



Oct. 8, 2026



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Helix Aviation Academy students learn firsthand about flying from veteran Delta Air Lines pilot



“How do the engines go? How do you see where you’re going? How do you drive in the rain? Do you go to South America? Who drives the plane?”

These are just a few of the questions Helix Aviation Academy students asked Capt. Rudy Porter, a pilot with Delta Air Lines and a native of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, when he recently stopped by to speak with our Pre-K through second graders at the hangar. The distinguished Navy veteran with 38 years of aviation experience who currently commands the controls of the company's flagship aircraft, the Airbus A350 smiled and answered each question slowly and simply so students could understand.

"It was great talking to them," Capt. Porter said. "I was really surprised because they asked some good questions for their age. I just wanted to plant that early seed of curiosity and show them what's possible."

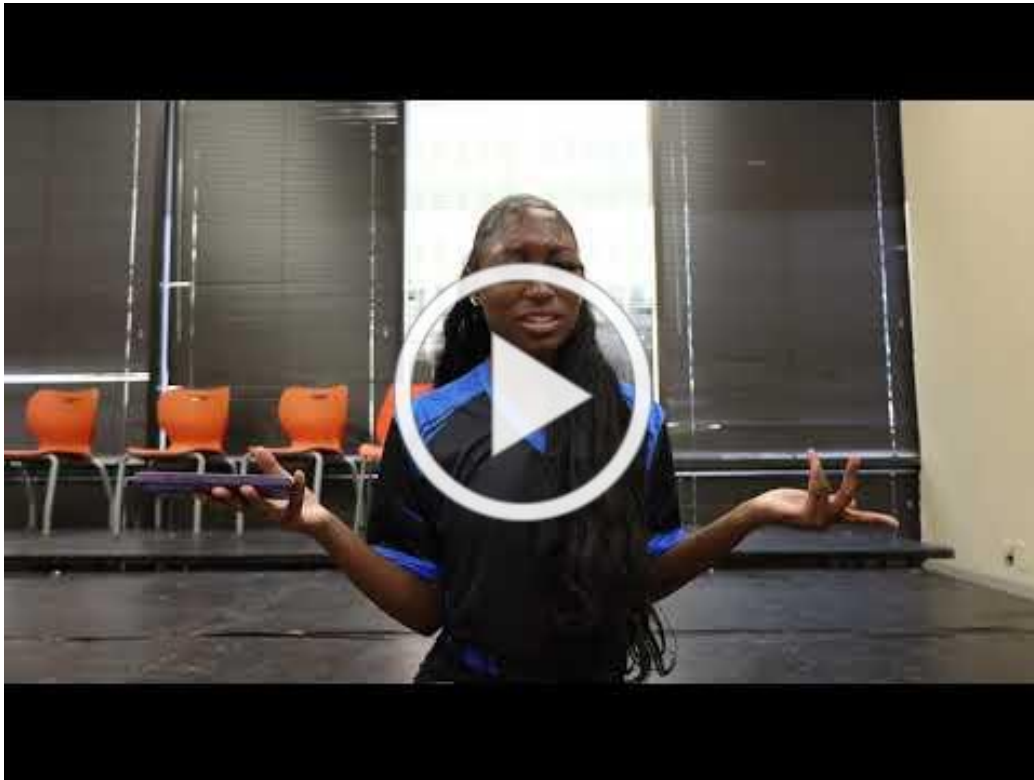
Porter is a graduate of Southern University Laboratory School and Florida A&M University. After graduation, he was accepted into the U.S. Navy's Aviation Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, Florida. He spent 21 years as a Naval Aviator both active duty and reserve service. He has been with Delta for 25 years.

The visit is part of HAA's mission to expose our students to jobs and careers in the aviation and aerospace industries.

For more pictures, go to our [Facebook page](#).



**Helix Mentorship & Maritime
Academy wins anti-drug video
contest**



Helix Mentorship and Maritime Academy's (HMMA) Media Team recently won second place and \$1,000 for its video submission in an anti-drug, public service announcement contest. The video features students in the band, dance, cheer, and football programs giving sound advice on drug prevention.

Kudos to HMMA teachers Nicholas Harris and Brandon Smith for working with the students to help produce the video. Special thanks also to Helix Community Schools Director of Arts and Electives Andrea Richardson.

The East Baton Rouge Parish Be A BOSS + HOPE Initiative Youth Prevention Campaign empowers students to create peer-to-peer prevention messaging, encourage healthy decision-making and substance-free lifestyles, and provide youth with opportunities to become leaders and advocates in their communities.

It is organized by the Capital Region Crime Stoppers, Louisiana Blue, Victoria's Voice Foundation, and Acadian Ambulance.

Congratulations! We are Helix Proud!

**Baker High School Homecoming
Parade**



Join us for the Baker High School Homecoming Parade! The parade will take place on Friday, Oct. 30, 2026 at noon, with the lineup starting at 10 a.m.

Businesses and organizations in the community are invited to participate. You can register for the event [here](#) or use the QR code on the flyer. Helix Community Schools groups do not have to pay a participation fee.



We know great things are happening at Helix so please share your success stories, student achievements, innovative classroom projects and community involvement. Email your story ideas **here**. Your idea could be our next lead story! Please send pictures too.

About Helix Community Schools

Helix Community Schools is a homegrown charter school network headquartered in Baton Rouge, Louisiana area which includes Helix Mentorship & Maritime Academy, Helix College & Career Academy, and Helix Aviation Academy. In Baker, Helix is partnering with the City of Baker School System to manage and operate Baker High School and Park Ridge Achievement Academy, both Helix Fintech & Performing Arts Academies. Helix opened Helix AI & Medical Academy in Opelousas, Louisiana, in August 2025, and is scheduled to open Helix Agriculture & Energy Academy there in 2027. At Helix, we are committed to exposing students to innovative college and career pathways in Science,

Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math (STEAM) and the law. For more information, visit helixcommunityschools.org.

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