

Reading Extravaganza

Columbine Elementary School

Boulder, CO



COLORADO
Department of Education

Columbine Elementary School's Reading Extravaganza was held on December 13, 2016 to help meet the school's literacy goal: to inspire a culture of reading within Columbine Elementary School. Sessions were held in both Spanish and English to more than 150 attendees. Prior to the event, students made invitations which were then given to parents and families to encourage participation.

The Reading Extravaganza was comprised of three main parts: a social event, teaching teams, and a reading session. Following a brief social gathering, parents and families were split up into "teaching teams" based on their student's grade level. Teachers gave presentations to inform families about what is happening in classrooms and modeled teaching strategies used at school to help parents learn how to engage their children in reading at home. Next, parents and students spread out all over the school to read together using the strategies they just learned from the teaching teams.

Books for the event were collected via donations, and students were able to take home books of their choice free of cost. Parents were able to learn how to use the library both for themselves and with their students. The first annual Reading Extravaganza worked to change the culture of reading and has received positive feedback from teachers. Families walked away with new information about reading at home and were given a magnet with reading questions to help engage with their students.

