

## BUSINESS-EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS



### OUR STORY

Partners In Education (PIE) was founded in 1984. The vision aimed to create a partnership between local businesses and Columbia Public Schools, bridging the gap between education and the workforce.

Over the years, PIE activities have included initiatives such as satellite schools, entrepreneurship, job shadowing, classroom presentations, and mentoring. Business leaders and community professionals visiting our schools help students gain a better understanding of specific skills and education employers are looking for in the workplace.

With over 250 businesses involved, PIE has facilitated strong connections between students, teachers, and the community developing enduring friendships and enriching educational experiences.



## INSPIRE GREATNESS

Join Columbia's Partners In Education (PIE) program. Partner with a local school, department, or program to create a lasting impact on our students.

Being a partner helps to develop a better understanding of our public school system, strengthen educational programs, and increase community involvement in our schools.

Together, let's inspire greatness in our students.



### GET IN TOUCH COMMUNITY RELATIONS:



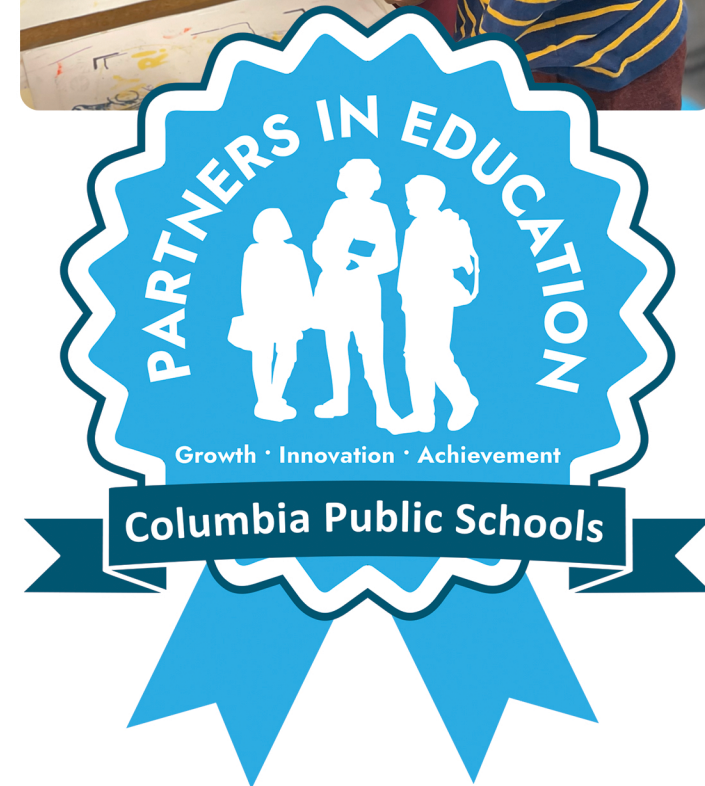
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[cpsk12.org/partnership](http://cpsk12.org/partnership)



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## WHAT IS PARTNERS IN EDUCATION (PIE)?

The overall goal of Columbia's Partners In Education program is to build bridges between the world of business and the world of education. The program serves a five-fold purpose:

1. To foster a better understanding of the public school system within the Columbia community;
2. To strengthen and enhance the district's programs;
3. To create a climate of involvement and interaction between organizations, businesses, and schools;
4. To provide students opportunities to develop attitudes and skills that enhance their success in the world of work;
5. To support the school district's strategic improvement plan

## HOW TO BECOME A PARTNER

1. Contact the Community Relations Department to begin the process.
2. Form a PIE Steering Committee and meet with the district's Community Relations Manager to discuss initial activities, define a mission, objectives, and measurable goals.
3. Conduct monthly meetings, plan activities, and identify student achievement goals.
4. Complete and submit a Business Profile and an annual Partnership Report Form.
5. Contact the Community Relations Department for assistance with promoting the partnership within your business and community.
6. Coordinate employee volunteer release time to participate in PIE activities.
7. Plan a partnership kick-off event with the Community Relations Department to celebrate the partnership.



## SUCCESS STORIES

At Columbia Public Schools, Partners In Education significantly impacts our students, educators, and community members. To learn more about inspiring stories, successful collaborations, and best practices of school-business partnerships, visit the PIE Spotlight at [www.cpsk12.org/piespotlight](http://www.cpsk12.org/piespotlight)

*“My favorite thing about the PIE partnership is working with individuals that are committed to providing opportunities for students to be physically active in a recreational and competitive environment.”*

**- Erika Coffman**

Recreation Services Manager  
Columbia Parks and Recreation

