

PASSPORT TO SUCCESS



2018
SUMMER
CONFERENCE



CONFERENCE
SCHEDULE

June 19-23 | 2018

Eugene Hilton Hotel &
Conference Center

MONDAY, JUNE 18, 2018

10:00-5:00 Golf Tournament | RiverRidge Golf Course

5:00-7:00 Golf Awards | RiverRidge Golf Course

Dinner On Your Own

TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 2018

8:00-11:00 Conference Registration | Hilton Hotel Lobby

9:00-11:00 OPTA State Board Meeting | Directors

11:30-12:30 Lunch/OPTA General Session | Playwrights Hall

12:30-2:30 OPENING KEYNOTE: Paul Mellor "Memory Power" | Playwrights Hall

If there were a magic pill that would improve your memory, would you take it? Fortunately, you don't need to. In this fun-filled session, you'll learn skills to remember names and faces, beat absent-mindedness, and recall facts and figures. The answers to your memory deficiencies are already in your head as you'll be amazed as to how easy it is to remember more. When you're skilled in memory all your other skills get better. This program shows how.

2:45-4:45 Roundtable Discussion: Supervisor Ⓟ | Wilder

Chris Ellison and Kathy Calkins will facilitate a discussion on many issues relating to Pupil Transportation and Operations. Bring your questions!

2:45-4:45 Roundtable Discussion: Head Start/Pre-School Ⓟ | Hansberry

Diane Clinkscales and Michelle Saavedra will facilitate a discussion on many issues relating to Head Start and Pre-School Transportation. Bring your questions!

2:45-4:45 Roundtable Discussion: Dispatch/Routing Ⓟ | Ferber

David Jorgenson and Jason Chess will facilitate a discussion on many issues relating to Dispatch and Routing Operations. Bring your questions!

2:45-4:45 Roundtable Discussion: Training Ⓟ | Studio B/C

T.J. Crockett will facilitate a discussion on many issues relating to Driver Training. Bring your questions!

4:45-5:15 OPTA Chapter Meetings Ⓟ | SW - Wilder || NW - Ferber

6:00-10:00 Schetky Northwest Customer Appreciation Dinner | Playwrights Hall

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 2018

Breakfast On Your Own

7:00-8:30 Coffee Service: Sponsored by Brattain International | Hilton Hotel Lobby

7:00-8:30 Conference Registration | Hilton Hotel Lobby

8:30-10:00 Are You A New Supervisor? Now What? Ⓟ | Chris Ellison | Wilder

If you are a new Supervisor, Manager, or Director - or you aspire to become one in the pupil transportation industry, find out what you need to know to help be successful in your new role. Facilitated discussion on management styles, relationships, HR issues, KPI's and much more!

8:30-10:00 Creating a Bus Aide Training Program Ⓟ | Sandi Miller | Studio B/C

An aide can be a vital part of a student's bus ride. Learn why it is important to create and implement a bus aide training program, what it should include and why it is vital to the success of your aides, students, drivers and district.

8:30-10:00 It's Not About "Me", It's About "We" Ⓟ | Michael Shields | Ferber

If you are interested in developing your team to be self-starters or changing how you are viewed in your school district or simply want to achieve some positive results come to this workshop for strategies to make a difference.

- 8:30-10:00 **Operation Lifesaver ☎** | Vince Hoffarth/Craig Ashenfelter | Hansberry
The innocent high school senior picture, a lovely summer stroll, jumping into a river from a railroad trestle, all on a seemingly-desolate stretch of railroad tracks. Learn how these incidents are not only dangerous and deadly, but also illegal. Compelling statistics and video will be shown and discussed, including the OPTA-produced 2009 Train vs School Bus catastrophe.
- 10:10-12:00 **Communicating the Value of Transportation/KPI's ☎** | Tim Ammon | Wilder
What does the public, your business office, superintendent, or even your school board know about your Transportation operation? What do they need to know? How do you market and celebrate your operation? Learn how to communicate the value of Transportation plus a discussion on the necessary operational assessments you will need to know to answer ever-pressuring questions about efficiency and operational benchmarks (Key Performance Indicators).
- 10:10-12:00 **Medicaid Reimbursements & School Finance ☎** | Theresa Anderson/Ely Sanders | Ferber
Although Medicaid provides reimbursement to school districts for transporting qualified special needs students, some districts have chosen not to file reports to get their money back, finding that the challenges outweigh the benefits. Learn how to overcome this obstacle and not leave money on the table.
- 10:10-12:00 **School Board Policy & Transportation ☎** | Peggy Holstedt/OSBA | Hansberry
Do you ever wonder how Transportation school board policies are created? Peggy will take you through the process of creating a policy, and then how districts shape and implement these policies to fit their needs. Learn which policies you should have, and must have.
- 10:10-12:00 **Maintenance is the Key ☎** | Rick Lecker | Studio B/C
Bus maintenance is the key to operating a successful Transportation shop. Learn what it takes to be successful with record keeping, preventive maintenance inspections, master inspections, parts inventories, budgeting and safety.
- 12:00-1:00 Lunch/OPTA General Session | Playwrights Hall
- 1:00-3:00 Voting For Officers (at OPTA Table/Trade Show) | Composers Hall
- 1:00-4:00 Trade Show | Composers Hall || 7th Street
- 3:00-4:30 **Third-Party Recertification** | Craig Pruitt | Ferber
This workshop is for DMV third-party examiners that require recertification.
- 3:00-4:30 **ASE School Bus Test Preparation** | Walt Commans | Hansberry
ASE test preparation workshop for School Bus Technicians to help them prepare for the ASE School Bus Certification Tests. Each presentation focuses on a specific ASE School Bus Test Series, and offers an in-depth look at question styles with an eye towards technicians better understanding how to approach and analyze each type of question for better results.
- 3:00-4:30 **ODE Technician Certification** | Scott Bohl | Studio B/C
This workshop is for Technicians who want to receive certification to perform school bus annual inspections. Bring your inspection manual!
- 3:00-4:30 **TrimFlex Vinyl Seat Repair Training** | Paul LaMontagne | Wilder
Hands-on workshop with all methods of seat repairs without seat cover removal. We will also cover various methods of repairing vandalized seats and seam damage.
- 6:00-10:00 Western Bus Sales Customer Appreciation Dinner | Playwrights Hall

THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 2018

Breakfast On Your Own

- 7:00-8:00 Coffee Service: Sponsored by Brattain International | Hilton Hotel Lobby
- 7:00-8:00 Conference Registration | Hilton Hotel Lobby
- 8:00-9:00 **Bus Purchase Conundrum/Volkswagen \$\$ ☎** | Tim Ammon/T.J. Crockett | Wilder
Your school bus fleet is getting old... You're facing the 2025 legislative mandate to get pre-2007 emission buses off the road... You have no money... Come learn about bus purchasing options in times of lean budgets, cost trade-off, vehicle allocation strategies, and how the VW Mitigation Settlement may benefit your district.
- 8:00-9:00 **Transportation Behavior Challenges ☎** | Theresa Anderson | Hansberry
This workshop will address common and challenging behavior from general education students as well as special education students. Learn how to mitigate this behavior and how to separate "annoying" behaviors from disability-induced behaviors.
- 8:00-9:00 **SEON User Group ☎** | Malinda Sandhu | Ferber
This workshop will focus on effectively learning and navigating SEON's video software. New and improved features will be discussed, as well as allowing for customer feedback and suggestions.
- 8:00-9:00 **NCST Specifications Process ☎** | Rick Lecker | Studio B/C
The National Congress on School Transportation (NCST) is held every 5 years to discuss formal recommendations for vehicles, equipment, and operational practices that eventually become federal standard. This workshop will present the "why's" on school bus equipment, and give you the "how's" to propose mandatory equipment on school buses.
- 9:10-10:10 **Lap/Shoulder Belt Implementation** | Derek Graham | Wilder
Lap and shoulder belt implementation on school buses is gaining ground nation-wide. It will most likely be just a matter of time before this becomes either a state or federal requirement. What do you need to know and how will you prepare your parents, drivers, and fleet for this?
- 9:10-10:10 **Dealing With Difficult People** | Theresa Anderson | Hansberry
Dealing with difficult people is an everyday occurrence for Transportation employees. From angry parent phone calls to dispatch, to difficult employees for supervisors, to entitled administrators at schools, come to this workshop to learn effective ways to have a professional conversation with difficult people and to get what you need and expect out of them.
- 9:10-10:10 **The Evolution of School Bus Technology** | Malinda Sandhu | Ferber
Have you ever wondered how technology on the school bus has evolved? Malinda will take you through a historical journey chronicling the evolution of school bus technology - what was then, what is now, and what could be on the horizon.
- 9:10-10:10 **Air Disc Brakes Pros/Cons** | Ed Bruser | Studio B/C
Air Disc Brakes are gaining popularity over the tried-and-true drums and shoes. Come see how ADB's excel and learn from the experts why you should spec your next bus with these.

10:15-12:00 KEYNOTE: Mark Kendall "La Camioneta" | Playwrights Hall

Every day dozens of decommissioned school buses leave the United States on a southward migration that carries them to Guatemala, where they are repaired, repainted, and resurrected as the brightly-colored camionetas that bring the vast majority of Guatemalans to work each day. Since 2006, nearly 1,000 camioneta drivers and fare-collectors have been murdered for either refusing or being unable to pay the extortion money demanded by local Guatemalan gangs. LA CAMIONETA follows one such bus on its transformative journey: a journey between North and South, between life and death, and through an unfolding collection of moments, people, and places that serve to quietly remind us of the interconnected worlds in which we live. Director Mark Kendall will have a Q & A session after the movie.

12:00-1:30 Awards Luncheon, Voting Results, Exchange of Officers | Playwrights Hall

1:40-2:40 Driver Performance/Qualifications | Charlie Hood | Ferber

99.99% of school bus drivers do a fantastic job. The other .01% - not so much... With stories about "drivers behaving badly" hitting the media at almost a weekly pace, coupled with the nationwide driver shortage, it's important that we show some leadership in this area. Is the driver sitting behind the wheel of your bus qualified for the incredible responsibility of driving our most precious cargo? Or are we going to be reading about them the next day...

1:40-2:40 Generations @ Work | Karen Main | Hansberry

Getting baffled by the work habits of someone older (or younger) in the workplace? Want to create incentives and policies that attract new generations? Then this workshop is for you. This workshop explores **the characteristics that distinguish the generations. You'll learn how X'ers are different from their younger counterparts** - the Millennials - and what sets Millennials apart from Gen. Z. The focus of this workshop is to find realistic ways to improve our ability to communicate, collaborate and manage across the generations. *Workshop continues 2:50-3:50*

1:40-2:40 Solutions For MV & Foster Transportation (Panel) | Chris Ellison - Facilitator | Wilder

Federal transportation requirements for McKinney-Vento and Foster students are affecting us all. Many Transportation departments across the country are utilizing Uber-like service companies to solve these transportation issues. A panel of esteemed transportation professionals will discuss strategies and brainstorm creative ways to help our students succeed, while also lessening the burden on our transportation fleets. Joanna McFarland, CEO of HopSkipDrive will discuss how her company helps supplement yellow bus providers.

1:40-2:40 Shop Environment, Communication, Customer Service | Rick Lecker | Studio B/C

What is your shop environment like? How is the communication between mechanics and drivers? Who are your customers? Being a mechanic/technician is simply not "turning the wrenches" anymore. This workshop will focus on what matters in a successful transportation shop.

2:50-3:50 Mobile Data Terminals Ⓟ | Derek Graham/T.J. Crockett | Wilder

Many of us depend on the visual displays in our cars. What are the benefits and hazards of displays for drivers of school buses? Join Derek and T.J. as they discuss research and state guidelines that balance distraction and utility, with safety always job one.

2:50-3:50 Generations @ Work (part 2) Ⓟ | Karen Main | Hansberry

Workshop continued from 1:40-2:40...

2:50-3:50 NTSB Updates on High Profile Bus Crashes Ⓟ | Charlie Hood | Ferber

We see the horrific images of school bus crashes on the nightly news: Chattanooga, TN; Anaheim, CA; **Chesterfield, NJ...** Charlie will give updates from the National Transportation Safety Board's investigation into these high profile school bus crashes and how these could have been prevented.

2:50-3:50 Roundtable Discussion: Technicians Ⓟ | Studio B/C

Rick Lecker will facilitate a discussion on many issues relating to mechanics and technicians. Bring your questions!

Dinner On Your Own

FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 2018

Breakfast On Your Own

7:00-8:00 Coffee Service: Sponsored by Brattain International | Hilton Hotel Lobby

8:00-10:00 Post-Conference Registration | Hilton Hotel Lobby

8:00-9:00 Are You a Nice Boss? Or a Good One? Ⓟ | Karen Main | Hansberry

There are some simple – and predictable – mistakes that even the most experienced supervisors and managers are making that move them into the “ineffective boss” category. Don’t fall into the trap! Your employees want you to lead. This workshop reviews some of the most common mistakes that supervisors and managers make, specifically around issues of accountability, delegation, providing feedback and managing relationships at work.

8:00-9:00 Transportation Records Retention Ⓟ | Stephanie Clark | Studio B/C

What records do you need to keep on file and for how long? This workshop will shed light on how long you need to keep pertinent transportation personnel, training, accident, and other related records.

8:00-9:00 Horror Stories of Pass-By's Ⓟ | Charlie Hood/Derek Graham | Wilder

There are tens of thousands of stop arm violations by motorists each and every day. Not all of these violations are by passenger cars... Compelling video will be shown of vehicles passing by stopped school buses and what we can do to help mitigate this daily problem.

8:00-9:00 Here Comes The Electric Bus! Ⓟ | Michelle McCutcheon-Schour | Ferber

Electric school buses are gaining traction and are no longer just a futuristic thought. There are many school bus manufacturers that currently offer, or will offer electric school buses. Learn about the current opportunities available for school districts and hear examples about how these school buses are working on the east coast. *Sponsored by Portland General Electric*



9:10-10:00 ODE Director's Corner: What's ODE Been Up To? | ODE Staff | Playwrights Hall

This session will provide updates from ODE related to pupil transportation and bus/safety rules, as well as their plans for continued support in the field. Come and learn the latest!

10:00-12:00 CLOSING KEYNOTE: Dr. Stephen Sroka "Transportation to a Tee" | Playwrights Hall

This is an exciting, interactive and innovative activity that lets you create your story and capture it on a T-shirt poster-board. You will learn about yourself. You will learn about the challenges that we must face as **student transportation professionals to build trusted relationships, including the four C's: caring, communicating, collaborating and working with different cultures.** This session leads you through a process that ends with you graphically displaying your own story on a T-shirt poster-board in a creative way about who you are, where you have been and where you are going, and creating your action plans to become a more effective student transportation professional. The added beauty of this workshop is that you experience a free in-service team building technique that you can take back and use for your school transportation staff. Research-based and reality-driven, this session offers honesty, humor, and hope.

12:00-1:00 OPTA State Board Meeting | Directors

12:00-1:00 *Lunch On Your Own*

12:00-1:30 Post-Conference Registration | Hilton Hotel Lobby

KEY:

LEADERSHIP

OPERATIONS

SPECIAL EDUCATION

FLEET

GENERAL SESSION

Ⓟ = PASSPORT EVENT

POST CONFERENCE

- 1:30-5:30 **Growing Into a Leadership Role** | Chris Ellison/Kathy Houck/Sandi Miller | Wilder
There are many positions in Pupil Transportation that are leadership roles. What does it take for you to grow into these roles? As a leader, what skills and tools should you provide your employees to succeed and grow? This workshop will focus on "Growing Our Own".
- 1:30-5:30 **Q'Straint/Sur-Lok Wheelchair Certification** | Nancy Koski/Lisa Nippolt/Ed Kendzierski | Ferber
Learn from the experts about how to properly secure various carseats and wheelchairs, with a lesson on minor wheelchair lift maintenance as well. Q'Straint/Sur-Lok certification will be issued to successful attendees that attend and participate in this hands-on workshop.
- 1:30-5:30 **Reasonable Suspicion Cert./Drug & Alcohol Program** | Paul Fauria/Mary Stine | Hansberry
If you hold a CDL, you must be enrolled in a random drug screen program. This workshop will provide training and certification for reasonable suspicion, as well as what you need to know about FMCSA drug and alcohol program requirements.
- 1:30-5:30 **Cummins Emissions: The Full Meal Deal** | Jeff Thornburg | Studio B/C
This workshop will dive into the different and various generations of diesel emissions currently found on 2007 to present-day school buses. Topics will include EGR pressure levels, maintenance, cleaning, troubleshooting, and much, much more.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 2018

- 8:00-12:00 **Interpersonal Relationships** | Chris Ellison/Kathy Houck/Sandi Miller | Wilder
Working in a Transportation department requires exceptional interpersonal relationships. Everyone must work together for the greater good and for the success of everyone. However, this most likely isn't the case with the majority of Transportation departments. Dysfunction, jealousy, competition, and who's in it for themselves can lead to disastrous results. Learn how to recognize and improve your interpersonal relationships at work!
- 8:00-12:00 **Q'Straint/Sur-Lok Wheelchair Certification (part 2)** | Lisa Nippolt/Ed Kendzierski | Ferber
Workshop continued from Friday, 1:30-5:30. *MUST ATTEND THIS TO EARN CERTIFICATION*
- 8:00-12:00 **Refresh The BTW Trainer** | Chris Carley/Mary Conger | Hansberry/Off-Site
This workshop is designed for the veteran BTW trainer (newbies welcome too!) that is willing to be "refreshed" when it comes to reference points. New techniques, new equipment, and new ideas will be shared and demonstrated so we can all have the same outcome: putting the best and safest school bus driver on the road.
- 8:00-12:00 **Cummins Emissions: The Full Meal Deal (part 2)** | Jeff Thornburg | Studio B/C
Workshop continued from Friday, 1:30-5:30.