



August 19, 2011

Dear Parents,

On Thursday, August 25, students in Grades 3-5 will travel to the Payette River for the Annual Back-to-School Float Trip. Cascade Raft Company, with whom Riverstone has partnered since our float trip tradition began, will provide guides, rafts, and life jackets. The trip will take place on the upper section of the Main Payette River, which has several exciting class III rapids and plenty of opportunities for swimming and playing in the water. Cascade's guides will ensure that everyone has a safe and fun experience, and parents should be assured that the trip is age-appropriate. Also, as in the past, parents are welcome and encouraged to participate and help make this a community-building event.

New parents and returning parents alike should read the following details about the trip closely. Parents who plan on participating and driving their own vehicle should pay close attention to pick-up and drop-off locations. A map and driving directions are available online at <http://www.riverstoneschool.org/outdoor-program/elementary-school-raft-trips/>

Schedule of Activities for Thursday, August 25

Please be aware that the following schedule pertains only to the grades 3-5 trip on Thursday. There is a separate schedule of events for the K-2 trip on Friday.

- 8:30 Arrive at school and begin loading Cascade bus or parent vehicles **
- 8:45 Depart for Cascade Raft Company headquarters
- 10:00 Stop at Cascade headquarters to pick up parents leaving vehicles at the take-out**
- 10:15 Load onto Cascade buses and continue to put-in at Banks
- 10:45 Begin raft trip after life-jacket fitting and safety talk
- 12:30 Float ends at Cascade headquarters. Picnic lunch begins **
- 2:00 Bus departs for Riverstone
- 3:15 Arrive at Riverstone in time for regular pick-up and school bus route

** Special instructions for parents driving vehicles. Read the "Parent Participation" section carefully!

Parent Participation

Parents are welcome and encouraged to participate in the raft trip, and will be charged \$30/person (payable to Riverstone International School) to float with Cascade Raft Company. Student costs are covered by the school.

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Transportation

Parents may also choose to drive their children to and from the raft trip. **If you are going to provide your own transportation to the rafting trip, please notify James Hamilton or Ben Brock.** Parents may only drive their own children and children of parents riding with them. You must be in the same vehicle as your child. Students riding with parents should depart from school at 8:45 AM or from home in order to arrive at “take-out” by 10:00 AM. All parent vehicles should be left at Cascade headquarters. When the river trip ends parents need to sign their students out with their classroom teacher or Ben Brock/James Hamilton and then take them home.

Clothing and What to Bring

Be prepared to get wet on this trip! If the day looks like it will be warm, Cascade suggests shorts, a T-shirt, sunglasses with a strap, sunscreen, a hat, and river sandals or tennis shoes that can get wet. If the day looks like it will be cool, be sure to bring dry clothes to change into after the trip.

Students should bring their own lunch and plenty of water. Food will not be provided by Cascade Raft Company.

Leave waterguns, etc., at home.

If you have questions or need more information, please contact Ben Brock at bbrock@riverstoneschool.org or James Hamilton at jhamilton@riverstoneschool.org. We're looking forward to a great day!



Ben Brock
Outdoor Program Director



James Hamilton
Elementary Director