



August 12, 2022

Dear Seventh Grade Students & Families,

Orientation trips are unique experiences for middle school students at VMS. They serve as both a transition back to the school community and an essential exercise in building community.

The seventh grade will spend Tuesday, August 23rd and Wednesday, August 24th camping and rock climbing at Turtle Rock near Buena Vista with the Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center (BOEC). In this beautiful setting, students will have an opportunity to hone their skills rock climbing and bond through character and team-building initiatives. This trip sets a positive tone for the school year and helps students get reacquainted after the summer break.

The BOEC will pick up the students after homebase on Tuesday, August 23rd and will return the group before carpool on Wednesday, August 24th. Please note: on Monday, August 22nd, students will have a pre-trip meeting to discuss logistics and the equipment list with their VMS teachers. Please see the packing list included below for equipment information.

A few things we need from you:

- **Fill out the following online forms for the BOEC:**
  - [CLICK HERE TO FILL OUT BOEC FORMS ONLINE FOR 7th grade](#)
- **Fill out the mandatory back to school forms in Veracross: [VMS Parent Portal](#).**

Students will not be able to attend Orientation Trips without completion of health forms and if applicable to the student, medical forms and medication delivery to school. If you have not yet received an email inviting you to set up your Parent Portal account, please reach out to [support@vms.edu](mailto:support@vms.edu).

We are looking forward to a memorable experience. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Liana Sideli, Director of Outdoor Education, 970-477-7187, [lsideli@vms.edu](mailto:lsideli@vms.edu)  
Trevor Adams, Middle School Director

### **7th Grade Schedule:**

**Monday, August 22:** Students will have a pre-trip meeting to review the equipment list with VMS teachers during the day.

**Tuesday, August 23:** Students should arrive to VMS with their packed duffle bag. The BOEC will pick up students from VMS after homebase to embark on their overnight adventure.

**Wednesday, August 24:** Students will return to VMS before carpool.

### **BOEC-WILDERNESS PROGRAM CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT LIST Vail Mountain School 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Rock Climbing Trip, Buena Vista, CO**

Daytime temperatures range from 30-80 degrees Fahrenheit. At night, temperatures can drop as low as 20 degrees. Please bring all items listed so you will be prepared for all types of weather. Please clearly label all items. Because of the wide range of temperatures possible, it is best to bring several layers of clothing that can be taken off or put on to accommodate the weather and varying activity levels. Cotton clothing of any type does not work as well as an isolative fabrics such as wool or polypropylene. These fabrics breathe and retain heat even when wet. These fabrics are recommended for all programs.

Long pants-loose fitting (1)

Short sleeve shirt (1)

Long sleeve shirt (1)

Wool/Polypropylene sweater or jacket

Underwear (2)

\*\*Long underwear (top & bottom-synthetic fabrics only) (2)

Hiking boots/sturdy sneakers for hiking (1)

Climbing Shoes & climbing harness (Optional - The BOEC will provide climbing equipment but if students own their own equipment they are encouraged to bring it.)

Wool socks (2)

\*\*Rain jacket and pants (1)

Hat w/visor (1)

Sunglasses (1)

Warm gloves/mittens

\*\*Warm ski that that covers the ears (1)

Bandana (optional)

Camera/film (optional)

Flashlight w/batteries (1)

\*\*Day pack-small (1)

\*\*Sleeping bag w/stuff sac (1)

\*\*Sleeping Pad (1)

\*\*Water bottle w/sealable lid (1)

Chapstick/lip balm

Sunscreen (SPF 15+)

\*\*These items can be provided by the Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center, depending on availability.

Please speak directly with Course Director or Agency Contact. **NO CELL PHONES OR PERSONAL ENTERTAINMENT DEVICES!! THE BOEC IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR PERSONAL BELONGINGS. A REPLACEMENT COST WILL BE ASSESSED FOR ANY LOST OR DAMAGED BOEC EQUIPMENT.**