



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

January 26, 2017

Contacts:

Kim Long, Polk Vision  
[kim@polkvision.com](mailto:kim@polkvision.com)  
863.940.2888

Diane Plowden  
[diane.plowden@polk-fl.net](mailto:diane.plowden@polk-fl.net).

**Polk Vision Seeking All Literacy Service Providers**

Do you provide literacy services in Polk County? Do you know someone who needs them? Polk Vision wants to connect you.

In conjunction with Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida!, the Polk Vision Literacy Team is kicking off the creation of a Polk Literacy Directory and public campaign. It began this week with a “call to participation” for all Polk literacy providers. They’re urged to take part in a new Literacy Directory targeted for release to all Polk schools in June.

This directory is the first of its kind for Polk County. When complete, it will provide principals, teachers, and parents with a “one-stop-shop” for all literacy resource providers serving PreK-12 students.

The Polk Vision Literacy Team will host two community meetings in support of the campaign. If your organization wants to take part in the Directory, please come meet our team.

**10:00 – 11:30 am or 4:00 – 5:30 pm**  
**Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>**

Central Florida Tourism and Sports Marketing Multi-purpose Room  
2701 Lake Myrtle Park Road, Auburndale

The Polk Literacy Team brings together a range of representatives from public and private education; literacy services; and community groups. All are united in the service of promoting and developing literacy in Polk schools and beyond.

“Because the demands of ‘being literate’ have changed so much due to rigorous standards, high-stakes assessments, and ever changing technology, supporting our students in this area has become a greater challenge,” said Literacy Team Chair Diane Plowden, Director of K-12 writing for Polk County Schools.

“The overall goal of the Literacy Team is to link all of the resources in Polk County, to provide a way for school staff, parents, students and the community to find and use all the wonderful resources that we have in our county. We also hope for other long-term effects, such as new-formed partnerships and collaborations. The real mission is to continue building on the culture in Polk County that literacy really is important for everyone.”

To RSVP for the community meetings please contact Polk Vision at [brenda@polkvision.com](mailto:brenda@polkvision.com).

