



# National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, D.C. 20594

Office of the Chairman

SEP 26 2011

Mr. Bob Riley  
Executive Director  
National Association of State Directors  
of Pupil Transportation Services  
Post Office Box 5446  
Steamboat Springs, Colorado 80477

Dear Mr. Riley:

Thank you for your October 27, 2010, letter to the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) regarding Safety Recommendation H-09-14, stated below. This recommendation was issued to the National Association of State Directors of Pupil Transportation Services (NASDPTS) on September 10, 2009, as a result of the NTSB's investigation of pedal misapplication in heavy vehicles. We apologize for the delay in responding; because of an error in the address line, we did not receive your original e-mail to the NTSB updating us about your actions to address this recommendation.

## H-09-14

Advise your members—through your newsletters, websites, and conferences—of the following safety issues: (1) the risk of pedal misapplication and the need to educate school bus drivers about such incidents, and the need to develop and implement plans to ensure that school bus drivers undergo annual refamiliarization training on all bus types that they might drive; and (2) the risk of unintended acceleration during loading and unloading activities, as exemplified by the Falls Township, Pennsylvania, accident on January 12, 2007; and suggest possible mitigation strategies, such as installing bollards or starting buses only after loading is complete.

The NTSB is pleased that the NASDPTS informed its members of the safety issues described above through e-mails and participation by NTSB staff at NASDPTS conferences. As these actions satisfy the intent of this recommendation, Safety Recommendation H-09-14 is classified "Closed—Acceptable Action."

The NTSB appreciates your sending the contact information for the national association for school facility planners—the Council of Educational Facility Planners International. We note that you are developing a guidance document for your membership about the risks of pedal misapplication and unintended acceleration; however, we were not able to locate a copy of this document on your website. Although such a publication is beyond the scope of our recommendation, we are interested in reviewing the document and would appreciate being

notified when it becomes available. Please send the document link to the following e-mail address: [correspondence@ntsb.gov](mailto:correspondence@ntsb.gov).

Thank you for your continued efforts to improve school bus safety.

Sincerely,



Deborah A.P. Hersman  
Chairman