



For Immediate Release

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National School Transportation Association Celebrates National “Love the Bus” Event in Maryland

SUNDERLAND, MD—NSTA President Magda Dimmendaal, President-Elect Tim Flood, Secretary-Treasurer Todd Monteferrario, Past-President Donnie Fowler, and NSTA Board Member Gail Hyser joined the American School Bus Council (ASBC) and high-ranking federal officials on February 21, 2012 for the national “Love the Bus” event at Sunderland Elementary School in Calvert County, MD. NSTA Safety and Security Chairman Gary Catapano was also in attendance.

February is celebrated as “Love the Bus” month, where students, parents, and faculty are encouraged to show their appreciation for the yellow school bus and the drivers who help make access to education possible. Over 26 million children across the country are transported by the school bus, which is the safest form of transportation according to the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration.

Anne Ferro, Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), Ron Medford, Deputy Administrator of the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA), and President Dimmendaal were among the speakers who addressed first graders at Sunderland Elementary.

“Did you know that there are three generations driving the bus in Calvert County?” Dimmendaal said, **“There is a daughter, her mother, and her grandmother who are all helping you get to school safely each day.”**

Administrator Ferro told students that their bus drivers have to take special tests in order to ensure they transport students as safely as possible. She concluded by saying that FMCSA **“Thinks safety—every trip, every time.”**

Before students were released to their classrooms awards were given out to the top three “Love the Bus” posters drawn by the students themselves. NSTA would like to extend

congratulations to the top three winners: Gabrielle Sturdevant, Sasha Barley, and Tierra Russell.

Thank you to ASBC, Sunderland Elementary School, and the students and faculty members who made the event a success.

About NSTA

The National School Transportation Association is a trade organization representing school bus contractors; that is, private companies that own and operate school buses and contract with school districts to provide pupil transportation. For 40 years, it has been dedicated to safe, secure and efficient transportation of children, and works to foster improvements in all areas of pupil transportation. Members range from small one- or two-bus companies to larger corporate entities operating more than 1,000 school buses in multiple states. Offices are at 113 South West St., 4th Floor, Alexandria, VA 22314. Phone: (703) 684-3200 or (800) 222-NSTA. Fax (703) 684-3212. E-mail: info@yellowbuses.org.

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