



For Immediate Release

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National School Transportation Association Introduces New Driver Training Material

TULSA, OK- The National School Transportation Association (NSTA) introduced driver training material entitled *School Bus Security During Loading and Unloading* to its contractor members at the Annual Meeting and Convention in Tulsa, Oklahoma on July 22nd, 2013.

The objective of this training is to teach drivers how to conduct a visual risk assessment to identify potential security risks at the bus stop or school and to teach possible response actions they can take should they identify a concern. The training material was developed in reaction to the January 30th, 2013 incident where an Alabama school bus driver was shot by an unauthorized boarder who later kidnapped a special needs child from the bus.

“Our goal for this project was to empower drivers with the tools they need to recognize a potential security risk and present them with a protocol of possible response actions they could consider to avoid putting themselves or their student passengers at risk,” said Gary Catapano, NSTA’s Safety & Security Chairman.

NSTA’s Safety & Security Committee formed a “work group” that included executives from the U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA), the Pupil Transportation Safety Institute and NSTA members who collaborated on appropriate assessment techniques as well as response actions. The training material consists of a Microsoft Power Point presentation and accompanying video segments.

This material is made available to NSTA members by contacting the central office at info@yellowbuses.org for a digital copy.

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About NSTA:

The National School Transportation Association has been the voice of private school bus contractors, manufacturers and suppliers for more than 40 years. The association provides school transportation professionals with the tools and resources they need to make school buses safe, affordable, and efficient

nationwide. Additional questions can be sent to Megan Benfatti at MBenfatti@yellowbuses.org. Offices are at 122 South Royal Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. Phone: 703-684-3200. Fax: 703-684-3212. Email: www.yellowbuses.org.