## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT (Please POST, all-call, etc.)

In the 2021-2022 Reopening Plan, Meriwether County Schools mandated students and staff wear masks inside school buildings for the 1<sup>st</sup> 9-weeks of school. After such time, pandemic data would be analyzed regarding any continuation of a mask mandate. The 1<sup>st</sup> 9-weeks came to a close this week.

As of October 22, 2021, Meriwether County has a total of 19 new COVID cases over the last 14 days and a 2-week percent COVID positive rate of 5.6%. Comparing the October 22, 2021 numbers to September 4, 2021 where Meriwether County had a total of 179 new COVID cases over the previous 14 days and a 2-week percent COVID positive rate of 24.5%, it is statistically obvious the COVID numbers are significantly decreasing in Meriwether County.

As a result of the analysis of current COVID data in Meriwether County, beginning on Monday, October 25, 2021:

- Masks will be encouraged (not mandated) inside all buildings.
- If the COVID positivity rate of a facility reaches 2% or above, masks will be mandated for that facility.
- Any who are identified as a COVID close contact at school will be required to quarantine only if they are exhibiting symptoms.
- Masks are still required on all buses per a Federal Mandate.

Thank you for your patience and support throughout the COVID pandemic. Meriwether County Schools will continue to consult with the Georgia Department of Public Health and monitor current data regarding the COVID pandemic. If needed, Meriwether County Schools will make an announcement in the event of any further updates.