



# Polaris Tech

## CHARTER SCHOOL

### News Release

Tuesday, March 17, 2020

**Contact:** Gen. Lloyd Newton, Chair, Board of Directors, 813-777-6405

## **Board of Director candidates sought for Polaris Tech Charter School**

People interested in helping Polaris Tech Charter School in Ridgeland expand are encouraged to become candidates for the Board of Directors. The deadline for board member applications is noon April 6 and the online election will be held May 20-21.

Candidates must apply online and the link is available at [www.polaristech.org](http://www.polaristech.org).

Board members serve two-year terms. There are six seats open, three through the election and three to be appointed by the current 11-member Board of Directors. To ensure a fair and confidential election, the Public Charter School Alliance of South Carolina will oversee the board election process.

“We are a young school with a very bright future, and we are seeking board members who want to help Polaris Tech really soar,” said retired four-star Air Force Gen. Lloyd “Fig” Newton, chair of the board and one of the school’s founders.

Polaris Tech seeks a diverse board, Newton said. Meetings are held monthly, usually at the school campus in Ridgeland, Jasper County. By law, at least half the board must have experience in business or education and all board members must be South Carolina residents.

The Polaris Tech Governance Committee will select a slate of three candidates to appear on the ballot. All prospective candidates must complete the official Polaris Tech board application on the school website, [www.polaristech.org](http://www.polaristech.org).

“This is a wonderful opportunity to help improve education in Jasper County and the Lowcountry, and to help Polaris Tech grow to help even more young people,” said Sandra Chavez, another school founder and chair of the Polaris Tech Governance Committee. “We have some very exciting things ahead, and we need candidates who are committed to helping us reach these goals.”

Applications must be completed and submitted online no later than April 6 at noon. Incomplete or late applications won't be accepted. By April 30, a slate of candidates with profile information will be posted on the Polaris Tech website.

Families of enrolled children and staff will receive special instructions on how to vote online May 20-21, and results will be certified May 22.

During the candidate recruitment process, Polaris Tech continues to accept student applications through March 31 for the upcoming school year. Rising fifth through twelfth grade students are welcome. Applications close March 31 and are available online at [www.polaristech.org](http://www.polaristech.org).

Another benefit of attending Polaris Tech: Students may seek dual credit – both high school credits toward graduation as well as official college credits – in some career and technical coursework.

Families with one or more children enrolled at Polaris Tech receive preferred status for enrolling additional children – which is important as Polaris Tech continues to grow and classroom space may be limited in coming years.

Polaris Tech is a state-approved charter school serving students from Jasper County and the Lowcountry. It is a free school (no tuition), that focuses on preparing young people for successful work and college.

The Polaris Tech academic emphasis is on six career areas, starting with: Aerospace, Health Sciences and Business Management. Polaris Tech continues to accept student applications for the current school year for students in grades 6-11. For the upcoming school year, rising fifth graders also are encouraged to apply.

The newly-constructed school is located on Grays Highway across from the Ridgeland Airport. Young people from Jasper, Colleton, Hampton and Beaufort counties attend.

To keep updated about Polaris Tech Charter School, follow them on Facebook and at [www.polaristech.org](http://www.polaristech.org). For specific questions, email [info@polaristech.org](mailto:info@polaristech.org) or call 843-645-0605.

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