



Charter Schools

A Charter School is mission-driven, de-regulated, independent public school of choice-- the most accountable form of public education. Charter Schools are tuition-free public schools that operate in South Carolina on a ten-year contract called a "charter." Charter Schools provide educators with flexibility to operate different types of public schools that focus on specific missions (such as performing arts, technology, Montessori, construction trades, college prep, international baccalaureate (IB), alternative education, project-based learning, cyber learning, and dual language instruction).

There are 5 charter schools in the area (1 belongs to Beaufort County, 2 are state charter within Beaufort county, and 2 are state charter in Jasper County).

1. Riverview Charter School's mission is to create a small, diverse learning community that actively engages students in meaningful and innovative learning experiences. Emphasizing "learning by doing," family and community involvement, and engaged citizenship, Riverview is committed to nurturing the whole child and preparing each student for a global society. RVCS serves K-8th grades. <http://riverviewcharterschool.org/>
2. Bridges Preparatory is a SC state charter school, authorized by the SC Public Charter School District whose mission is to provide students equal access to a high quality K-12 whole child education that maximizes academic excellence and strength of character in a student-centered learning environment created by a faculty of lifelong learners. BPS is a STEM-infused school employing the Paideia methodology. www.bridgesprep.org
3. Lowcountry Montessori School (LMS) is a free, nonprofit, state-chartered public school which provides an authentic Montessori-based program to students from Beaufort and surrounding counties. LMS serves students in Kindergarten through 12th grades. They also have a preschool program for 3 and 4 year olds at a cost. Because they are state-chartered, students from all counties in South Carolina are eligible to attend LMS. Their mission is to increase access to an authentic Montessori-based education in Beaufort and Jasper Counties. The staff and parents collaborate to foster the development of independent, well-rounded, academically-prepared and responsible citizens. LMS is committed to creating an environment that inspires children to become lifelong learners and creative problem solvers for the 21st Century and beyond. www.lowcountrymontessori.com
4. Royal Live Oaks Academy of the Arts and Sciences (K-12th) is tuition-free, public charter school, authorized by the South Carolina Public Charter School District and is located in Jasper County. The mission of RLOA is for the faculty, staff, students, parents, and community to provide an engaged, personalized learning environment that leads to the success of each individual student, while challenging students to become life-long learners, independent thinkers, respectful individuals, and responsible citizens. <http://www.rloacs.org/>
5. Polaris Tech Charter School (6-10th) is a new charter school opening in the fall of 2018, adding 11th and 12th grades by 2020. Polaris Tech's student-centered approach to education and learning is comprised of four distinct and interrelated domains aligned with their mission: Academic Core, 6 Career Pathways, Foundational Life & Career Skills, and Health & Wellness. <http://www.polaristech.org/>

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