



For Immediate Release

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National School Transportation Association Commends National Transportation Safety Board For its Recent Occupant Protection Recommendations

ALEXANDRIA, VA- On Wednesday, July 24th, 2013 the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued two recommendations to the National School Transportation Association (NSTA) proceeding the conclusion of its investigations following two separate school bus accidents in Chesterfield, New Jersey and in Port Lucie, Florida in 2012.

NSTA stands ready to work with the NTSB and supports its recommendations as they are in alignment with NSTA's 2007 Statement on Occupant Protection. NSTA's Statement on Occupant Protection notes that the proper usage of seat belts is very important and recommends that any requirement for safety restraints should include a mandate for usage and a mandate that school districts include training on the proper use and adjustment of lap/shoulder belts in their annual school bus safety training.

"The safety of school children is our utmost concern and we are grateful that the NTSB has validated our long-standing recommendations. We look forward to working with our members and others in the industry to update and provide guidelines and educational materials on occupant protection systems," stated NSTA President Tim Flood.

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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.