



59th Annual IPTA School Transportation Conference and Tradeshow July 17th, 18th and 19th 2023



The IPTA has an outstanding lineup of presenters and companies ready to provide everyone with valuable transportation related information on new products, laws, rules, regulations, and best practices.

Day-One, we have **Jan McInnis**, and her keynote presentation “Finding The Funny Fast,” next up **Andy Turgeon**, will break down “Electric School Buses for fleets,” **Chris Ellison**, will hold his very serious “How to Respond to a Fatal Wreck, and What to Expect On-Scene” presentation. **Max Christensen**, is planning on providing his very informative DE Update, and the fun and exciting “School Bus Hall of Fame.” This is the only hall of fame that no one wants to be a member. The last session of the day is with **Betsey Helfrich**, an education attorney from St. Louis, Missouri. Betsey represents public school districts in all areas of education law, with a focus on special education law. You do not want to miss her fast-paced presentation, “Legal Hot Topics in the World of School Transportation: What you Need to Know!” In the evening we have the Hoglund Bus Company Banquet, with an evening of Karaoke, Music and entertainment.

Day-Two, the lineup begins with the IPTA Annual Board Meeting, next up is **Iowa’s Largest Tradeshow** showcasing 42 exhibitors booths, with 5 full size school buses on display. After the Tradeshow you do not want to miss our IPTA, Auto-Jet Companies awards luncheon. In the afternoon there will be several informative smaller break-out sessions yet to be determined, concluding with the Truck Center’s Family BBQ and 4th Annual Cornhole Tournament.

One of the already scheduled break-out sessions will be a **hands-on-program** with **Doug Yager**, IC/Hoglund Bus Co. This program will be held at the Norwalk CSD transportation facility. Buses will leave from the Holiday Inn lobby at 1:45 p.m., returning at 5:30 p.m. Stay tuned as there will be more breakout sessions announced in the next Newsletter.

Day-Three, The last day is geared for **Transportation Directors** and **School Bus Drivers**. This would be a great day to have school bus drivers from your district attend for some outstanding **one-day training**. First up will be **Ron Gann**, from Homeland Security TSA, followed by **Angela Dvorak**, **Sue Klein**, Heartland AEA, they have an outstanding training session pertaining to “*Student De-Escalation*.” This will be a *Train-the-Trainer* session, so your team can take this student safety information back to share it with all of the drivers in your individual districts. In the next session it is also geared toward school bus driver training. **Katrina Morris**, and she will be presenting her (2-hour) “Proactive Response Training for School Bus Drivers.” The safety training program for School Bus Drivers has been mandated for the 15,000 school bus drivers across the State of Michigan. This training will empower those who drive our most precious cargo with response options for acts of violence. Bring several drivers from your district so they can take it back and teach this valuable student safety training information to the rest of your driving staff.

Day three will be an outstanding day for school bus drivers to experience training from some very knowledgeable presenters, sharing some one-of-a-kind student safety information. The conference ends with **Max Christensen** and the **DE Staff** with the “New Directors Workshop!” This informative workshop covers everything from State and Federal laws, rules, and regulations, to accident procedures, and the inspection process, and yes, much more! This workshop is for new and old directors alike!

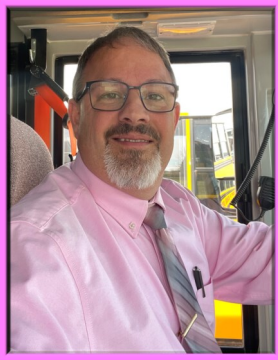
We are looking forward to seeing you this July, registration begins on **March 1, 2023**, at www.4ipta.org! Check out our conference presenters below and on the next few pages. Save the conference dates: **July 17-19, 2023**.



Keynote: Jan McInnis, has written for Jay Leno’s Tonight Show monologue as well as many other people, places and groups – radio, TV, syndicated cartoon strips, guests on the Jerry Springer show (her parents are proud!).

For the past 25+ years she has traveled the country as a keynote speaker, and comedian sharing her unique and practical tips on how to use humor in business (yes it’s a business skill!). Jan has spoken to thousands of organizations from the Federal Reserve Banks to the Mayo Clinic. She is author of two books: “*Finding The Funny Fast*,” and “*Convention Comedian*,” and has been heard on hundreds of radio stations. Jan was also featured in the Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post, and the Huffington Post for her clean comedy.

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Andy Turgeon, “**Electric School Buses**” If you are interested in Electric buses, but don’t know where to start, then you are in the right place. Electric buses are new to most everyone and gaining a lot of attention. This session will give you a vast amount of information from setting up your infrastructure to owning your own electric buses. The following topics will be discussed: Electric provider collaboration, Times to charge and rates, charging station, Level II or Level III chargers, Number of Kwh’s necessary? AC and heat, brakes, driver Training and what impacts the range? Andy will discuss who will fix it when it breaks, the benefits, and overall performance of his districts fleet. Andy has been in education for 25 years. He began his education career teaching high school mathematics at Canton R-V School district. After 9 years at Canton, he moved on to Knox Co. R-1 School District. He started there in 2007 as the High School Principal, and in 2009 he became the district’s Superintendent. He continues to serve in this position, and is also the district’s Transportation Director.



Chris Ellison, “**Responding to a Fatal Wreck and What to Expect On-Scene**” Chris entered the pupil transportation industry in 1996 as a special needs school bus driver for Eugene School District 4J in Eugene, Oregon. He was hired as the Director of Transportation for Greater Albany Public Schools in Albany, Oregon. In January of 2013, he returned to the Eugene School District as their Director of Transportation and Fleet Services. In January of 2021, Chris was hired as the Director of Transportation for David Douglas School District in Portland, Oregon. He has presented numerous driver and administrative trainings on the local, state and national levels. Chris’s passion lies with helping others in the industry, from driver training to administrative mentoring, Chris loves to help others learn and grow while also continuing to broaden his knowledge base within pupil transportation.



Max Christensen, Education Program Consultant, Department of Education, will be rolling up his sleeves to provide attendees with the always interesting & Informative, “**DE Update**,” and the “**School Bus Hall of Fame**” presentations. In the Monday, July 17th session, he will provide everyone with a comprehensive legislative update, and for the second part of his presentations he will review the always interesting School Bus Hall of Fame.

On Wednesday, July 19th, Max will be joined by the regional Department of Education Inspectors for the “**New Director Training Workshop**”. This workshop covers everything from State and Federal laws, rules, and regulations, to accident procedures, and the State wide school bus inspection process. This workshop is for new and old directors alike!



Betsey Helfrich, “**Legal Hot Topics in the World of School Transportation: What you Need to Know**” In this fast-paced presentation, education attorney Betsey Helfrich, will review school transportation from a legal perspective. From a review of recent case law to current hot-topics, this presentation will examine the legalities of student transportation. This presentation will include practical tips that your transportation department needs to know to minimize liability and keep students safe.

Betsey, is an education attorney from St. Louis, Missouri. Betsey represents public school districts in all areas of education law, with a focus on special education law. Betsey is a frequent presenter on Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the IDEA around Missouri and nationally. Betsey also serves as an impartial hearing officer for Section 504 appeals, and has successfully handled appeals before the Court of Appeals and the Eighth

Circuit Court of Appeals on behalf of Missouri schools. You do not want to miss her fast paced presentation!

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Ron Gann, Homeland Security TSA, Ron is a Transportation Security Inspector for TSA Surface office in Omaha, Nebraska. The TSA office in Omaha serves both Nebraska and Iowa Surface Transportation entities providing security awareness presentations to large and small mass transit companies, school districts, contracted bus companies, railroad and trucking industries. His session titled **“Observe, Assess, and Report-A Security Awareness”** A mission to increase security awareness of frontline transportation professionals by providing training to recognize suspicious activity that may be related to terrorism, to assess what they see, and methods for reporting their observations.

Just by being aware of your surroundings within the work environment, transportation professionals can be the eyes and ears to observe activities that “don’t look right.” Participants receive an understanding of what may constitute a terrorist threat within their transportation work environment. The training program explores the justifications and motives offered by terrorists; identifies various stages and processes often employed in the planning and execution of a terrorist act; teaches the participant to recognize and report potential indicators.



Angela Dvorak, **Sue Klein**, Heartland AEA, they have an outstanding training session pertaining to **“Student De-Escalation”** This professional development program is nicely structured to provide school bus drivers with three basic targets: Understanding the Importance of preventing crises, gain knowledge of effective verbal de-escalation strategies, and to gain knowledge of effective response strategies. This will be a Train-the-Trainer session, so your team can take this student safety information back to share it will all of the school bus drivers in your individual districts.



Katrina Morris, has been the Transportation Director of the West Shore Educational Service District as well as Mason County Eastern Schools for the past 12 years. She is also the current Executive Director for the Michigan Association for Pupil Transportation (MAPT). Katrina is very active in the State to ensure laws are put in place to continue to make the black and yellow school bus the safest form of transportation to and from school. Katrina has worked closely with the Mason County Emergency Manager, law enforcement from the Michigan State Police, Mason County Sheriffs Dept., and Ludington Police Department in the development of the Mason County School Safety Planning Team. Katrina has assisted law enforcement with countywide evacuation plans, active shooter training, as well as proactive response training for all school bus drivers.

Her 2-hour session, **“Proactive Response Training for School Bus Drivers”** Katrina says, “Our school bus drivers have the most safety-sensitive position in the school districts ,and yet we do not train them like we do our staff in the buildings.” In this session directors, and school bus drivers will learn different techniques to ensure we are providing the safest form of transportation to and from school. This training will empower those who drive our most precious cargo with response options for many types of situations. Bring several school drivers from your district so they can take back and teach this valuable student safety training information to the rest of your driving staff.



Doug Yager, IC/Hoglund Bus Company, **“Common Problems We See In School Buses”** Doug said, “We will be starting out with information that can be found in the owner’s manual, and then everyone’s favorite how to test and adjust doors. Then we are going to get into how to repair pressure differentials in a Cummins engine, i.e., Ports under EGR valve. We will be answering questions as they come up, and there will be time at the end of the session for other questions or concerns to be discussed. On a personal level Doug likes to ice fish with his grandchildren. He said, “That is one thing that gives me great pleasure, along with helping others.” This will be a very valuable opportunity for some real hands on training. This breakout program will be held at Norwalk CSD Transportation Facility. Norwalk School Buses will leave from the Holiday Inn lobby at 2:10 p.m., returning at 5:30 p.m.

We are looking forward to seeing you this July, registration is open on the IPTA Website at www.4ipta.org!
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2023 School Transportation Conference Entertainment

Join us on July 17, 2023, the first night of the:

Monday Night Hoglund Bus Company fun night with Heather Fuger for Live Karaoke!



Heather Fuger of rural Donnellson, Iowa is wife, mother, and elementary school principal. Heather has a passion for vocal performance and has infused that into her adult life as lead singer for the bands, Hissem Family Campfire, Double Vision, and Heathers & Company. She enjoys officiating weddings and providing DJ services to celebrations, as well. She created Principal Entertainment Party Services to bring all her talents together into one business.

She can't wait to bring her enthusiastic entertainment to the 59th Annual IPTA School Transportation Conference & Trade Show.

Join us on July 18, 2023, Tuesday night for the:

Tuesday Night at the Truck Center Companies Family Barbecue



Gift Cards for: 1st Place: (2) \$50 - 2nd Place: (2) \$25

Sign up for the 4th Annual Cornhole Tournament is on Monday, July 17th during lunch, or the afternoon break, at the voting table in the North Ballroom. You can also sign up your team during the evening Family BBQ on Tuesday, July 18, 2023.

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Conference Registration Fees



IPTA Members

\$350.00 - 3 Day Event Pass

\$300.00 - 2 Day Event Pass

\$150.00 - 1 Day Event Pass

IPTA Non-Members

\$410.00 - 3 Day Event Pass

\$340.00 - 2 Day Event Pass

\$200.00 - 1 Day Event Pass

We are looking forward to seeing you this summer! Register today!

Make Your Hotel Reservations Early!



**Airport Holiday Inn Conference Center,
6111 Fleur Drive, Des Moines, Iowa.**

Contact the Airport Holiday Inn at:
(515) 287-2400

The IPTA has arranged for a block of specially priced rooms at the rate of \$97.00 plus 12% tax per night. That rate is good until June 23rd, then it goes back up to the full nightly regular rate.



Iowa Pupil Transportation Association Recognition Awards

Each year the IPTA offers several outstanding awards to be presented to transportation individuals that exhibit longevity or heroism, along with exemplary leadership skills and service to Iowa's pupil transportation programs. Nomination forms can be down loaded from the IPTA website: www.4IPTA.org

Tom Horn "Memorial Award"



Is presented annually to an Iowa Pupil Transportation Association member serving in the capacity of school transportation director, supervisor or administrator and who, in the eyes of his or her peers, has exhibited exemplary leadership skills and service to Iowa's pupil transportation program, school district and community.

Nominations are due June 10, 2023



Holly Hoglund Klein "Iowa Woman in Transportation"



The Holly Hoglund Klein "Iowa Woman in Transportation" Award is intended to recognize an Iowa woman in transportation that demonstrates outstanding performance in the school transportation industry. Those eligible for nomination include any woman that is a member of the IPTA and is involved in daily activities of a student transportation operation.

Nominations are due June 10, 2023



Longevity Service Award

The Longevity Service Award is intended to recognize a retiring school bus driver that has performed extraordinary years of service and exemplary dedication to the community and students on behalf of their school district.

Nominations are due, June 10, 2023



The Heroism Award

The Heroism Award is intended to recognize appropriate acts of heroism demonstrated in the school transportation industry. Those eligible for nomination include any person who is either directly or indirectly involved with saving a life or lives.

Nominations are due June 10, 2023



SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS

*Thank You
for getting
our children
home safely!*



WE SALUTE YOU!