



## Scenic Elementary

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# August, 2017

Work Hard, Be Nice!



## A New School Year

After the first flag ceremony this year (on the first day of school), I realized that I forgot to introduce myself. Now, I have the opportunity to do so. My name is Ben Alexander, and I am a native Coloradoan. However, I grew up, in Saudi Arabia, Washington D.C. and New Mexico. Went to UNM in Albuquerque and taught in Santa Fe for five years, where I met my wife. In addition to Santa Fe, I have taught in Cali, Colombia and Denver Public Schools. I earned my master's degree at DU and was a principal in Greeley where I began working on my Doctoral degree at UNC. I have three children of my own their ages are two, four and six. My family and I love Grand Junction, and we are glad we made the move over the mountains. I wanted to thank all of you for welcoming me to your community. Scenic has amazing students, staff and a dedicated group of volunteers. I am grateful for the opportunity to be the Principal of Scenic Elementary.

### August Calendar & Upcoming Events

Tuesday, Aug. 22st - 1st Grade Parent Orientation 5:50 - 7 PM  
Tuesday, Aug. 22st - 4th & 5th Grade Parent Orientation 6:50 - 8 PM  
Wednesday, Aug. 23rd - Early Release, school dismissal 1:50 PM  
Wednesday, Aug. 23rd - 2nd Grade Parent Orientation 5:50 - 7 PM  
Wednesday, Aug. 23rd - 3rd Grade Parent Orientation 6:50 - 8 PM  
Wednesday, Aug. 30th - Early Release, school dismissal 1:50 PM  
Thursday, Aug. 31st - T-shirt order due  
Monday, Sept. 11th - PTO Meeting 4:15 in Scenic Library  
Tuesday, Sept. 12th - Gifted & Talented Information Night 6 - 6:45 PM

## PTO

There is an old African proverb which says, “it takes a village to raise a child.” It takes doctors, nurses, dentists, grandparents, neighbors, teachers, custodians and bus drivers to raise our children. This is why our Parent Teacher Organization is critical in raising our children and providing them the best education possible. Our Scenic PTO has been able to raise tens of thousands of dollars every year to support our school by providing reading aids and purchasing educational software licenses for students who could not afford them. I encourage every Scenic parent to attend our PTO meetings on the 2nd Monday of every month at 4:15 PM in the Scenic Library. Our first PTO meeting this year is on Sept. 11th I hope to see you there.

## Our Civic Duty

I encourage all of those 18 and older in our Scenic community to vote this fall. This November 7th there are two ballot measure that could have an impact on Scenic. One is a bond measure that would include over 1.4 million dollars in upgrades and repairs to Scenic, including replacing the old carpet, and the heating and air conditioning units. Scenic would also receive a new gym floor. There is also a Mill Levy Override that will provide 2 million dollars for additional curriculum material and over \$300,000 for additional technology for District schools. Use the following URL to register to vote: <https://goo.gl/s44Pzt>

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