



PROFILE

James McDermott - ECASB Treasurer



"My favorite subject in school was Math. One of my favorite teachers was Mr. Poz" - Mr. Poz made learning fun and interesting. He was always willing to take the time to see how 'you' were doing. He made it a point to know us both as a student and as a person!"

James McDermott was appointed to the Maryvale USFD in October of 2018. In May of 2019, he ran and was elected for a 5-year term. James enjoys serving on the board and being able to work with the community. He is glad that he is able to listen to the community's concerns and help to formulate ways to address the concerns. James is looking forward to serving on the ECASB Executive Board, particularly in the role as the Treasurer of the organization. With his education and work experience, he would like to work with the team to help improve the overall process of the ECASB ranging from reporting to paying bills and collecting money.

James has an Associate's Degree from Erie County Community College, and a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology from the University of Buffalo. Currently employed at Bank of America NA as a Vice President, Treasury Associate II, James has served on the Budget and Financial Team this past year and provided valuable information when we developed a Financial Procedures manual at ECASB. A Rising Star recipient in 2019, James will receive the Rising Star Award this year in 2020.

In addition to serving on the Maryvale USFD School Board, James is a member of the Rental Assistance Corp of Buffalo, Junior Achievement of WNY, and has served on the Buffalo Zoological Society Executive Board from 2008 - 2010 and was the President of the Buffalo Zoological Society Pro-Zoo Board from 2007 - 2010.

When asked about how he thought COVID-19 affected education in the schools today James said, "While the COVID-19 Pandemic has caused much negativity; it is my opinion that we will be stronger and more advanced in how we educate our children in the future. Our teachers and staff having more use/ education around technology will make teaching in the future more in line with the 'general out of school world'. Many colleges and universities are using technology to teach students and this, while a tragic event, will better prepare our students for that post-secondary experience."

James and his wife of 18 years, Jennifer have two children. Aaron (21) is a graduate of the Maryvale School District and his daughter Dakota (15) is currently a freshman at Maryvale High School. When not serving on the School Board or on one of the community boards, James and his family enjoy camping, hiking and experiencing the outdoors as often as they possibly can. They also enjoy a good campfire whenever possible. His lifetime goal would be to travel the country in a Recreational Vehicle.

My message to our elected officials in Albany or Washington would be that they need to "re-evaluate" the calculations used to determine funding throughout all of New York state, especially in Upstate and Western New York.