



*Engage. Inspire. Prepare.*

## BURNT HICKORY RETURNING TO ORANGE OPERATING LEVEL WEDNESDAY

September 7, 2021

Dear Burnt Hickory Elementary School Parents/Guardians:

As a reminder, we have been monitoring our school's COVID-19 data closely and are pleased to announce that we will be returning to Orange operating level on **Wednesday, Sept. 8, 2021** as expected. This week's temporary shift to DLD has allowed time for staff and students to recuperate, and for our school to be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected. A reminder of Orange operating protocols is outlined below:



### What does the shift to **Orange** status mean?

Orange means enhanced mitigation practices at our school including, but not limited to, the following:

- Increased sanitation of the school facility including disinfectant fogging.
- No large-group meetings.
- Recess/PE will be managed in zones according to group sizes.
- Meals will be consumed in classrooms instead of the cafeteria.
- PTA and after-school events will be rescheduled or shifted to a Zoom format.
- Visitors will be restricted to the front office area of the school building.

Additionally, while under Orange operating status, **students identified as close contacts** to anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 must follow this quarantine protocol:

**Quarantine (unvaccinated student):** Keep your child at home except in the case of emergency or to be tested for COVID-19. If your child does not experience any COVID-19 symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, or diarrhea), your quarantine may discontinue after 10 days of remaining symptom-free provided your child wears a mask if medically able for the duration of the 14-day quarantine period. During the quarantine period, your child may utilize Canvas for class work during his/her absence from school.

**Vaccinated Student (Fully Vaccinated Student or Recovered from COVID-19 with documentation within 90 days):** You may elect to send your child to school during the 14-day quarantine period if the following conditions are met:

- Your child wears a mask, if medically able, and
- Your child remains COVID-19 symptom-free.

**Monitor:** For a period of 14 days, take your child's temperature twice per day and monitor for any symptoms of respiratory illness. If at any time, your child experiences any symptoms of COVID-19, including cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fever (a measured temperature over 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or a feeling of feverishness), chills, muscle pain, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell, the quarantined child shall be considered a person with suspected COVID-19 and shall follow the requirements for isolation by the Georgia Department of Public Health: <https://dph.georgia.gov/isolation-contact>, contact your healthcare professional as needed, and keep your child home from school.

We appreciate your flexibility and understanding as we adapt our plans to maintain the safest possible learning environment at our school. We encourage the entire school community to remain vigilant in our daily lives and to do what we can to slow the spread of COVID-19 both inside and outside of our school campus.

We will keep you updated on our progress, but in the meantime if you have any questions, please feel free to contact the front office at the school.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Steve Barnette". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "S" and a stylized "B".

Steve Barnette  
**Interim Superintendent**

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Joy Viness". The signature is cursive, with a large initial "J" and a stylized "V".

Joy Viness  
**Principal**