



Polaris Tech

CHARTER SCHOOL

News Release

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Contact: Gen. Lloyd Newton, Chair, Board of Directors, 813-777-6405 or lloydnewton@polaristech.org

Board of Director candidates sought for Polaris Tech Charter School

People interested in helping Polaris Tech Charter School in Ridgeland improve are encouraged to become candidates for the Board of Directors. The deadline for board member applications is noon April 18 and the online election will be held May 5-6.

Candidates must apply online and the link is available at www.polaristech.org.

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

“This is important work for our young and growing school, and we encourage people to put their hat in the ring to help Polaris Tech 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, or during COVID, by Zoom. 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 and recommend those to the full Board. All prospective candidates must complete the official Polaris Tech board application on the school website, www.polaristech.org.

“Our school serves students from Jasper, Hampton, Colleton and Beaufort counties, so we are reaching out to families in all those areas to consider running for the board,” said Morrison Payne, chair of the Polaris Tech Governance Committee. “We have some big things ahead and it’s going to be an exciting time.”

Applications must be completed and submitted online no later than noon on April 18. Incomplete or late applications won't be accepted.

In early May, families of enrolled children and staff will receive special instructions on how to vote online using the same process as last year.

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.

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.

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 school is located on Grays Highway across from the Ridgeland Airport. 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.

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