

Partners in Education event hosts author alum, introduces teachers to PIE

CU alum, Cris Tovani, was the featured speaker at the Jan. 12 [Partners in Education](#) (PIE) event in Boulder. Tovani, a literary specialist, author and teacher, wrote *I Read It, but I Don't Get It: Comprehension Strategies for Adolescent Readers* (2000) and *Do I Really Have to Teach Reading?* (2004).

An elementary school teacher for a decade, Tovani switched to teaching high school, where she is a reading specialist and English teacher. She also consults nationally on issues of reading and content comprehension in the high school classroom.

About 50 people attended "Bring a Friend for PIE" at the Boulder Valley Education Center, including PIE teachers currently enrolled, clinical faculty who mentor them, and current teachers interested in learning more about the PIE program. The overall goal of the event, according to School of Education Director of School-University Partnerships, Christy Moroye (photo at left), was to provide an experience that exemplifies PIE.



"Based on the positive feedback I heard from attendees, we were successful in showing how PIE can make a positive difference in the lives of novice teachers. We look forward to welcoming many of the participants into PIE class of 2010-2011 and we're excited to deepen our partnerships with our local school districts," Moroye said.

Moroye was thrilled that Tovani accepted the invitation as the speaker, particularly because Tovani "identifies first and foremost as a high school teacher, even though she's authored several books. Her talk about literacy across the curriculum and across the grade levels was relevant and meaningful for everyone in attendance."

The School of Education's PIE program is a unique opportunity for novice teachers to earn their master's degree with an explicit focus on their classroom experience while working with professors at CU-Boulder. PIE teachers work as full-time teachers for one year at a reduced salary, while earning credits toward a master's degree at CU-Boulder's School of Education and receiving reduced tuition fees.

PIE is a cooperative venture between the School of Education and its partner districts: Adams County District 12, Boulder Valley School District, Brighton School District 27J, Fort Lupton School District, and the St. Vrain Valley Schools. For more PIE information, contact Christy.Moroye@colorado.edu or call 303-492-8499.



Cris Tovani signs her book and participants engage in a discussion at the PIE event.