

# **NASDPTS Conference Program Schedule & Agenda**

November 4 – 8, 2017

HAMPTON INN & SUITES DOWNTOWN  
COLUMBUS, OHIO

*Note: All conference activities are on the 2nd Floor of the Columbus Convention Center, except as indicated.*

## **SATURDAY**

## **NOVEMBER 4**

**8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**Registration**

HAMPTON INN

**8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**NASDPTS Board Meeting**

BUCKEYE BOARDROOM, HAMPTON INN

**1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

**Special Event! Innovation In Action: Empowering  
The Most Important Feature On The Bus, The Driver**

*All NASDPTS conference attendees are invited to join NAPT and Thomas Built Buses to experience driver assistive technology for yourself. With multimedia and interactive demonstrations discover how this cutting-edge technology leads to better drivers, safer rides, and more positive experiences for everyone on the yellow bus. Sponsored by NAPT in collaboration with Thomas Built Buses.*

COLUMBUS CONVENTION CENTER, EXHIBIT HALL D

**4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**NAPT Keynote Session: The Future of Blockchain  
Technology in Student Transportation**

Jack Shaw, Executive Director, American  
Blockchain Council

*Join Jack Shaw and learn why and how the student transportation industry must utilize products and services that enable us to stay ahead of the competition (NASDPTS attendees invited).*

CONVENTION CENTER, SHORT NORTH, BALLROOM A/B

**5:30 – 9:00 p.m.**

**Reception, Dinner, and Entertainment**

*All NASDPTS Members are invited to this special event at Lindsey's Restaurant & Bar, a German Village staple, marrying chic urban style with enduring charm, rooted in its atmosphere of everyday elegance.*

*Sponsored by SafeFleet Solutions*

OFFSITE EVENT, 169 E. BECK STREET

*At 5:30 p.m. buses will depart from the Hampton Inn, arriving by 5:45 for drinks, appetizers, and good cheer. The four-course dinner service starts at 6:30. Return shuttles are at 8:30 and 9:00 p.m.*



**SUNDAY**

**NOVEMBER 5**

**7:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.**

**Registration**

CONVENTION CENTER, B SECTION - 2ND FLOOR



**7:00 - 7:45 a.m.**

**Breakfast**

*Sponsored by Blue Bird Corporation*

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B233-235

**8:00 - 8:15 a.m.**

**Opening Session - Welcome and Introductions**

Diana Hollander, NASDPTS President and  
Nevada State Director of Pupil Transportation

*Diana will welcome attendees and ask for introductions.*

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B230-232

**8:15 - 9:45 a.m.**

**Conference Headliner- All About Safety:**

**Lap/Shoulder Belts in School Buses (2017 & beyond)**

Charles Gauthier, Retired NHTSA School Bus Program  
Chief and former NASDPTS Executive Director

Dr. Kristin Poland, Mechanical/Biomechanical  
Engineer, National Transportation Safety Board

Diana Hollander, Nevada State Director

Mike LaRocco, Indiana State Director

*This workshop will kick off our conference, and the presenters will challenge us with new ways of thinking. It will include a discussion of public perceptions and our longstanding culture of safety. The NTSB will cover its research on the biomechanics of passenger injury and concussions. NASDPTS will discuss recent crash test results and show a newly released video.*

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B230-232

**9:45 - 10:30 a.m.**

**School Reform:**

**The Impact on Student Transportation**

Linda F. Bluth, Ed.D, Transportation Consultant,  
Maryland State Department of Education

Panel Members:

Diana Hollander, State Director, Nevada

Susan Miller, State Director, Colorado

Lt. Brian Reu, State Director, Minnesota

*It is timely and essential to examine the landscape of student transportation in relationship to changes being brought about by school reform. The increasing presence of school reform makes it critical for transportation leaders to be visible and*

*continued*

**SUNDAY** *continued*



*proactively advocating for safe transportation for all children. This presentation will speak to the impact of school reform on student transportation regarding the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, McKinney-Vento, School Choice and Charter Schools.*

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B230-232

**10:30 - 10:45 a.m.**

**Break**

*Sponsored by Trans/Air Manufacturing Corp.*

**10:45 - 11:45 a.m.**

**Supplier Council Presentations**

NASDPTS Supplier Council Members

*Representatives from member companies will highlight emerging technologies and services important to student transportation safety and cost effectiveness.*

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B230-232

**11:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

**National Associations' Reports**

Tiffany Boykin, Executive Director, NSTA

Les Sokolowski, Regulatory Relations Dir., NSTA

Barry Sudduth, President NAPT

Diana Hollander, President NASDPTS

*The leaders of the three national student transportation associations will discuss what they see as the urgent and emerging issues in student transportation.*

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B230-232



**12:00 - 1:00 p.m.**

**Lunch**

*Sponsored by SoundOff Commercial Vehicle Products and Certified Safety Manufacturing*

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B233-235

**1:00 - 1:45 p.m.**

**Distraction or Driving Aid?:**

**Tablets and Mobile Data Terminals**

Max Christensen, State Director, Iowa

Rick Lecker, Chair, NCST School Bus Specifications Writing Committee

Sgt. Chris Kath, School Bus Safety Coordinator, Indiana State Police

Janice Zmrazek, State Director, Wisconsin

*Many of us depend on the visual displays in our cars. What are the benefits and hazards of displays for drivers of school buses? The presenters will discuss research and state guidelines that balance distraction and utility, with safety always job one.*

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B230-232

**1:45 – 2:45 p.m.**

**Fake News and Inconvenient Truths:  
A Roundtable Discussion**

*We can't control reports of drivers behaving badly or other bad news items. But is there more we could or should be doing in our profession to prevent such incidents? We will cite some recent examples and ask you, the safety experts, to engage in a candid discussion. What have we learned and how can we improve?*

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B230-232



**2:45 – 3:00 p.m.**

**Break**

*Sponsored by BESI, Inc.*

**3:00 – 4:00 p.m.**

**OEM Updates**

Rusty Mitchell, Director Product Management/  
Planning, Blue Bird Corp.

Ryan Kauffman, VP Bus Sales, IC Corp.

Ken Hedgecock, Vice President of Sales, Marketing,  
and Service, Thomas Built Buses

*What do the three large school bus manufacturers expect in coming years? What market trends do they see?*

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B230-232

**4:00 – 4:30 p.m.**

**NASDPTS Business Meeting (State Directors only)**

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B230-232

**4:30 – 5:30 p.m.**

**SNAC Membership Meeting**

*(SNAC and all other members invited)*

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B240-241



**6:00 – 10:00 p.m.**

**Reception, Dinner and Entertainment**

*Sponsored by Thomas Built Buses*

*Sing-along to your favorite tunes as you join Thomas Built Buses for an evening of music and fun at Big Bang Dueling Piano Bar.*

BIG BANG BAR, 401 N. FRONT STREET #95

(0.3 MILES WALKING DISTANCE FROM HAMPTON INN)

**MONDAY**

**NOVEMBER 6**

**7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

**Registration**

CONVENTION CENTER, B SECTION – 2ND FLOOR



**7:00 – 8:00 a.m.**

**Breakfast**

*Sponsored by Rosco Vision Systems, Inc.*

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B233-235

**8:00 – 9:45 a.m.**

**Illegal Passing- The Problem and Solutions  
(joint session of NASDPTS and NAPT)**

Charlie Hood, Executive Director, NASDPTS

Todd Watkins, Director of Transportation

Montgomery County (Maryland) Public Schools

*The seventh annual NASDPTS survey on illegal passing of school buses documented a continued, unfortunate pattern of tens of thousands of violations by motorists each and every school day. This session will discuss the extent of this perennial problem and what is and is not working in states and local school districts to mitigate it.*

CONVENTION CENTER (NAPT CONFERENCE)

HEADLINER: SHORT NORTH BALLROOM A/B (8:00-8:45 A.M.)

SPINOFF: ROOM D-284 (8:50-9:45 A.M.)

**8:30 – 11:00 a.m.**

**NCST School Bus Specifications Writing Committee Meeting/School Bus Manufacturers Technical Council Task Force on New Technologies (joint meeting)**

Rick Lecker, NCST Writing Committee Chairman

Joe Labonte, SBMTC Chairman

Dave McDonald, Task Force Chairman

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B241-243

**10:00 – 10:30 a.m.**

**Report from National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Office of Defects Investigation**

Ryan Rahimpour, Safety Defects Engineer

Medium and Heavy Duty Vehicles Division

Office of Defects Investigation

*Mr. Rahimpour will discuss such topics as what constitutes a defect and how that becomes a recall, and why some defects don't. He will review the history of school bus industry recalls and current school bus investigations or recalls.*

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B230-232



**10:30 - 10:45 a.m.**

**Break**

*Sponsored by Pupil Transportation Safety Institute*

**10:45 - 11:15 a.m.**

**Spotlight: Focus on Supplier Council Members**

*NASDPTS Supplier Council members provide important products and services and are key partners. Please briefly introduce yourselves and your companies.*

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B230-232

**11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

**Transportation Security Administration Report**

Jimmy Beasley, Transportation Security Specialist

Highway and Motorcarrier Section

Surface Division - TSA

*Mr. Beasley will provide an update on the status of national security concerns and initiatives related to school buses and student transportation.*

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B230-232

**SafeGuard** 

**12:00 - 1:00 p.m.**

**Lunch**

*Sponsored by SafeGuard/IMMI*

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B233-235

**1:00 - 2:00 p.m.**

**Report from the National Transportation Safety Board**

Christopher A. Hart, NTSB Board Member

*Past-chairman and current Board Member Mr. Hart will discuss recent NTSB activities and safety priorities.*

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B230-232

**2:00 - 2:45 p.m.**

**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Report: Student Transportation Safety Initiatives**

Jeremy Gunderson, Research Specialist, NHTSA

*Mr. Gunderson will provide updates on current and upcoming NHTSA school bus safety initiatives.*

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B230-232



**2:45 - 3:00 p.m.**

**Break**

*Sponsored by Education Logistics, Inc.*

*continued*

**MONDAY** *continued*

**2:45 – 3:00 p.m.**

**Supplier Council Membership Committee Meeting**

Mark Hollenbeck, Chair

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B241-243

**3:00 – 3:30 p.m.**

**NASDPTS Business Meeting (State Directors only)**

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B230-232

**3:00 – 3:30 p.m.**

**Supplier Council Steering Committee Meeting**

Rusty Mitchell, Supplier Council Chairman

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B241-243

**3:00 – 5:00 p.m.**

**School Bus Manufacturers Technical Council  
(SBMTC) Meeting**

Joe Labonte, SBMTC Chairman

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B240

**3:30 – 4:30 p.m.**

**Supplier Council General Membership Meeting  
with State Directors**

Rusty Mitchell, Supplier Council Chairman

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B230-232

**4:30 – 5:00 p.m.**

**NASDPTS Board Meeting (old and new members)**

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B230-232

**School Transportation®**  
*News*

**5:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

**Monday Night Football Tailgate Party:  
Green Bay Packers vs. Detroit Lions**

*Sponsored by School Transportation News*

*Come enjoy a night of pre-game networking with craft beers,  
drinks, and hearty appetizers.*

BARLEY'S BREWING COMPANY

467 N. HIGH STREET

(NEXT TO HAMPTON INN)

**TUESDAY**

**NOVEMBER 7**

**7:00 – 9:00 a.m.**

**Registration**

CONVENTION CENTER, B SECTION – 2ND FLOOR



**7:00 – 8:00 a.m.**

**Breakfast**

*Sponsored by HSM Transportation Solutions*

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B233-235

**8:00 – 8:30 a.m.**

**Transporting PreK Students – Improving Child Passenger Safety In Our School Buses**

Charlie Vits, Member-At-Large, National Child Passenger Safety Board

*Mr. Vits will describe the National Child Passenger Safety Board and its role in overseeing child passenger safety in the US. Improving child passenger safety is a priority as the number of Pre-K students transported in public school buses and the need for training increases. Training materials covering the basics have been developed and are now freely available to all transportation staff.*

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B233-235

**8:30 – 9:00 a.m.**

**American School Bus Council – New Ridership Research and Public Awareness Products**

Laura Duguid, Qualitative Researcher and Innovation Specialist, Doyle Research Associates, Inc.

Charlie Hood, NASDPTS

*What do parents REALLY think about school bus service? The ASBC conducted research to find out. In this workshop, Ms. Duguid will cover some of the surprising and not so surprising findings of a newly released qualitative research report. Mr. Hood will point us to the new school bus animations and other awareness materials that ASBC published in May under a grant from NHTSA.*

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B233-235

**9:00 – 10:00 a.m.**

**Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Report**

Tom Yager, Chief, Driver and Carrier Operations Division, FMCSA

*Mr. Yager will discuss important FMCSA initiatives and actions, including plans to implement the Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT) final rule, Electronic Logging Devices (ELD) and Hours-of-Service (HOS), and driver medical issues.*

CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B233-235

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## **TUESDAY** *continued*

**9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**  
**43rd Annual NAPT Trade Show**  
CONVENTION CENTER

**3:00 – 5:00 p.m.**  
**National Congress on School Transportation  
Steering Committee Meeting**  
David Koskelowski, Chairman  
CONVENTION CENTER, ROOM B233-235

**5:00 – 7:00 p.m.**  
**NAPT 'New Ideas Exchange'**

*All NASDPTS conference attendees are invited to join NAPT conference delegates and exhibitors for the NAPT New Ideas Exchange. There will be time for mixing and mingling and sampling some local culinary favorites. This is a great opportunity to keep conversations going with industry colleagues and make lasting connections.*

CONVENTION CENTER

## **EVENING ON YOUR OWN**

## **WEDNESDAY**

## **NOVEMBER 8**

### **BREAKFAST ON YOUR OWN**

**8:00 – 8:45 a.m.**  
**EPA Report: DERA Grants, School Bus Rebate  
Program, and the VW Settlement**

Jason Wilcox, Program Mgr. for DERA Rebates and  
State Grants, Environmental Protection Agency  
*Mr. Wilcox will discuss current and upcoming funding opportunities, including the VW Environmental Mitigation Trust and EPA's Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) grant and rebate programs.*

HAMPTON INN, CREW/CLIPPER ROOMS

**8:45 – 9:15 a.m.**  
**NASDPTS Executive Director's Report**

Charlie Hood, Executive Director  
*Mr. Hood will review policy trends and issues of importance to members and provide an update on the past year's association activities.*

HAMPTON INN, CREW/CLIPPER ROOMS

**9:15 – 9:45 a.m.**

**Plates, Lights, & Tape: Illegal Passing, and What Ohio is Doing to Combat the Problem**

Jeff Vrabel, Sr., SNAC Chair, Fleet Services  
Supervisor, Columbus (Ohio) City Schools

*This presentation will show what innovative ideas have been introduced in Ohio, and how they will impact pupil transportation.*

HAMPTON INN, CREW/CLIPPER ROOMS



**9:45 – 10:00 a.m.**

**Break**

*Sponsored by Fogmaker North America*

**10:00 – 10:15 a.m.**

**State and National Associations Council (SNAC)  
Report to NASDPTS Members**

Jeff Vrabel, Sr., SNAC Chairman

*Update on the activities of SNAC this past year.*

HAMPTON INN, CREW/CLIPPER ROOMS

**10:15 – 11:00 a.m.**

**Homeless & Foster Care Transportation**

Christina Endres, Program Specialist,  
National Center for Homeless Education at SERVE

*Ms. Endres will discuss issues related to the newest changes in ESSA regulation for foster care transportation and current issues related to McKinney-Vento transportation issues.*

HAMPTON INN, CREW/CLIPPER ROOMS

**11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**NASDPTS Business Meeting  
(State Directors only)**

HAMPTON INN, CREW/CLIPPER ROOMS

**12:00 p.m.**

**Conference Adjourns**

*Have a safe trip home!*

**SCHOLARSHIPS SPONSOR**

**Hawaii Department of Education**