



TRANSPORTER

MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION
FOR PUPIL TRANSPORTATION



MAPT QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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TRAIN THE TRAINER 2019

Train the Trainer 2019 was a great success at our new location at the Minneapolis Marriott in Brooklyn Park, MN. We had a record number of over 460 participants in attendance, including Attendees, Vendors, Speakers, TTT Staff and MAPT Board Members. Because we have extra space at the Marriott, we were able to offer a third day of seminars for the Special Education Track, Administration Track, Dispatcher Track and Drivers Track.

TTT 2019

TRAIN THE TRAINER

THE MIDWEST'S PREMIERE
PUPIL TRANSPORTATION TRAINING.

In 2019 we were fortunate to have three amazing Keynote Speakers to educate and entertain Attendees. On Monday, July 15th, Al Johnson, Principal at Apollo High School, St. Cloud MN spoke about how to find what each individual person's passion is and to use that passion to be successful at work and how to make a difference in a child's life. On Monday afternoon John Graci, Leadership Solutions and book author "Leaders Are Made, Not Boar!" taught Attendees how to work with people from five generations that often work side by side in the School Bus Industry.

On Wednesday, July 17th, Sam Richter, expert on digital information and web resources spoke to the group on "How your digital reputation defines your personal brand, and shapes your organization's brand". Everyone in attendance walked away with valuable information to remember in the workplace and in our personal lives. Twenty attendees were able to attend the National CSRS Car seat Certification Class that was an all-day class teaching attendees laws, procedures and how to properly install car seats and special needs restraint seats in buses to safely transport students.

We will offer the CSRS Certification Class again on Monday, July 20, 2020. Remember to register early for this class because participants are limited to 20 per class. Type III Vehicle Training was well attended again in 2019. We expanded the class to two hours to educate attendees on how to minimize student behaviors by using Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports

(PBIS) communication with students. We also taught attendees best practices when having to install or use specialized equipment for Special Education students in Type III Vehicles. Type III Vehicle Training will expand to a four hour class in the afternoon on Monday, July 20, 2020. Mark your calendar and register early to hear more information regarding Type III Vehicles from experts with experience training Type III drivers and the MN State Patrol.

The TTT Staff look forward to another successful year in 2020. Train the Trainer 2020 will take place, July 20 - 23, 2020 at the Minneapolis Marriott Hotel and Conference Center in Brooklyn Park, MN.



BOARD MEMBER ELECTION RESULTS

MAPT had elections that took place at Train The Trainer during the General Member Meeting this summer and are excited to announce our new positions!

PRESIDENT

John Thomas
Eastern Carver
County Schools



VICE-PRESIDENT

Nick Klaseus
Cleveland Schools



TREASURER

B.J. Ison
North St. Paul-Maplewood-
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TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR

The Transportation Administrator of the Year is presented annually to an individual who exemplifies outstanding qualities that support and further the mission of the Minnesota Association for Pupil Transportation (MAPT).

The award was presented to Amy Tiedens by Derrick Agate, Hopkins Public Schools transportation director.

Amy Tiedens works at the District Service Center in Plymouth. "District 287 is a better place for students because of Amy and we are grateful for her leadership," said Superintendent Sandy Lewandowski. Tiedens was nominated for the award by Lewandowski and director of human resources, Michelle Axell. Tiedens's family taught her that everyone has limitations or setbacks, but there is always a way to encourage and support people through it.



She hosted MAPT's annual conference, and she chairs MAPT's special education committee. This summer, School Transportation News highlighted her work developing relationships between school bus drivers and student-passengers.

Through Tiedens, District 287 implemented Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports (PBIS). Superintendent Lewandowski was

her sister's teacher at Michael Dowling School for the Disabled in Minneapolis. She also knew Lewandowski while she was a teenage volunteer at the school. Amy's personal experience and expertise in special education make her well-equipped to serve the busing needs of unique students and further the mission of the Minnesota Association for Pupil Transportation.



Derrick Agate and Amy Tiedens at Train the Trainer 2019

2019 HOLLY HOGLUND KLEIN MEMORIAL AWARD

The MAPT Holly Hoglund Klein Memorial Award is awarded to a woman who:

- Works in the pupil transportation industry and has worked her way up through the ranks by hard work and dedication
- Demonstrates excellence, creativity and initiative in the pupil transportation field, as well as in her community and personal life
- Provides valuable support to others by contributing time, energy and/or resources.

This year's award goes to Patty Reed, Contract Manager for Positive Connections/Student Transportation of America's Chaska Operation.

Patty has a long history of transportation experience. Prior to joining the Student Transportation of America (STA) organization, she had been a manager for Durham Services, overseeing two contracts in Iowa and she had also been the Executive Director for a Transit Agency in Iowa. Some other past careers including being the Director of Transportation for a private school in Potomac, Maryland as well as being the Transportation Supervisor for ISD622 in North St. Paul.

Patty's knowledge of student transportation is extensive. With her "get it right" work ethic and her personal pride in making sure the customer is satisfied, it is very refreshing work with Patty in daily operations. She easily recognizes problems and works on fixes without question, her communication skills are excellent, and her team appreciates her input on the entire transportation operation. Quite often Patty is included in planning discussions because of her knowledge and realistic vision of operations.

Patty has been a pillar in the transportation industry for many years and we feel she will represent MAPT and the Holly Hoglund Klein Memorial Award with pride.



NHTS TO RELEASE STOP-ARM CAMERA STUDY RESULTS

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer (D-N.Y.) urged the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) on Wednesday to expedite the release of study results on the worthiness of a federal requirement for school bus stop-arm cameras. Schumer noted in a conference call with reporters that in New York state, more than 50,000 motorists illegally pass school buses every day, according to a news release from the senator's office.

Schumer added that many states — including New York — have started establishing programs mandating the installation of stop-arm cameras to enforce traffic laws. As of August, School Bus Fleet previously reported, state law allows school districts to install stop-arm cameras on school buses to catch motorists who illegally pass stopped buses and help law enforcement issue tickets to those offenders.

Article by Nicole Schlosser, School Bus Fleet News, Posted on October 31st, 2019

NEW SCHOOL BUSES IN IOWA WILL BE REQUIRED TO HAVE SEAT BELTS

All new school buses bought by Iowa school districts will be required to include lap and shoulder seat belts. The change comes after a committee of lawmakers reviewed a set of Education Department rules. "By far and away the safest way to get to school is on a school bus, with or without seat belts, so I think this is just one more step to making our kiddos just a little bit safer," said state Rep. Megan Jones, R-Sioux Rapids, who chairs the Administrative Rules Review Committee, which reviewed the rules.

The new rule does not require school districts to retrofit buses in their current fleet to include seat

belts. Jones said those buses will be cycled out over time and replaced with new buses that include seat belts. Staci Hupp, communications director for the Iowa Department of Education, said buses with seat belts cost about \$8,000 more per bus than those without. Generally, the price for a school bus ranges between \$90,000 and \$100,000, she said.

About 18 school districts in Iowa have begun using school buses with seat belts as part of their fleet, Hupp said. Des Moines began using some buses with lap and shoulder seat belts in 2016. In other districts, students won't see a difference immediately. Iowa City schools this summer purchased a full fleet of more than 90 buses, before the new rule would go into effect. Eighteen of those buses, designed to accommodate kids with wheelchairs, have lap and shoulder belts.

Jones said some people have argued that requiring seat belts will make it more difficult to quickly evacuate a school bus in case of an emergency, but she said safety experts have found that seat belts do not slow down bus evacuations if the students are trained on how to safely exit the bus. Schools are required to perform school bus evacuation drills with students twice a year, Hupp said. Hupp said school districts in Iowa and other states that already use seat belts have also reported a reduction in behavior issues on the bus. Eight states have laws requiring seat belts on school buses, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures. They are Arkansas, California, Florida, Louisiana, Nevada, New Jersey, New York and Texas. Nationwide, between 2006 and 2015 there were 301 school-age children killed in school bus crashes. Of those, 54 were passengers on a bus, 137 were riding in other vehicles, 102 were pedestrians and eight were bicyclists, according to data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. In 2018 the National Transportation Safety Board recommended lap-shoulder seat belts on all new school buses. Iowa's new rules also include other requirements for new school buses, including a second stop arm with a stop sign to warn drivers not to pass the bus, hand rails, exterior boarding lights and fire-resistant crash barriers between the front bus seat and the bus driver.

Article By Stephen Gruber-Biller, Des Moines Register. Published 4:04 PM CT September 11th, 2019

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