Kansas School Bus Safety Week
School Transportation Recognition Day

It’s finally October. Cooler mornings, beautiful sunrises and changing of the leaves are just some of the perks of being a school bus driver in Kansas. October also brings a time to celebrate our school transportation personnel. Kansas Education Commissioner Randy Watson reminded us at the 2019 Safety Conference that a successful school day begins and ends with transportation. Start planning now to celebrate those individuals who provide this valuable work at your school district.

On October 11, our state division winners of the school bus safety poster contest will meet with Governor Laura Kelly to receive their plaques and participate in the proclamation signing deeming October 21-25 School Bus Safety Week and Wednesday, October 23 as Kansas School Transportation Employee Appreciation Day. Previously known as School Bus Driver Appreciation Day, the name has changed just slightly to include staff who work as paras/monitors and transport students in passenger vehicles. During this week plan some safety activities for the students in your district or the kids on your bus route to bring further awareness to the importance of staying safe on the bus. Plan a special day for your transportation staff on the 23rd. Let them know how important they are in the education of your district’s students.

Competition & Judges Workshop

This workshop is for anyone who is interested in learning more about the Safe Driver Competition, whether it be competing or judging.

Our goal is to teach you how to navigate the competition course, provide tips on getting a team started, how to set up a course for practice, what equipment is needed, and more.

If competing is not your thing, we will have a second classroom focusing on the judging process and completion the competition score sheets.

Once each respective group has completed their classroom instruction, we will move outside to the course and give you some hands on practice. This is a practice event only.

Registration is required and due by October 12. We must have 20 workshop participants (not including helpers) to hold the workshop. Please see page 3 for more information.
Who: Anyone interested in learning more about competing in or judging the Safe Driver Competition

What: 1-Day Workshop

When: Saturday, October 26, 2019. Start time: 8:00 a.m. until finished (approx. 2pm)

Where: USD 259, 3850 N. Hydraulic St., Wichita

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

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There is no cost to participate however we do ask that you pre-register so we can reasonably accommodate everyone.

Please complete a registration form for each person attending and submit by October 12, 2019. You may submit this form via email at alesia.klassen@firstgroup.com or mail to School Bus Workshop, 4141 N. Seneca, Wichita, KS 67204. Lunch will be provided to those who pre-register. One form per person. We must have a minimum of 20 registrants to hold the workshop.

Name ________________________________ Position ________________

Mailing Address_____________________________ City _______________ Zip __________

District/Firm _______________________________ USD # ____________

E-Mail Address _______________________________ Phone ________________

____ I plan to participate in the competition workshop

____ I plan to participate in the judge's workshop
KSPTA Launches Logo Contest for 50th Anniversary

2020 will mark the 50th Anniversary of the Kansas Pupil Transportation Association. Your KSPTA Executive Committee is working on some special events to commemorate this special year. One of those events is to have a special logo created to mark the occasion. That’s where you come in. We’d like one of you to design the logo. You have until January 24, 2020 to design and submit your entry for the 50th anniversary. This logo will be used as the 2020 membership pin in addition to other possibilities.

Please visit our website (www.kspta.net) to obtain a complete list of contest rules and an official entry form.
Kansas School Bus Drivers Represent at National Conference

Congratulations to Jim Haug, Pam Boyle, Rebecca Stanton, James Talbert, Miranda Cecchini-Roosevelt and Jerry Palmer for their outstanding representation of Kansas at the 49th Annual National School Transportation Association’s International Safety Competition in July, 2019. The event was held at Austin, Texas with approx. 70 competitors. Those competing at this event were the “Best of the Best” having earned an invite to compete according to their score at their State level competition. Also attending the conference were your KSPTA President, Alesia Klassen and First Student’s Lamont Barbee. Dates for the 2020 International Competition are July 18-29 and will be held at Niagara Falls, New York.
Collins Donates 10,000 Bumper Stickers for Campaign

Collins Bus Corp. on Thursday, Aug. 29, donated 10,000 bumper stickers in support of Stop on Red, Kids Ahead, a school bus safety campaign.

The bumper stickers will be disseminated to Kansas school districts by the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE).

Collins Bus is a bus manufacturing company based in Hutchinson.

Chris Hiebert, vice president/general manager of Collins Bus, presented the bumper stickers at 1 p.m. to Keith Dreiling, director of KSDE’s School Bus Safety Unit. Ben Jones, a Kansas State Board of Education member representing district 7, also attended the presentation.

“The Kansas State Department of Education wishes to thank Collins Bus, with the support of Lowen Color Graphics, for the donation of the 10,000 bumper stickers,” Dreiling said. “These bumper stickers support our new campaign, Stop on Red, Kids Ahead.”

The bumper stickers will be given to districts throughout the state at upcoming KSDE meetings as a way to promote the Stop on Red, Kids Ahead campaign, which was created to bring awareness to the Kansas school bus stop arm law.

“We are honored to help out with this program to get the word out on stop arm violations,” Hiebert said. “Hopefully this helps to keep the kids even safer while riding the bus.”

In April 2019, Kansas bus drivers reported 1,040 stop arm violations. The data was collected during the Kansas One-Day Stop Arm Violation Count. There were 220 districts and 3,300 buses that participated in this year’s Kansas survey. In April 2018, 214 districts and 3,347 buses participated and reported 1,030 violations. There were 691 violations reported by 188 districts (2,527 buses) in April 2017. (Continued on pg. 8)
Welcome Back To School
Have A Fantastic Year!

How Did Your District Kick Off The New School Year?
Collins Bus Donates 10,000 Bumper Stickers for Campaign (con’t)

“So often in the news, we focus on buildings and the security of our physical sites, but we also need to address the safety of our students on our school buses,” said Ben Jones, a Kansas State Board of Education member who attended the presentation. “The amount of stop arm violations in just one day is unacceptable, and it is ripe for a student-vehicle accident. We must do better to remind motorists to stop when the arm extends and the red lights flash.”

The Stop on Red, Kids Ahead campaign includes news releases, social media reminders, posters for schools, safety flyers, informational handouts and bumper stickers.


PHOTOGRAPH BY DENISE KAHLER/CRP

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Moving People Forward
School Bus Safety Poster Contest Winners 2019

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USD 423
Linn, KS

Division II
Boston Craig
USD 379
Clay Center, KS

Division III
Dagim Reed
USD 332
Cunningham, KS

Division IV
Alexis Bowler
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Udall, KS
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$24,500

(7) ‘09 IC-REs
44P | 50-60K Mile Range
$29,900

(2) ‘11 IC-CES
47P | 57K Mile Range
$29,900

‘10 Thomas C2
77P | 129K Mile Range
$22,900

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Save the Date!!

**2020** School Bus Safety Conference &
Safe Driver Competition
Salina, KS

June 2, 3 & 4

Do you have old photographs of previous State Competitions & Conferences?
If yes, please scan and send them to us at kspta1970@gmail.com or share them on our Facebook page and we can get them from there

Be sure to give us all the details of the photo such as who is in the photo, when was it taken, where (City) was it taken, etc. We will use these photos in the conference program and other literature items to promote our 50th Anniversary