National School Transportation Association Announces 2018 Industry Award Winners

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania - 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 the NSTA’s Awards Reception and Banquet, which was held on Tuesday, July 24, 2018, as a part of NSTA's Annual Meeting and Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

"The National School Transportation Association is honored to recognize the 2018 award recipients, which epitomizes what NSTA is all about—serving our school transportation industry. The 2018 award winners are recognized for their dedication and commitment to the industry," stated NSTA President Blake Krapf.

The 2018 National School Transportation Association awards and recipients include the following:

**Golden Merit Award:** The Golden Merit Award recognizes excellence in the industry in service, safety and community responsibility. The award recipients include: Willie Spence, of Krapf School Bus, in West Chester, PA and Gary Remster of B.R. Williams, Inc. in Woodstown, NJ.

**Outstanding Driver Service Award:** 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 recipient is James Larry of Mountain Valley Transportation, Roanoke, VA.

**Green School Bus Fleet Certification Program:** 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:

**Gold**

Krapf School Bus
Krapf School Bus, Palisades School District, Kintnersville, PA
Silver Level

Kobussen Buses Ltd.
Kobussen Buses Ltd., School Bus Division, Kaukauna, WI

Hall of Fame Award: The Hall of Fame Award recognizes excellence in long-term efforts on behalf of pupil transportation. The 2018 award recipient was **Tim Flood** of The Trans Group in Spring Valley, NY.

Meritorious Service Award: The Meritorious Service Award was established to recognize individuals who have displayed unparalleled vision, support, and leadership toward improving school transportation, the promotion of NSTA and the school bus industry. For 2018, NSTA honored **Tim Weaverling** of the Keystone Insurers Group and Reed, Wertz & Roadman, Inc., of Bedford, PA.

Contractor of Year Award: The Contractor of the Year Award is presented to a contractor who has demonstrated an outstanding ability in improving the operations and management of their companies. This contractor has made significant contributions to promote contracting at the national or state level. The 2018 award recipient was **Michael Tornabe** of Logan Bus Co. Inc. & Affiliates in Ozone Park, NY. The Contractor of the Year Award was presented by *School Bus Fleet Magazine*.

Outstanding School Transportation Administrator Award: The Outstanding School transportation Administration award recognizes school transportation administrators who share our commitment to the safe transportation of our nation's school children. The 2018 recipient of this award was **Joanne Yarnall** of West Chester Area School District, in West Chester, PA.

Distinguished Service Award: The Distinguished Service Award recognizes special contributions made to pupil transportation contracting. The 2018 winner for this award was **Bob Pape** of Dell Transportation, in Port Washington, NY.

Thomas Built Buses, Inc. Continuing Education and Professional Growth Grant: The Thomas Built Buses, Inc., Continuing Education and Professional Growth Grant is given to a member contractor or staff to support continuing education. The 2018 award recipient was **Robyn Legan** of Dousman Transport Co., Inc., in Delavan, WI.

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*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.