

After trailing in early voting John James wins District 3 race

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Votes cast Election Day reversed District 3 candidate John James' fortune, allowing him to defeat opponent James Roberts by a razor-thin margin of 121 votes after trailing 143 votes following the early voting results.

James told the Reporter-Telegram Tuesday night he attributes his victory to the hard work of his campaign manager and volunteers and to his years of experience in business and community involvement.

"I think (voters) are sending the message that experience matters and more than ever they wanted people who had experience to lead our community in a positive direction," said James, who captured 51.41 percent of the 4,295 votes cast in the District 3 race.

James said he believes some of the efforts made toward the end of the campaign by a group of more than 75 volunteers working on his behalf may have contributed to the turnaround on Election Day.

"I can't tell you how overjoyed and humbled I am by this campaign, how we ran it and the result," James said. He said campaign volunteers covered more than 3,000 households in their block walks and called more than 4,000 households.

"I'm just tickled at how hard people worked for this campaign," he said.