

**From:** John Black  
**Sent:** Saturday, April 25, 2020 9:42 AM  
**To:** 6-7th families  
**Subject:** Update: VPS Colorado River trip

### 6-7th grade families

I hope this email finds everyone remaining safe and healthy during these unique times! I also hope you're finding our Distance Learning Program to be reasonably effective. If not, please don't hesitate to share your concerns with me.

I have been in-touch this week with *Outdoor Adventures by Boojum*. Not surprisingly, the students' **Colorado River trip** (originally scheduled for April and then rescheduled to May) has been rescheduled again ... to October 26-30. Boojum has offered full-credit towards the October trip. Accordingly, all payments made by families to-date, will be transferred to the October trip. If anyone still owes money towards the trip, those payments can be made in August and September. If a family is not returning to VPS for the 2020-21 school year, then we will work with Boojum to provide a full refund.

A few additional points ...

- We currently expect next year's 8th grade class to take their trip to Washington DC in Spring 2021.
- We ordinarily schedule a Spring trip to either Catalina Island or the Colorado River. Since this school year's CO-river trip has been rescheduled to the Fall, there will be no trip in Spring 2021 (except Washington DC for 8th grade).
- Since there will be no Spring 2021 trip (except Washington DC for 8th grade), we are considering the option of having next year's 6th grade class join the Fall trip to the Colorado River.

Please don't hesitate to reply with any questions or concerns.

**Best regards,**

**John Black, Head of School**

---

**From:** John Black  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 18, 2020 10:56 AM  
**To:** 6-7th families  
**Subject:** Update: VPS Colorado River trip rescheduled

6-7th grade families

I hope this email finds everyone well and doing your best to enjoy the Spring Break!

As a follow-up to my email of March 13 (see below), please be informed that the **Colorado River trip**, originally scheduled for the week of April 20, has been rescheduled to May 18-22. We appreciate the cooperation of *Outdoor Adventures by Boojum* to keep the trip "alive" for another month. However, please note that the situation with school closures and trip-cancellations remains very fluid. Accordingly, there is no guarantee that the trip will occur on these new dates. If the trip is ultimately cancelled, or if individual families choose not to participate, we will work with *Boojum* (who has already been paid in-full) to provide full/partial refunds. Yet, such refunds are not guaranteed and will be dependent upon Boojum's own refund policies.

We will continue to keep you updated in the weeks ahead.

Stay healthy!

John Black, Head of School

---

**From:** John Black  
**Sent:** Friday, March 13, 2020 1:17 PM

**Subject:** Update: VPS Colorado River trip

**6-7th grade families:**

As a follow-up to my email of March 6 (see below) ...

To date, *Outdoor Adventures by Boojum* has not cancelled our Colorado River trip planned for the week of April 20. However, it is increasingly likely that *Redlands Unified School District* will decide to close schools following Spring Break, at which point Valley Prep would also close and transition to Distance Learning. Accordingly, it seems prudent to try to reschedule our CO-river trip to late-May in an effort to avoid a cancellation and possible loss of funds. We have already begun the process of rescheduling the 8th grade's trip to Washington DC which was also planned for the week of April 20.

I will keep families updated during Spring Break regarding our efforts to reschedule the trip.

**Best regards**

**John Black, Head of School**

---

**From:** John Black <[JBlack@VPRedlands.org](mailto:JBlack@VPRedlands.org)>

**Date:** Friday, March 6, 2020 at 9:38 AM

**Subject:** VPS Colorado River trip & COVID-19

6-7th grade families:

With the continued spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in the United States, travel companies (such as *Outdoor Adventures by Boojum* which facilitates our 6-7th grade trip down the Colorado River) are closely monitoring the situation and developing contingency plans in the unlikely event that school-trips need to be postponed or cancelled. Currently, though, all VPS trips remain on-schedule. Please review the attached information from Boojum.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns.

**John Black, Head of School**

||