District policy.

As outlined in Redlands Unified School District Board Policy 6162.7, the following are not permitted:

- Sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures
- Harassing, insulting, or attacking others
- Damaging computers, computer systems, or networks
- Violating copyright laws
- Using another's password
- Trespassing in another's folder, work, or files
- Intentionally wasting limited resources
- Employing the network for commercial purposes

If students use computers or other electronic devices inappropriately or otherwise disrupt the classroom learning environment, they will be disciplined accordingly.

ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY

To ensure the integrity of Cope Middle School's educational program, a strict policy of academic honesty is enforced school-wide.

Students will be expected to:

- 1. Do their academic work unless authorized to work in groups.
- 2. Avoid plagiarism (copying another author's writing and claiming it as yours).
- 3. Adhere to classroom academic standards when testing.

Failure to adhere to the above standards may result in the loss of credit for an assignment and/or the lowering of an academic grade. (See the full Academic Integrity Policy on the next page.)

REPORT CARDS

Grade reporting occurs eight times per year - once midway through the quarter and at the end of each quarter. The semester grades are the only grades posted on a student's permanent record. Parents may view grades in Aeries Parent Portal as report cards are no longer mailed home.

ACADEMIC RECOGNITION

Students are recognized by teachers through their Student of the Month selection and end of the year Honor Roll. Semester Assemblies are held to recognize high-achieving students in each grade level.

Academic Integrity Policy

PHILOSOPHY/RATIONALE

Academic honesty is highly valued at Cope Middle School. We are dedicated to fostering an environment of intellectual excellence and upholding the highest standards of academic integrity. We believe in promoting ethical conduct, and every student is responsible for contributing to this environment. While we understand the pressures students face, we firmly believe that academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, is never justified and will not be tolerated. Our commitment is to "learning for learning's sake" and preparing students for future academic and professional success, where integrity is paramount.

What is academic integrity?

Having academic integrity means valuing and demonstrating positive regard for:

- Intellectual honesty
- Personal truthfulness
- Learning for its own sake
- The creations and opinions of others (i.e., intellectual property)

You are acting with academic integrity to the extent that you demonstrate these values, and in particular:

- Take full credit for your own work, and give full credit to others who have helped you or influenced you, or whose work you have incorporated into your own.
- Represent your own work honestly and accurately.
- Collaborate with other students only as specifically directed and authorized by your teacher.
- Report breaches of academic integrity to a teacher, counselor, or administrator.

Academic integrity means doing schoolwork honestly. Cheating is gaining an unfair advantage and is dishonest; plagiarism, a form of cheating, is presenting someone else's words or ideas as if they were your own. Students are sometimes legitimately unsure about what is acceptable and what isn't. Teachers should communicate their expectations to students and make every effort to avoid situations in which students are unclear about how to meet assignment requirements. Likewise, if a student is unsure about what is acceptable, they should consult their teacher before submitting the final version/draft of the assignment in question.

Additionally, the use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools—such as ChatGPT or other generative technologies—is only permitted when authorized by the teacher. Submitting AI-generated content as one's work without teacher approval constitutes plagiarism and a violation of academic integrity. Students are expected to use AI responsibly and in alignment with assignment guidelines.

INSTANCES OF MISCONDUCT:

Examples of misconduct include, but are not limited to:

- Plagiarism: defined as the representation, intentionally, or unintentionally, of the ideas, works, or work of another person without proper, clear, and explicit acknowledgement (ex., properly citing information)
- Collusion: supporting academic misconduct by another student, for example, allowing one's work to be copied or submitted for assessment by another
- Duplication of work: the presentation of the same work for different assessment components and/or core requirements (ex., submitting the same work for two assignments)
- Any other behavior that gains an unfair advantage for a student or that affects the results of another student (for example, sharing assessment questions, disclosure of information to and receipt of information from another student about the content of an examination via any form of communication/social media, either before, during or after an exam/quiz).

Misconduct in Exam Sessions:

Incidents of misconduct include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Bringing unauthorized material into an exam room
- Misconduct during an exam, including but not limited to impersonating another student
- Supporting, or attempting to support, the passing on of exam-related information
- Copying the work of another student
- Failing to comply with the instructions of the adult facilitating the exam
- Stealing an exam (before/during/after an exam)
- Using an unauthorized calculator or other smart device during an exam

Academic Integrity Policy

LEVEL 1 INFRACTIONS:

These are primarily situations dealt with at the **classroom level**. Occurrences at this level include, but are not limited to, possession of a cell phone or other unauthorized device on a student's person during an exam, wandering eyes on exams/quizzes, repetitive missing of exams (without documentation such as a medical note), habitual absences on assignment due dates, and infractions involving copying classroom and homework assignments, including lab assignments. It is the responsibility of each teacher to clearly communicate expectations regarding homework, research papers, and projects to their classes, preferably in writing on their course syllabi. It is the **student's responsibility** to be aware of what constitutes an infraction in a particular course.

Consequences:

- The student will receive a reduction in grade/credit (up to and including "0" credit) on the assignment, exam, test, or quiz based on the teacher's grading system; the student must redo the assignment or an alternative assessment if required by the teacher.
- The teacher will confer with the student and contact the parent/guardian by phone or e-mail to review the academic integrity incident within two school days of becoming aware of the incident.
- The teacher will submit a written referral, along with appropriate documentation, to an assistant principal, who will meet with the student and/or counselor and document the incident/follow-up action in Aeries. The assistant principal will then notify all of the student's teachers of the infraction.
- Disciplinary actions may include, but are not limited to, lunch detentions and campus beautification service. All
 students who commit a Level 1 infraction will receive a verbal warning. The student and parent will be
 required to sign a statement/contract acknowledging the violation/penalty and indicating an understanding of
 the further consequences for any subsequent offenses.

LEVEL 2 INFRACTIONS:

These are situations involving **more serious ethical violations**. Occurrences at this level include, but are not limited to, deliberate exchange/copying of information from another student including during a test/quiz, flagrant copying of a secondary source, internet site, web-based information, and any work of another person, use of a "cheat sheet" - including on an electronic device, attempting to obtain points by modifying a previously marked paper, knowingly allowing someone to look at one's work product during a test or quiz, giving or receiving test information to or from students in other periods of the same teacher or same course OR a second or repeated instance of a Level 1 violation (previous violations of Level 1 need not have occurred in the same class or academic year). Consequences include those listed under LEVEL 1 Consequences and **ONE OR MORE** of the following:

- A teacher may decline to write a letter of recommendation or report it in a letter of recommendation. A teacher may also rescind a recommendation after it has been sent.
- During the grading period immediately following the incident, the teacher may assign a grade of "U" to the student's Citizenship mark.

LEVEL 3 INFRACTIONS:

These situations involve serious ethical violations and/or deliberate failure to adhere to the Cope Academic Integrity Policy. Occurrences at this level include a 3rd offense of Level 1, a combination of a Level 1 and a Level 2 offense, or a 1st offense at Level 3 (previous violations at any level need not have occurred in the same class or academic year). Other occurrences at this level include, but are not limited to, clearly premeditated cheating; involvement in cheating conspiracies; involvement in blatant or extensive plagiarism or cheating beyond that of a Level 2; distributing unauthorized papers or projects to other students; Air-Dropping and/or mass sharing or distribution of exam/quiz material to other students; theft of assessment, instructional or administrative materials; receiving payment or paying for unauthorized papers or projects; and altering grades on a computer database, gradebook, or returned work. Consequences include those listed under LEVEL 1 and 2 Consequences and **ONE OR MORE** of the following:

• Exclusion from extra/co-curricular activities, including disqualification from all ASB activities.

PROCEDURES:

Parents and students should understand that the teacher's professional judgment, in conjunction with administrative guidance, will determine whether a violation of the Academic Integrity Policy has occurred.

Appeals Process: Students wishing to contest decisions/consequences resulting from an Academic Integrity Policy violation may submit their written appeal to the Cope Administration within 5 days of the initial consequence.

Student Activities

ELIGIBILITY FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Attendance at extracurricular activities is a privilege, and students must meet specific behavioral expectations to participate. A school suspension in the previous 45 school days, 45 period absences during the semester (letters A, B, C, D, S, and H in attendance), or a total of 7 or more tardies (attendance code T), will exclude students from any extracurricular school activity.

Students who are excluded from a field trip or extracurricular activity are required to attend school, where alternative instruction will be provided. Failure to attend school simply because the student is not participating in a field trip or special activity will be considered truant unless the absence is cleared through the attendance office by a parent or guardian.

SCHOOL PARTIES, FIELD TRIPS, AND ACTIVITY RULES

Cope ID Cards are required to enter the campus for any event.

The following rules apply:

- 1. Cope parties, dances, reward events, field trips, and other activities are for Cope students only. No guests are allowed.
- 2. Students are required to have a completed and signed ASB School Event Contract and the District's Acknowledgement and Assumption of Liability form to purchase a ticket and be admitted to any school event on file.
- 3. Students must uphold the expectations listed in the ASB School Activities Contract and the District's Acknowledgement and Assumption of Liability form, or the privilege to attend future events and activities will be revoked.
- 4. If students are absent on the day of the activity or have been placed on the school activities exclusion list, they will not be permitted to attend the event/activity.
- 5. Before any school event or activity that extends the normal school day, all students must arrange for prompt transportation home. Students who have not been picked up within 30 minutes after the advertised end time of the event will be excluded from the next activity.
- 6. All Cope and District policies apply to all school-sponsored events and activities. **Please see the Cope website and the ASB event contract for full details.**

REDLANDS STUDENT CONNECTIONS LEAGUE (RSCL)

The following boys and girls team sports are offered district-wide to ALL middle school students:

1st Quarter: Volleyball | 2nd Quarter: Softball | 3rd Quarter: Soccer | 4th Quarter: Basketball

Students wishing to participate must complete and return to the main office the Athletics Clearance Packet and Preparticipation Physical Form, which can be found at:

https://cope.redlandsusd.net/activities-programs/athletics

These items must be completed prior to trying out for the team. Student athletes must maintain a 2.0 GPA and have satisfactory behavior and attendance, as determined by site administration and coaches.

LUNCHTIME INTRAMURALS

Each quarter, Cope PE teachers may offer lunchtime intramurals for students to compete against one another at both first and second lunch. Students will receive more information in their PE classes and through the Student Bulletin.

CLUBS

A variety of clubs and extracurricular activities are available at Cope. Students should listen to the daily bulletin, refer to the school website, or ask individual teacher advisors for more information.

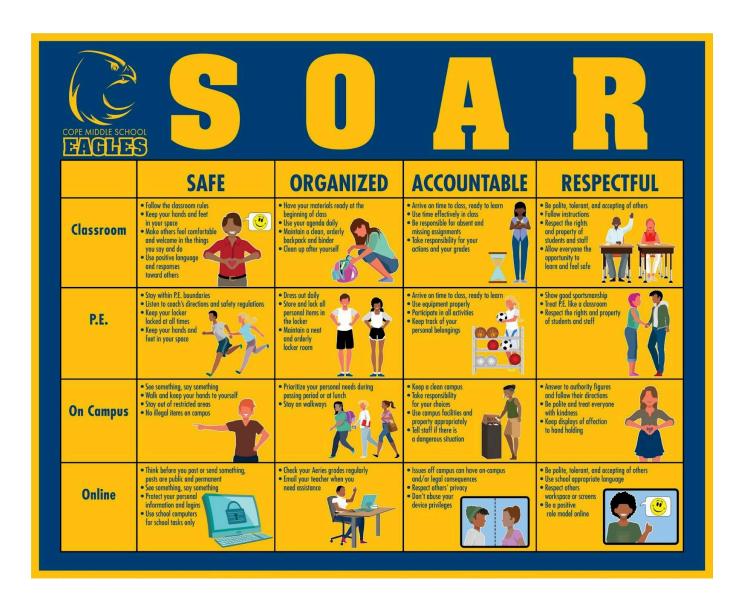
Rotation Schedule

COPE MIDDLE SCHOOL

ROTATION SCHEDULE 2025-26

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Cope Middle School 2025-26





Contact Information

- **(**909) 307-5420
- 1000 W. Cypress Avenue, Redlands, Ca. 92373
- www.cope.redlands.net



Thank you for reviewing these important practices and procedures.

Cope Middle School takes pride in operating a safe, organized, accountable, and respectful learning environment.

We look forward to a positive, amazing year!





COPE MIDDLE SCHOOL

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