



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National School Transportation Association Announces 2016 Industry Award Winners

GREENSBORO, NC - The National School Transportation Association presented annual industry awards honoring those who have achieved a level of excellence from all facets of the industry at NSTA's Awards Dinner held on Tuesday, July 19 as part of NSTA's Annual Meeting in Greensboro, North Carolina.

"We are very proud of the dedication and commitment this year's honorees have displayed to the industry. Each, in their own way, has left a lasting contribution on the school transportation industry and we commend them for their efforts," stated NSTA President Todd Monteferrario.

The 2016 National School Transportation Association awards and the recipients of each included:

The Golden Merit Award recognizes excellence in the industry in service, safety and community responsibility. This year's recipients include:

Rafael Bolanos, Rosemead, California, Durham School Services
Teresa Cole, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, First Student, Inc.
Denise Foote, Woodstown, New Jersey, B.R. Williams
Karen L. Jones, Pasadena, Maryland, Wilson's Bus Service, Inc.
Randall E. Jubb, Glen Burnie, Maryland, Jubb's Bus Service
Rob Nelson, North Prairie, Wisconsin, Dousman Transport Co.
Kevin Rhine, Midwest, Illinois, Durham School Services
Patti Royce-Moser, Amityville, New York, Educational Bus Transportation, Inc.
Donald Sinke, Lansing, Michigan, Dean Transportation
Mike Sloan, San Francisco, California, First Student, Inc.
Greg Walter, Ontario, Canada, Landmark Student Transportation
Joanne Waterhouse, Salem, New Hampshire, First Student, Inc.
Rick Wolff, Kingston, New York, Ethan Allen Transportation

The Thomas Built Buses Continuing Education Grant is given to a member contractor or their staff to pursue continuing education. This year's recipient is Jessica McMillion of Wilson's Bus Service, Inc. in Pasadena, MD.

The Outstanding Driver Service award is given to school bus drivers who have demonstrated exemplary safety performance and a commitment to excellence. This year's recipients are Bruce

Chamberlin of M&M Bus Service in Annandale, Minnesota and Tiesha Donner of First Student, Inc. in Jefferson City, Missouri.

NSTA's Green School Bus Fleet Certification Program recognizes NSTA members for their efforts in working toward a cleaner environment. This award has been reviewed and is endorsed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean School Bus USA Program. The certification levels to be bestowed are Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze depending on the level of fleet reduction in particulate matter. This year's award winners include:

Platinum

First Student, Inc.
Bozeman, Montana
Newtown, Pennsylvania
Portland, Oregon
Waukesha, Wisconsin

National Express LLC
Durham School Services, Ottumwa, Iowa

Gold

First Student, Inc.
Gardena, California
McMinnville, Oregon
Orono, Minnesota
Palm Spring, California
Santa Ana, California
Seattle, Washington
St. Andrews, California
West Valley, California

Huntington Coach
Bayville, New York
Huntington Station, New York
Port Washington, New York
Northport, New York

National Express LLC
Durham School Services, Indianapolis, Indiana
Stock Transportation, Halifax, Nova Scotia

The Trans Group
All Locations

The Trans Group earned the first ever awarded company-wide certification with all 11 locations meeting Gold Level criteria.

Silver Level

First Student, Inc.
Saddleback, California
Upland, California.

The Go Yellow, Go Green Award was created to recognize a leader in the school bus industry who has demonstrated initiative and commitment in pursuing positive response to growing environmental concerns. This year's recipient is Cook-Illinois Corporation from Oak Brook, Illinois.

The Hall of Fame Award recognizes excellence in long-term efforts on behalf of pupil transportation. This year's recipient is Jim Folkes of Krapf Bus Companies in West Chester, Pennsylvania.

The Distinguished Service Award recognizes a school bus contractor for significant, substantial, and special contributions to pupil transportation contracting. This year's recipient is Gary Catapano of First Student, Inc. in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The Meritorious Service Award was established to recognize an individual who has displayed unparalleled vision, support, and leadership toward improving pupil transportation safety, the promotion of NSTA and the school bus industry. This year's recipient is Ron Kinney of QET Management Services in Elk Grove, California.

For additional information on this announcement, please contact Alexandra Huss at 703-684-3200 or at ahuss@yellowbuses.org.

About NSTA:

The National School Transportation Association has been the voice of private school bus contractors, manufacturers and suppliers for over 50 years. The association provides school transportation professionals with the tools and resources they need to make school buses safe, affordable, and efficient nationwide. Offices are at 122 South Royal Street Alexandria, VA 22314. Phone: 703-684-3200. Fax: 703-684-3212.