



Our Mission

Polk Vision brings partners together to identify priorities, create solutions, align resources, and take action to achieve the Community Vision for Polk County.



Vision Zero Community Workshops



The Polk TPO, in partnership with Polk County and Polk Vision, is hosting a series of Speak Up for Safer Streets community workshops in three of Polk County's highest-injury roadway areas. As part of the Polk TPO's Vision Zero initiative to eliminate fatalities and severe crashes, this workshop will focus on the experiences of the residents who travel them every day.

Attendees will have the opportunity to share their experiences, talk directly with planning experts about safety challenges in the area, and explore potential solutions together.

Help improve safety in the following areas:

- 42nd Street/Charlotte Road - [Tuesday, March 10th, from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. at the Auburndale Civic Center at Lake Ariana Park](#)
- Kathleen Road/County Road 35A - [Thursday, March 12th, from 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. at Sleepy Hill Elementary School](#)

To learn more, visit <https://polkvisionzero.mysocialpinpoint.com/>.



Don't Miss Out on These Opportunities to Enhance Your Civic Engagement



Youth Leadership Polk Class VIII

Applications are now open for Youth Leadership Polk Class VIII!

Youth Leadership Polk is a dynamic, **FREE** countywide leadership training program for rising 11th and 12th-grade

students that provides an opportunity to develop essential durable skills, explore career opportunities in Polk County, and discover what it truly means to be a leader.

At the end of the program, students are invited to submit a Capstone Project to qualify for a scholarship toward college or technical school!

Interested in hosting a student for a job shadow or volunteering throughout the program? Email our Program Manager, Ana Saavedra, at ana@polkvision.com.

[Apply by Mar. 13th](#)



Inside PCPS Class V



Developed in partnership between Polk Vision and Polk County Public Schools, this ten-month program is designed to highlight and demystify the complexities of

our school district by answering critical questions, such as:

- How do you provide a high-quality education to more than 118,000 students every day?
- What does it take to balance an annual budget of nearly \$2.5 billion?
- How do you manage a bus fleet that clocks over 60,000 miles per day?
- How are schools caring for the "whole child" and addressing the social, emotional, and physical needs of students?

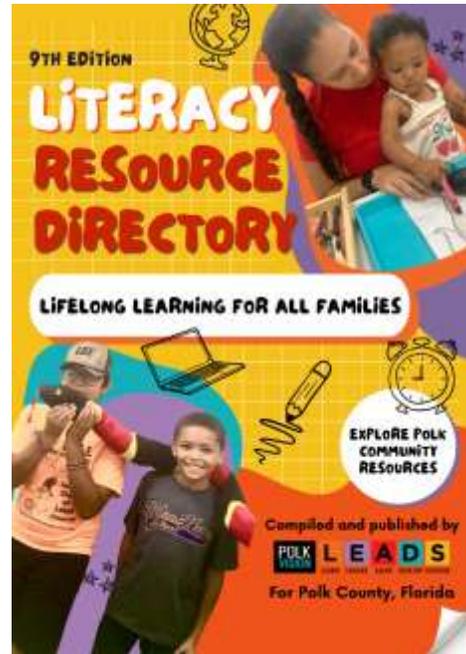
[Nominations Close Mar. 31st](#)



Spotlight on the Literacy Team

The Literacy Team focuses on promoting early literacy (birth to age 5) to impact kindergarten readiness, which lays the foundation for reading on grade level, graduation rates, and college and career readiness. The Team continues to publish the [Literacy Resource Directory](#), which includes quality learning experiences that span tutoring, municipal recreation programs, after-school activities, libraries, and performing arts programs.

This year, they are hosting quarterly public Team meetings where attendees can hear directly from organizations included in the directory. Their first public meeting was hosted on February 19th and featured the Aerospace Center for Excellence and Haines City Literacy & Arts Festival. Stay tuned for more information about their next meeting on **April 16th!**



Now Offering: College Enrollment Workshops



Polk Vision's Education Collaborative Manager, Amy Nickerson, is now offering College Enrollment Workshops to help give students and their families the guidance they need to confidently take their next steps after graduation! Workshop topics include First Semester of College Simulation, budgeting, interview preparedness, FAFSA completion, personal story essays, and more.

In February, Amy had the opportunity to lead the Interview Ready workshop for 11th and 12th-grade students at PACE Center for Girls Polk (pictured left).

If you're looking to facilitate, schedule, or present one of these workshops, contact bethefuturebeu@polkvision.com.



Registration Now Available



STATE OF THE COUNTY

Thursday, April 23, 2026 | 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Polk State College Center for Public Safety

Discover the latest insights and trends impacting our community. Featuring Polk County BoCC, Polk County Public Schools and the Florida Department of Health in Polk County

Thank You to Our Sponsors:



Lakeland Highlands Hospital

Hosted by:



[Click Here to Register](#)



Conversations in
behavioral health

Building a Mindful Community

Presented by



Hosted by



Where
Polk State College
Winter Haven Campus

When
May 7, 2026
8am - 4pm

Cost
Free

Speakers | Breakout Sessions | Local Resources

[Click Here to Register](#)

