If you haven’t already, get your calendar out now and save the dates for the 2023 Kansas School Transportation Safety Conference set for May 31-June 2.

The NEW conference location will be the Drury Broadview Plaza Hotel, 400 W. Douglas Ave., Wichita. The historic Broadview Hotel opened in 1922 on the Arkansas River banks. Their 2011 renovation preserved the large chandeliers, ornate ornamental features in the grand lobby, and the original mosaic mural in the Ballroom was installed by Native American artist Blackbear Bosin.

A room block has been established for our conference attendees, but don’t delay in making your reservation. This room block will sell out. Government rate is only available through the room block. You may access room block information on our website and clicking on the conference info tab.

The hotel furnishes breakfast to all registered hotel guests, therefore an organized breakfast will not be hosted as part of the conference events. If you are NOT a registered hotel guest, you are not eligible for their free breakfast. You may, however, purchase breakfast tickets in advance ($10 per day/per person) using the conference registration form.

The always exciting Safe Driver Competition will be held on Wednesday, May 31. Competition location will be South High School in Wichita. As always, a special conference registration rate is available to those who compete and those who judge. A minimum number of reduced judges registrations are available and will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis.

We are excited to announce our featured conference speakers. Patrick Mulick is a Certified Behavior Analyst and a certified speaker, trainer and coach. He holds a masters in special education and from a young age developed a particular love for working with students with autism and behavioral challenges.

Kansas native Dustin Galyon considers himself a high octane guy from the Midwest who loves people and wants to help others love themselves. He strives to make everyone the best they can be. Other conference topics will include: Electric School Buses, Forum for Leaders of Classified Staff, Emergency Safety Intervention Training, Selecting the Correct Child Safety Securement, and much more. The complete program agenda will be available soon on our website.
2022 Conference Recap

We couldn’t have asked for better weather for competition day. It was overcast and the high temp was about 70’ish. Fortunately, the rain held off until the last of the equipment was loaded and Clinton was safely in his truck to leave. Then the sky opened up and nearly 1” of rain fell in Salina that afternoon.

Many, many thanks to all who came out and competed (64 competitors) and to those who came out to judge.

Congratulations to Mollie Cornwell, our 2022 state safe driving champion. Mollie is a 27-year veteran bus driver at Derby USD 260.

The conference itself were two days filled with education, action, and most of all…. FUN!

Our plenary speakers, George Carroll and Lexi Higgins did not disappoint. The breakout workshop sessions were informative and diverse. We hope everyone took a few things away from the conference that you can apply to your own transportation department.

If you missed the vendor show on Thursday evening, you missed the opportunity of winning not one but two flat screen tv’s in addition to some other great prizes during the egg hunt and the vendor BINGO. Please, if you do business with any of the vendors who were at the conference please be sure to thank them for their support of KSPTA. It is through their sponsorship that the other half of your conference registration fee is paid. We couldn’t do this conference without them!

Left: Proof that Kansas School Bus Drivers are truly the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow. (Photo submitted by Tony Yungeberg, Valley Heights USD 498)

Right: Orren Prohaska, Manhattan USD 383, was celebrated as the Transportation Employee of the Year.
2023 National School Bus Safety Poster Contest Theme Announced

The 2023 poster contest theme will be *Safely Rolling to My Destination*.

The contest is sponsored in joint cooperation by the Kansas State Pupil Transportation and the School Bus Safety Unit at the Kansas State Dept. of Education.

Any student in Kansas may submit artwork for the Kansas School Bus Safety Poster Contest. Winners at the state level are then forwarded on for national consideration.

Individuals wishing to submit an entry for the 2023 contest may download contest rules from www.kspta.net or www.ksde.org.

How Did You Celebrate National School Bus Safety Week and School Transportation Appreciation Day in Kansas?

Elly Han, a student at Altamont USD 506 won the 2022 National School Bus Safety Poster Contest. Han is the first winner from Kansas. Her poster is currently being used nation-wide to promote school bus safety.

Transportation staff at Mission Valley USD 330 were greeted with signs of appreciation and, a yummy breakfast and a special gift during their festivities.

Cherryvale-Thayer Schools, USD 447

These eager preschoolers took a safety tour of the bus today as a part of bus safety week! Thank you to Dena Schickie and all our drivers for these important safety meetings for our kids.
2023 Conference Schedule

**Tuesday, May 30**
5:30-7pm  Early Check-In

**Wednesday, May 31**
Competition Day

**Thursday, June 1**
8am  Open Session
Supporting Escalations on the Bus

10:15am  Autism: What it Means to Us; What it Means to Them

12:45pm  Working with Families in Special Education

2:30pm  Breakout Workshops
Emergency Safety Intervention Training
Selecting the Right Child Securement
Basics of Sign Language

4pm  The Filter for Behavior Change on the Bus

**Friday, June 2**
8am  What’s Next in Electric School Buses

8:45am  Breakout Workshops
Grants/Rebates for Electric School Buses
Training for Leaders of Classified Staff
WiFi on the School Bus … Friend or Foe

10:00am  Breakout Workshops
Fire on the Bus (Smoke Simulation)
Transportation Q&A
There’s a State Wide Radio System?

12:45pm  Embracing Difficult Confessions

2pm  Breakout Workshops
ELDT - Where should you be in this process?
Recruiting/Retaining Transportation Personnel

3pm  Be the Best at Getting Better

6:30pm  Doors open for banquet seating

7pm  Meal service begins

7:30pm  Award Presentations

Please Note: Workshops are subject to change without notice. In the event a scheduled presenter is unable to attend, KSPTA will make every effort to fill that time slot. However, time constraints may not allow scheduling of a substitute presenter.

Upcoming Events

**2022**

December 28  School Transportation Workshop for Directors/Supervisors (Great Bend)

**2023**

March 22  Mechanics Workshop (Dodge City)
March 29  Mechanics Workshop (El Dorado)
April 12  One Day Stop Arm Violation Count Day
April 15  Regional Safe Driver Competition (Topeka)
April 29  Regional Safe Driver Competition (Douglas)
May 31  State Safe Driver Competition (Wichita)
June 1-2  Transportation Safety Conference (Wichita)