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**National School Transportation Association
Announces Winners of the
School Bus Driver International Safety Competition**

ALEXANDRIA, VA-The National School Transportation Association (NSTA) hosted the 45th Annual School Bus Driver International Safety Competition on July 19, 2014, at the Minnesota State Colleges & Universities Dakota Technical College in Rosemount, Minnesota. This event was held in conjunction with NSTA's 51st Annual Meeting & Convention, which begins today. The three-day meeting affords members the opportunity to network with their colleagues and hear presentations on issues of most importance to the industry.

This competition presents school bus drivers from across the United States and Canada with the opportunity to showcase their knowledge and skills and to compete for an international title. The contestants began the competition on Saturday, July 18th with a written exam testing their understanding of the rules of the road. Then the drivers got behind the wheel of a school bus and completed a road course on Sunday, July 19th. Drivers competed in one of three categories: conventional, small bus, or transit.

NSTA is pleased to announce the following winners, which were acknowledged on Sunday, July 19 at NSTA's Dinner and Awards Ceremony, sponsored by IC Bus. Banquet festivities were held at the Hyatt Regency Minneapolis.

Small Bus

First Place – Mary Slate, Kanawha County Schools, WV
Second Place – Osgood Joshua Simpkins, Montgomery County Public Schools, VA
Third Place – John P. Moore, Suffolk Transportation Inc., NY
Honorable Mention – Pauline Kish, First Student, Inc., MN

Conventional Bus

First Place – Billy Wiseman, Kanawha County Schools, WV
Second Place – Russell Altzier, Montgomery County Public Schools, VA
Third Place – Michael Graham, Cobb County Schools, GA
Honorable Mention* – Kristina Raley, Vidor ISD, TX

About NSTA:

The National School Transportation Association has been the voice of private school bus contractors, manufacturers and suppliers for 50 years. The association provides school transportation professionals with the tools and resources they need to make school buses safe, affordable, and efficient nationwide. Offices are at 122 South Royal Street Alexandria, VA 22314. Phone: 703-684-3200. Fax: 703-684-3212.



National School Transportation Association

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Transit Bus

First Place – Victor Garza, Newport Mesa USD, CA

Second Place – John Welsh, Lower Merion S.D., PA

Third Place – Angelica Ortiz, Allen ISD, TX

Honorable Mention – Joseph Goodpaster, Cabell County Schools, WV

“This great event showcases excellence in school bus knowledge, maneuvering and skill. We congratulate all of the winners from the state and provincial competitions and the top three winners in each vehicle category who competed,” offered NSTA President Tim Flood.

*Michael Graham and Kristina Raley scored the same number of total points. Parallel parking time was used to decide the third place winner.

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