



**DEER VALLEY**  
*Unified School District*

Desert Sage Elementary  
4035 W. Alameda Rd.  
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www.dvUSD.org

October 18, 2017

Dear parents,

My name is Zachary Graham and I was born and raised in Scottsdale, Arizona. I graduated from Arizona State University in 2013 with a degree in finance. I moved to Jinan, Shandong province in China. In Jinan, I taught English to 4-6 year old students for one year. Jinan is a massive city with very few English speakers, so I was forced to pick up the language and dive into the Chinese culture. After Jinan, I found a job teaching business subjects at Jiangnan University located in Wuxi, Jiangsu province in China. I taught for 3 semesters and continued to immerse myself in the language and culture. At the end of June, my contract ended and I decided to return home to the USA. Over the past few years I have developed a deep appreciation for Chinese culture and the language.

Not only have I grown to understand the culture in China, but I also discovered I have a passion for teaching and developed my own teaching style. First, I feel it is important to make class fun. During my educational experience, I found it easier to learn if I am enjoying class and look forward to it each day. Further, I also believe in challenging my class on a daily basis. I want each student I teach to be better off as they continue their education, find a career and contribute to society.

I am also a strong believer in constructive feedback and frequent communication with parents of students. If there are any questions or concerns about the class, I would love to hear it and will make myself as available as possible.

I look forward to teaching your child and becoming part of the Desert Sage community.

All the best,

祝安好

Zachary Graham

Mandarin Specials Teacher, K-6

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