News Release

Thursday, April 16, 2020
Contact: Gen. Lloyd Newton, Chair, Board of Directors, 813-777-6405

Jasper candidates sought for
Polaris Tech Board of Directors

Jasper County residents 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 April 24 and the online election will be held May 27-28.

Candidates must apply online and the link is available at www.polaristech.org on the left under "Recent News."

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.

"For the school's future and for its community standing, we very much believe we need strong representation from Jasper County people, in addition to our board members from Colleton and Beaufort counties," Board Chair Gen. Lloyd "Fig" Newton said.

 "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 Newton, a Jasper County native and one of the school's founders.

Polaris Tech seeks a diverse board and needs candidates from Jasper County, where the school is located in Ridgeland. 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 .

1

"This is a wonderful opportunity to help make a difference for young people in Jasper County and the Lowcountry, and to help Polaris Tech grow to help even more students," 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," she said.

Candidate pplications must be completed and submitted online no later than April 24 at 6 p.m. Incomplete applications won't be accepted. By May 11, a slate of candidates with profile information will be posted on the Polaris Tech website and shared by letter with all Polaris Tech families and staff.

Families of enrolled children and staff will receive special instructions on how to vote online May 27-28, and results will be certified May 29.

During the candidate recruitment process, Polaris Tech continues to accept student applications for the upcoming school year. Rising fifth through twelfth grade students are welcome. Applications are available online at www.polaristech.org.

Another benefit for students 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. 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. For specific questions, email info@polaristech.org or call 843-645-0605.

END