

Reading to learn conference

READING to Learn South Africa (RtLSA) held its second Reading to Learn conference at Pietermaritzburg Girls' High School from September 8 to September 10.

Titled "Learning to Write — Reading to Learn", it attracted 140+ delegates, the vast majority being school teachers from Grade R to secondary school.

The Reading to Learn (RtL) programme is a methodology that trains teachers across all phases and learning areas to integrate the teaching of the content of texts that pupils have to learn from, with how to read and write those texts. The conference was a resounding

success with delegates describing it as "eye-opening" and "inspiring".

For this, RtLSA has many people and organisations to thank. First and foremost, we must thank Pietermaritzburg Girls' High for generously opening its doors and wonderful facilities to us with a special thanks to Brett Acutt and staff for facilitating so much for us. Our thanks to the caterers Tamleigh Catering and the GHS Snack Shack.

There were a number of businesses that helped with other aspects of the conference, namely Hayfields MiOffice, the Curry Pot in Hayfields and Foodpak. Other businesses responded to an ap-

peal to sponsor some teachers' conference fees. These were: Pricewaterhouse Coopers, Shepstone & Wylie, Lakeside Café, Ghela Dayaram tailors and Rochester Tackle. Through their donations we were able to support the attendance of 30 teachers. As a result of the conference we have an increased enrolment for our training programmes in October and in January 2018. This means that we will be working in more schools across different phases and ultimately affecting the literacy development of an increasing number of pupils in the future.

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