

Melony James



Melony “Mel” James

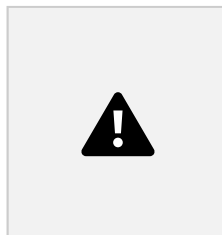
Position: Board member/State ESE Chair

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Personal Overview

Mel resides in Hillsborough County with her family and an extremely grumpy feral cat. She enjoys nothing more than spending time with family and friends, and is a self described extreme Harry Potter fan.

It is our choices, Harry, that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities - Albus Dumbledore



BIO AND BACKGROUND

Mel is originally from the UK, more specifically Wales. She started her career working within the special education system and later youth within social care and young offenders settings in the UK.

After the birth of her first child, Mel relocated with her family to California and began working in the area of human rights with a focus on women and children’s rights. When a second relocation moved her to Florida, Mel began working with a notable human rights and anti trafficking activist as an associate program director. Working passionately to assist victims of trafficking both domestically and globally, Mel was honored to be a part of this organization's work.

As her family grew Mel began to gain real life experience of the challenges disabled, neurodiverse children and different learners faced within the state. During the 2018 election cycle she had the pleasure of working with a local candidate on her bid for school board. It was successful and a win for ESE students. Seeing that some areas could make strides in special education while much of the state struggled, Mel was determined to continue to bring the issues affecting her community to elected officials and support pro inclusion and pro education candidates. In 2021 she joined the Democratic Public Education Caucus of Florida, becoming their ESE chair, and later a board member in 2022.
