



# DESERT THUNDER SCHOOL

---

Ms. Stacy Ellis, Acting Principal

Mr. Brian Duguid, Acting Assistant Principal

Ms. Tina Aguilar, Acting Master Teacher/Dean of Students

Dear Desert Thunder School Community,

It is with great enthusiasm and anticipation that I extend my warmest greetings to each and every member of the Desert Thunder family. As the newly appointed acting principal, I am honored to embark on this exciting journey with all of you, as we strive for excellence and Soar to the Top... Learning, Learning, Learning!

Allow me to introduce myself to those who may not yet know me. My name is Stacy Ellis, and I am deeply privileged to return to Desert Thunder School. Desert Thunder has been an integral part of my professional journey. In its opening year, back in 2004, I had the distinct honor of being a member of the original staff as a middle school ELA and science teacher. I then progressed to assume the roles of Dean of Students and later served as the Assistant Principal for three years. This progression has deeply rooted Desert Thunder in my heart. The memories, experiences, and relationships forged within these walls have profoundly influenced both my professional and personal life. Throughout my tenure as principal at Copper Trails School for the past 11 years, I have continued to observe the growth, resilience, and vibrant spirit that define the essence of Desert Thunder.

I am excited to now have the opportunity to follow in the footsteps of my mentor administrators, Dr. Janet Beason and Mr. Wayne Deffenbaugh with you all. As we embark on this new chapter together, I am committed to fostering a culture of open communication, trust, and mutual respect. I invite each member of our community to actively participate in shaping the future of Desert Thunder School, as we work towards realizing our collective vision of educational excellence.

In the coming weeks and months, I look forward to getting to know you, and to listening to your insights, ideas and aspirations for our school. Together, there is no limit to what we can achieve.

Thank you for entrusting me with the privilege of serving as the acting principal. Together, let us embrace the journey ahead with optimism, resilience, and a shared commitment to excellence.

Warmest regards,

Stacy E. Ellis  
Acting Principal  
Desert Thunder School

16750 W Garfield Street Goodyear, AZ 85338

(623) 722-4700

[www.chooseAESD.org/dt](http://www.chooseAESD.org/dt)

