SIC MEMBERS

SIC Contact Information: 803-419-2226
Ext:30013
Chair-Jessica Kirby
Co-Chair-Stacya Cruz
Ex-officio Member- Terence Isaac
Lead Teacher- Elizabeth Lawrence-Baez
Community Member-Todd Henning
Community Member- Natasha Rodriguez
Parent- Melissa Kanost
Parent- Shaliah Jefferson
Ex-officio Member- Ayanna Bolton
Teacher- Tiffany Marshall-Oree
Teacher- Dr. Ryan Higgins
School Member- Kendra Wilson-Hollis

PTO MEMBERS

Melissa Kanost- PTO President
Latashia Davis- Vice Chair
Heather Thomas- Treasurer

STUDENT INFORMATION

Enrollment: 645

Student Percentages:
African American- 56.6%
White- 7.5%
Hispanic- 29%
Asian- 1.7%
Bi-Racial- 5.2%

Richland School District Two
124 Risdon Way
Columbia, SC 29223
www.richland2.org

ENGAGE & CONNECT

@PRE_Explorers

@POLOEXPLORERS

PRE_EXPLORERS

OUR VISION

In collaboration with all partners, we will explore all options, navigate through challenges, and discover new pathways to allow each student to succeed academically, socially, and emotionally.

"Learning Today to Change Tomorrow"

POLO ROAD ELEMENTARY

Total School Enrollment: 645
Grades: Pre-K through 5

2025-2026

1250 Polo Road
Columbia, SC 29223
Phone: 803.419.226
Fax: 803.462.2173
www.richland2.org/pre

OUR HIGLIGHTS AND AWARDS

- **Magnet Schools of America Certified Demonstration School – 2026–2029**
- **Magnet Schools of America Merit School of Excellence – 2025**
- **5th Grade DLI Innovation Mini-Grant Recipient**
- **Palmetto Silver Awards – 2007, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2018, 2019**
- **Capturing Kids' Hearts ROCK-STAR Campus – 2022–2023**
- **AVID Certified Campus – 2024**

At Polo Road Elementary, excellence is more than a goal; it is the expectation that guides everything we do. Anchored in our vision of creating a supportive and engaging learning environment, we are committed to nurturing academic achievement, personal growth, and a lifelong passion for learning in every student.

Our progress is driven by a culture of collaboration, innovation, and inclusion. We ensure that all students have access to meaningful and enriching learning experiences while also investing in the continuous growth of our teachers and staff. Through aligned professional learning and a focus on ongoing improvement, our educators are equipped to meet the diverse needs of every learner.

A defining strength of our school is the diversity within our staff and student body. This diversity inspires creativity, broadens perspectives, and strengthens our school community. We value and celebrate the unique backgrounds and experiences that each individual brings, knowing they enrich the learning environment for all.

At the heart of our work is E.N.D., exploring all options, navigating challenges, and discovering new pathways. This mindset empowers our students and staff to grow, persevere, and succeed.

The Polo Road community proudly lives out our motto, "Learning Today to Change Tomorrow."

OUR ACADEMICS

Polo Road Elementary School is committed to developing the world class skills and life and career characteristics outlined in the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate by:

- Conducting learning walks to support reflective practice and promote instructional growth
- Providing small group interventions tailored to meet individual student learning needs
- Implementing research based Science of Reading strategies, with a high percentage of teachers trained in LETRS and Orton Gillingham
- Facilitating Monthly Math Moments grounded in the Concrete Representational Abstract model, with a focus on fluency, productive struggle, word problems, and key standards
- Mathematically enriching the school environment through interactive bulletin boards, math flashcards, manipulatives, and visible math prompts that encourage daily engagement
- Establishing school wide Student Learning Objectives focused on math fluency to guide targeted instruction
- Utilizing Professional Learning Team rotations to foster collaborative planning, data analysis, and instructional alignment across grade levels

"GROWING STRONGER EVERY YEAR!"

SC READY Results: Grades 3–5 Growth from 2024 to 2025

	Grade 3	Grade 4	Grade 5
ELA	↑ +11.6	↑ +11.4	↓ −2.6
MATH	↑ +8.7	↑ +6.2	↑ +3.9

OUR GOALS

Parent and Family Engagement

- Host Parent Universities
- Expand community involvement and mentorship opportunities

Learning Experiences

- Provide diverse, engaging academic and extracurricular opportunities
- Increase student leadership through Beta Club, News Show, Safety Patrol, and Student Literacy Ambassadors

Professional Learning for Teachers

- Implement a cohesive professional development plan aligned with school goals
- Maintain ongoing SPED collaboration, including planning and monthly check-ins on caseloads and instructional expectations

Achievement & Growth on SC Ready

- Use data-driven instruction and targeted interventions to support continued student progress

Evidence of Progress:

- Advancement toward magnet certification
- Decrease in chronic absenteeism and tardiness
- Successful implementation of Parent Universities
- Strengthened professional development supporting instructional excellence
- Growth in student leadership and ownership of learning
- Expanded mentorship opportunities and meaningful community partnerships
- Improved SPED support through collaborative planning and accountability