

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
2011 - 2012**

~PRESIDENT~

Rhonda Davis

Lake Travis ISD
(512) 533-6070 / 533-6081 fax

~PRESIDENT-ELECT~

Sam Davila

Conroe ISD
(936) 709-7934 / 709-5965 fax

~SECRETARY~

Mike Williams

Dallas County Schools
(469) 593-5808 / 593-5869

~TREASURER~

Keith Kaup

Sheldon ISD
(281) 727-1400 / 727-1445 fax

~HISTORIAN~

Kenneth Coleman

Borger ISD
(806) 273-1012 / 273-1017 fax

~PARLIAMENTARIAN~

Joe Hart

Killeen ISD
(254) 336-0147 / 520-1454 fax

~AREA DIRECTORS~

Manny Rubio, 01

(91) 937-0601 / 851-7479 fax

Stacy Lampkin, 02

Lufkin ISD
(936) 630-4427 / 632-7469 fax

Debbie Jones, 03

Columbia-Brazoria ISD
(979) 799-1821 / 799-5119 fax

Ron Mack, 04

Northside ISD
(210) 397-0937 / 695-3805

Scott Chapman, 05

Calallen ISD
(386) 242-5983 / 242-5986 fax

~EX-OFFICIO~

Kirk Self

Canyon ISD
(806) 677-2672 / 677-2684 fax

~EXECUTIVE SECRETARY~

Jolene Hawkins

1-866-561-2121
(325) 388-6369 fax



Bus Chatter

Fall, 2011

Jolene Hawkins, Publisher

Presidents Message:

Greetings on behalf of TAPT, which continues to stand proudly to promote safe and efficient pupil transportation for Texas public school districts. Throughout the doom and gloom of this past legislative session we give thanks for our many blessings. I am personally thankful to serve this wonderful organization.

Although we will face many challenges in the next biennium TAPT will remain vigilant in offering certification classes, the opportunity to network, and provide conferences. We must not forget that we have an important role to play in safely transporting our children.

TAPT is rich in history, which we treasure; it exists on the basis of our foundation, which is why we do what we are so passionate about.

I am also thankful for the Executive Committee and their role in this organization. We are here to support, encourage, and improve. It is a labor of love. We want to educate our members and keep them well informed of the latest developments in school transportation. This committee just keeps setting the standards every year. If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions please contact one of the Area Directors or me at Rhonda@tapt.com or 281-732-0332.

As we count our many blessings, I want to give a heartfelt thanks to our Vendors. They too are dealing with their own budgetary challenges.



Rhonda Davis, TAPT President

We are extremely fortunate for their generous support to TAPT, the local chapters, rodeos, speech contest, awards, and conferences. Your generosity does not go unnoticed. Some of these events would not occur without their help. Please take time to say "Thank You" for their gracious support!

Another part of our TAPT family that I am extremely grateful for is TASBT. Their priority is to provide a progressive training program for our school bus technicians. We appreciate their dedication to the safety of our buses and to our students. They are invaluable to our organization and the safe transportation of our most precious cargo, our children.

Over the years we have been most fortunate to be supported by the members and the many vendors who help keep the buses moving. We need people to help lead this great organization. If you are interested in running for a position, now is the time to contact your Area Nominating Chairman or Kirk Self at kirk@tapt.com. The ballot of candidates will be presented at our January 2012 Executive Committee meeting.

We are a great organization, but we can become bigger and stronger with your help. **Cont'd. pg 2**

TAPT COMMITTEES

2011 - 2012

SITE COORDINATOR

Mike Cano, Chair

VENDOR

Anthony Loscuito, Co-Chair
 Kathy Barny, Co-Chair
 Bobby Williams
 Wilma Loscuito
 Jerry Anderson
 Mary Anderson
 Pam McCurdy
 Sandy Griggs

TECHNICIANS

Earl Stewart, Chair

CERTIFICATION

Erwin Sladek, Chair
 Jaime Gallego
 John Douglas
 Nolan Anderson
 Wm. D. (Bill) Powell
 Jim Norman
 Lane Emmett
 Kirk Self
 Aaron Hobbs
 Mike Williams
 Ernest Del Bosque
 Mike Cano

TECHNOLOGY INFO

Keith Kaup, Chair

AUDIO-VISUAL

Cranford Graves, Chair

SPECIFICATIONS

Brian Weisinger, Chair
 Bill Powell
 Kenneth Coleman
 Charles 'Tom' Vaughan
 Howard Keeling
 Bill Rosenauer
 Jackie Fields
 Mark Swackhamer
 Charlie Polk

LEGISLATIVE

Jim Abney, Chair
 Jim Norman
 Mike Williams

NOMINATING

Kirk Self, Chair
 Aletta Wagner, A-1
 Shana D. Speller, A-2
 Eric Smith, A-3
 Michael Self, A-4
 Rolando Monsevalles, A-5

CONSTITUTION

Joe Hart, Chair
 Sam Davila
 Kenneth Coleman

WEB MASTER

Jaime Gallego

EMERGENCY CALL LIST

Liz Carter, Chair

COMPANION

Elva Villereal - Chair

REGISTRATION

Maureen duMenil, Chair
 Evelyn Peese
 Jolene Hawkins
 Zorna Jackson
 Linda Berrier
 Mary Lou Perez
 Pam McCurdy
 Gloria Fernandez
 Sally Morgan
 Laura Villegas

SITE SELECTION

Debbie Jones, Chair
 Area Directors

ROADEO - Regular

Donnie Reese, Course &
 Equipment Chair
 Deon Jennings, Score &
 Tabulation Chair
 Rey Cedillo, Judges &
 Site Chair

ROADEO - Spec. Needs

Ray Sanchez, Co-Chair
 Randy Whitehead, Co-Chair

CONFERENCE TRANS.

Rey Cedillo, Chair

MEMBERSHIP

Sam Davila, Chair
 Area Directors

SCHOLARSHIP

Rhonda Davis, Chair
 Area Directors

SPEECH CONTEST

Jackie Fields, Chair
 Pam McCurdy
 Mike Jones
 Vickie Tubbs
 Marty Smonko
 Pat Garcia
 Jolene Hawkins

BUS SAFETY POSTER

DeAnna Wiggins, Chair
 Sherri Lawson

BOWLING

Fritz Klabunde, Co-Chair
 Angie Sherman, Co-Chair

PROGRAM

Mike Williams, Chair

GOLF

Rafael Salazar, Co-Chair
 Arthur Raymond, Co-Chair

SCHOOL BUS FUNDING

Jim Norman, Chair

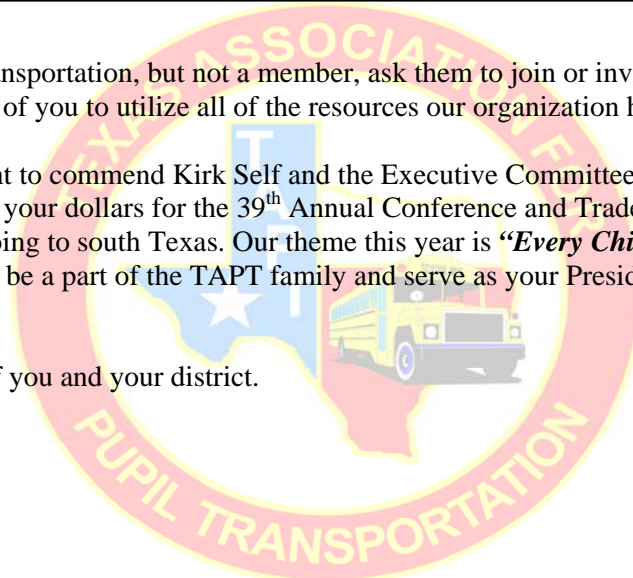
President's Message (cont'd.)

If you know someone who is in transportation, but not a member, ask them to join or invite them to one of the local chapter meetings. I encourage all of you to utilize all of the resources our organization has to offer.

As I reflect on this past year, I want to commend Kirk Self and the Executive Committee for such a wonderful conference in Galveston. Start saving your dollars for the 39th Annual Conference and Trade Show in McAllen, Texas! We are extremely excited about going to south Texas. Our theme this year is *"Every Child. Every Heart. Every Mile."* I am abundantly blessed to be a part of the TAPT family and serve as your President of this wonderful organization.

May God continue to bless each of you and your district.

Rhonda Davis
 TAPT President
 2011-2012



A LOOK BACK AT GALVESTON

Submitted by:
Kirk Self, TAPT Ex-Officio

The 38th Annual TAPT Conference and Trade Show was held at the beautiful Moody Gardens Hotel and Convention Center in Galveston, TX. June 24-29, 2011. Our theme for the conference *TAPT: Making a Difference* was extremely evident throughout the conference.

The Regular and Special Needs Rodeo Events once again brought drivers from across the State to showcase their driving skills. The bowling and golf events allowed many individuals to compete while enjoying some great fellowship with members and vendors.

The Saturday evening awards banquet was set sail on the "USS TAPT". The TAPT Executive Committee gave their best rendition of the "TAPT Isle Song". The evening also allowed us to recognize bus road-e-o participants as well as many deserving employee of the year awards. We recognized Jolene Hawkins for her dedication and many contributions to TAPT. Jolene will be retiring as the TAPT Executive Secretary. The TAPT Student Scholarship will be named: The Texas Association for Pupil Transportation Student Scholarship in honor of Jolene Hawkins. Jolene, thank you again for all you have done for TAPT.

Our opening ceremony allowed us to get on the "Energy Bus" as our keynote speaker, Jon Gordon, delivered a great message. We recognized Erwin Sladek for him many contributions to the TAPT Certification program. The certification gift certificates that are given out each year will be awarded in honor of Erwin Sladek. We thank our Vendors for another successful Trade Show. We are very appreciative of the continued support our Vendors provide TAPT and our annual conference.

Sam Davila, program chair, put together a great program and workshops. The workshops, held on Tuesday, were full of valuable information. Great job, Sam, on a terrific program! Tuesday evening at the President Banquet, we recognized two individuals. John Rubenkoenig was recognized and honored as 2011 TAPT Vendor of the Year. Ray Westmoreland was recognized and honored for his many contributions to TAPT. The TAPT Adult Scholarship will be named the Texas Association for Pupil Transportation Adult Scholarship in honor of Ray Westmoreland. Thank you again, John and Ray for "Making a Difference for TAPT."

The conference concluded with the Honoree Breakfast. It is always an honor to recognize so many
(cont'd.)

AFFILIATED CHAPTER PRESIDENTS 2011-2012

CENTEX Humberto Araiza Eagle Pass ISD 512-386-3151	NORTH TEXAS Doug Becker Dallas ISD 972-925-4954
COASTAL BEND Linda Madden Calallen ISD 361-242-5983	PANHANDLE Ruth Evenson Hereford ISD 806-363-7618
CONCHO VALLEY REGION XV Dennis Milner Miles ISD 325-468-2861	REGION 14 'BIG COUNTRY' Banyan Winkler Snyder ISD 325-574-6011
EAST TEXAS Willie Bryant Tyler ISD 903-262-1138	SOUTH EAST TEXAS Stan Taylor Lumberton ISD 409-923-7494
GULF COAST Debbie Jones Columbia-Brazoria ISD 979-799-1825	SOUTH TEXAS Reynaldo Cedillo La Hoya CISD 956-580-6053
HEART OF TEXAS Amy Scopac Temple ISD 254-215-6969	SUN COUNTRY Manny Rubio Socorro ISD 915-851-7479
NORTH EAST TEXAS Terry Spivey Pleasant Grove ISD 903-278-0912	WEST TEXAS Roger Cleere Ector County ISD 432-456-5799
REGION XI Charles Stone Mansfield ISD 817-299-6067	T.A.S.B.T (TECHNICIANS) Earl Stewart Northside ISD 210-657-8810

deserving students with scholarships. We also recognized Bob Hearn as the 2011 TAPT Honoree of the Year! The morning also allowed us to hear our 2011 Speech Contest winner, Samantha Watson.

The gavel was passed to Rhonda Davis, President of TAPT for the 2011-12 school year. Rhonda announced that the theme for the 39th annual conference in McAllen will be, "Every Child, Every Heart, Every Mile". I look forward to seeing all of you in McAllen for another wonderful TAPT conference!

TEXAS ASSOCIATION for PUPIL TRANSPORTATION

School Bus Safety Poster Contest Guidelines, Specifications, & Regulations

Who May Enter: Students from public, private, or parochial schools in the following Grade/Division levels:

Division I: Grades K, 1, & 2

Division II: Grades 3, 4, & 5

Division III: Grades 6, 7, & 8 Division IV: Special Needs

Division V - (CAD) Computer Aided Drawing

(Divisions V is eligible for competition within their division, but not eligible for overall "National Winner".)

Poster Specifications:

Theme for 2011-2012: Stand Back from the Yellow and Black!

This Theme must appear prominently within the poster. The contents of the poster must correctly depict safety-related behavior and procedures by representing proper placement of passengers in or around the school bus in relation to one another. (For example, if a poster contains a student walking behind the bus, the poster will be disqualified, because the areas around and behind the bus are in the DANGER ZONES, and, therefore, do not convey the desired message. Other unsafe representations to avoid are children hanging out of the windows, standing or walking in the bus, and being too near the exterior of the bus.) Within each poster, at least a portion of a yellow school bus must be represented.

Originality of the Poster: The poster must be the original work of the student. Artwork should be accomplished in the classroom, under the supervision of the teacher.

Poster materials: The posters may be constructed of quality tag, poster illustration board, or heavy paper: construction paper may be used as the base for the artwork, etc., but the finished product must be mounted to quality tag poster.

NO LAMINATION is permitted.

Size: 11" X 17" *only*; either Vertical or Horizontal Axis is Permitted.

Artwork (Content of Poster): Colors - Unlimited use and number.

Methods of achieving colors and other aspects may include print, felt pen, crayon, cut paper, markers, etc. Lettering must be original, free-hand work by the student; stenciled, preprinted, manufactured stick-on or press-on letters or tracings may NOT be used. Lettering should be clearly legible within whatever portion of the poster it may be used.

AVOID use of the School District NAME to preserve anonymity.

AVOID the use of: wood, plastic, glass, metal. or similar materials in the construction of the poster.

AVOID the use of collage materials.

AVOID the use of copyrighted characters such as cartoon figures, television celebrities, or any part or portion of any item which may be protected by Copyright laws, such as magazines, newspapers, books, photographs, etc.

(student information on next page)

Student Data: The personal information of the student contestant must appear as follows:

STUDENT'S NAME: _____

GRADE: _____ AGE: _____

DIVISION: (Circle Appropriate DIVISION) **I II III IV V**

SCHOOL DISTRICT: _____

SCHOOL: _____ **TEACHER:** _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **ZIP:** _____

SCHOOL TELEPHONE NUMBER: (_____) _____ - _____

This information must be typed or clearly printed on the entry blank and securely glued to the REAR of the poster.

ATTENTION: Please accurately follow all requirements and restrictions, as failure to do so will subject the entry to disqualification. All winning regional entries become the property of The Texas Association for Pupil Transportation (T.A.P.T.) which reserves the right to modify any poster for reproduction purposes.

Judging: Various methods of determining levels of winners may be established at district discretion. A suggested progression of selecting winning entries would be to judge winners at each campus, followed by district-wide winners. A meaningful gesture would be to involve drivers who serve a specific campus to judge its winners. Then, elevate all campus-level winners to a district-wide judging where the final first place winners are selected for each Division. Upon selection of district first place winners, these should be submitted for judging at a T.A.P.T. affiliate meeting in April or early May. (For those districts whose transportation personnel are not active members of the T.A.P.T., their entries may be submitted to the closest member affiliate for inclusion in area selection.) The final selection of affiliate winners are to be mailed to the School Bus Safety Poster Committee Chairman by May 15, 2010. Please mail only one poster from each Division for entry in the state contest.

DEANNA WIGGINS, SAFETY POSTER CHAIRPERSON
C/O SPRING BRANCH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION
1066 GESSNER BLDG. B
HOUSTON TX 77055

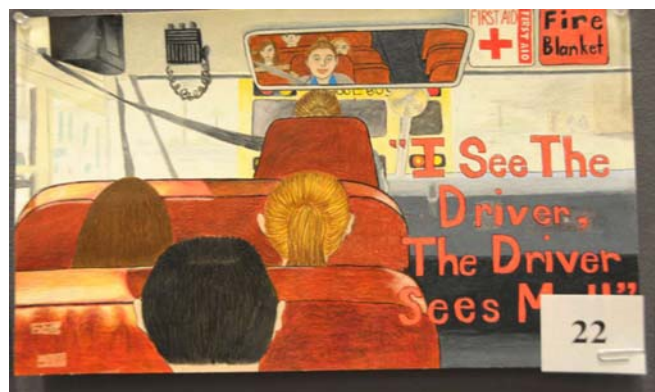
Office: (713)251-1062 Fax: (713) 365-5730 E-Mail: DeAnna.Wiggins@springbranchisd.com

Please encourage enthusiastic participation in this educational contest. State level prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd Place in each division are \$250, \$100 & \$50 U.S. Savings Bonds, overall FIRST PLACE is a \$500 Savings Bond.

Note: It is not required that the posters be produced during the National School Bus Safety Week Campaign; the primary goal is participation in time to achieve completion for the various levels of judging.

NATIONAL SCHOOL BUS SAFETY WEEK
October 17 - 21, 2011

Best Of Show
2011 School Bus Safety Poster Contest
Galveston Conference
SUSANA PIZANA
Brownsville ISD



TAPT SCHOOL BUS SAFETY CONTEST WINNERS

On Monday, Oct. 17, 2011, TAPT will host an awards ceremony and luncheon at the state capitol in Austin. Rush Bus Center sponsors the event that will be held to recognize the winners of the 2010-11 Safety Poster Contest.

Carl Kirst will again emcee the ceremony and Rhonda Davis, TAPT President, will be on hand to welcome the students, parents and invited guest to the Capitol. A proclamation from Governor Perry's office, declaring Oct. 17 - 21, as School Bus Safety Week in Texas will be read as part of the ceremony.

DeAnna Wiggins and Sherri Lawson head up the Safety Poster Contest each year and they will offer TAPT's congratulations to each of the students who will be given their trophies and their savings bonds. The 1st place winner in each division will be awarded a \$250 bond; 2nd place will get a \$100 bond and 3rd place will receive a \$50 bond. The Best Overall winner will receive a \$500 Bond.

The winners are listed in the Division in which they competed.

	DIVISION I	Grades K, 1, & 2
PLACE	NAME	DISTRICT
1 st	Chloe Morales	Dickinson ISD
2 nd	Mira Chawla	Moved out of State
3 rd	Jose Ayala	Brownsville ISD

	DIVISION II	Grades 3, 4, & 5
PLACE	NAME	DISTRICT
1 st	Nia-Isabella Garza	Brownsville ISD
2 nd	Nicholas Mota	Alvin ISD
3 rd	Veronica Seder	Mansfield ISD

	DIVISION III	Grades 6, 7, & 8
PLACE	NAME	DISTRICT
1 st	Susana Pizana	Brownsville ISD
2 nd	Wyatt Epps	Lake Travis ISD
3 rd	Jasmine Silverio	Santa Fe ISD

	DIVISION IV	Special Needs
PLACE	NAME	DISTRICT
1 st	James Hundl	Dickinson ISD (moved)
2 nd	Chris Miguez	Grapevine-Colleyville ISD
3 rd	Jose Ramirez	Brownsville ISD

BEST OVERALL

**Susana Pizana
Brownsville ISD**

TAPT SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The TAPT Scholarship Committee is to be commended on an excellent job in the soliciting and judging this years Scholarship application. This is always the most daunting task that faces the Area Directors and the TAPT President, all of whom make up the scholarship committee, as they read through and evaluate each application that is submitted to come up with the winner for each of the scholarships.

Since 1988, the Billingsley family has sponsored a four year scholarship that pays \$1000 per year. We thank **Brandon Billingsley**, of **Heavy Duty Bus Parts**, for continuing this family memorial.

This years' winner of the **Billingsley Memorial Scholarship** was:

Samantha Ybarra, Pharr-San Juan-Alamo North High School, San Juan, TX

The **Ryan Woods Scholarship** with a \$1,000 award payable each year for two years was instituted this year in 2009 in honor of **Ryan Woods** and to bring attention to the disease of Juvenile Diabetes from which Ryan suffers. The scholarship is sponsored by **Tony Woods**, owner of **Bus Air Manufacturing** and the winner of the 2011 award was:

Joshua Madden, Borger High School, Borger, TX

The TAPT thanks Duane Kyrish and **Longhorn International Trucks** for their sponsorship of the **Diane Sherwood Scholarship**

The winner of the 2011 Diane Sherwood Scholarship was:

Halie Hullender, Arlington High School, Arlington, TX

Our thanks to **Richard Davis and Chalk's Truck Parts** for making the **Chalk's/TAPT Vo-Tech Scholarship** available each year.

The 2011 winner of the Chalk's/TAPT Vo-Tech Scholarship was:

Kyle Bettinger, Temple High School, Temple, TX

The **Pat Raney Memorial Scholarship** is sponsored by **Pinnacle Medical Management, Inc.** and provides \$1,000 to a hearing impaired student. This year's scholarship was awarded to:

Ryan Lee Poindexter, Texas School for the Deaf, Austin, TX

The **Fred Oppermann Memorial Scholarship** affords an opportunity for a transportation department employee to complete all TAPT Certification Courses that are required to achieve the level of TAPT Certified Pupil Transportation Official. The 2011 recipient was:

Lacy Austin, Conroe ISD, Conroe, TX

The **TAPT Student Scholarship** and the **TAPT Adult Continuing Education Scholarship** are in their 5th year and the winners for 2011 were:

Chad Marek, Rogers High School, Rogers, TX (student)

Jeffrey Brown, Killeen ISD, Killeen, TX (adult)

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!!!

REMINDER: It is never too early to submit nominations for Employee of the Year and Honoree of the year (Both TAPT & Vendor) See TAPT Website for forms www.tapt.com

THE WINNER'S CIRCLE

TAPT HONOREE

**Robert 'Bob' Hearn
Hays CISD**

VENDOR HONOREE

**John Rubenkoenig
Rush Bus Sales**

EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR

Operations Supervisor

**Betty Culp
Hays CISD**

Operations Specialist

**Michelle Kern
Judson ISD**

Regular Driver of the Year

**Deborah Menchew
Groesbeck ISD**

Special Needs Driver of the Year

**Virginia Hendricks
Comal ISD**

Attendant of the Year

**Hilda Wheeler
Killeen ISD**

TASBT Shop Supervisor of the Year

**Dennis Dickerson
Conroe ISD**

TASBT Technician of the Year

**Randy Whitehead
Cypress-Fairbanks ISD**

Regular Rodeo Winners

**Gerry Crane, Magnolia ISD - 1st Place Conventional
Kristine Raley, Vidor ISD - 2nd Place Conventional
Robin Skaggs, Lumberton ISD - 3rd Place Conventional**

**Dan Neal, Mansfield ISD - 1st Place Transit
Robert McManus, Beaumont ISD - 2nd Place Transit
Roberto Hernandez, La Joya ISD - 3rd Place Transit**

Special Needs Rodeo Winners

**Donna Silvas, Driver & Cathy Barb, Attendant - Dickinson ISD - 1st Place
Peggy Rathburn, Driver & Brenda Lane - Alvin ISD - 2nd Place
George Sheely, Driver & Edith Fairchild, Attendant, Hays CISD - 3rd Place**

Above & Beyond Winner

Mittie Jacko, Houston ISD

CENTEX FALL WORKSHOP

**Inn of the Hills
Kerrville, TX**

Sunday, Oct. 23, 2011

8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

- #04 Accident Investigation**
- #23.5B Leadership: Styles & Qualities**
- #28 Training the Special Needs Team**

(Registration form is posted on the TAPT web site www.tapt.com & on page)

FRISCO ISD CERTIFICATION CLASSES

**10701 Dallas Parkway, Frisco, TX 75034
(469) 633-6142**

8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 21, 2012

- #01 Introduction to Transportation**
- #23.5C Leadership: Team Building**
- #33.5B Communication Skills: School District Staff**

Sunday, Jan. 22, 2012

- #08 Personnel Management**
- #11 Special Needs Transportation**

(Registration will be posted on TAPT web site in November)

(Registration form is on the TAPT web site and also on page #10)

TASBT CLASSES

- SBT #6 Basic Electronics - AM**
- SBT #8 Shop Safety (new) - PM**

- SBT #7 Advanced School Bus Electronics
(Full Day)**

REGISTER FOR TASBT CLASSES THROUGH THE TASBT WEB SITE www.tasbt.org

GULF COAST CERTIFICATION CLASSES

**South Shore Harbor Hotel & Convention Center
2500 South Shore Blvd.
League City, TX 77573
(281) 334-1000**

Saturday, February 18, 2012

8:00 am - 3:30 pm

- #01 Introduction to Transportation**
- #31.5 Terrorism Awareness**
- #33.5A Communication Skills: Parent/Guardian**
- #34.5 Photography in Transportation (new)**
- #35.5 Transportation Compliance Roadmap (new)**

Sunday, February 19, 2012

8:00 am - 3:30 pm

- #05 Routing & Scheduling**
- #10 Evaluation in Transportation**
- #13 Presentation Skills**
- #15 Official Exit Exam**

(Registration to be posted at a later date on the TAPT web site - www.tapt.com)

TAPT CERTIFICATION CLASSES
McAllen Convention Center
McAllen, TX

FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 2012
2:00 - 5:00 pm

- #13.5 Presentation Skills
- #27.5 C Leadership: Team Building
- #33.5 Communication Skills: Community/Media

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 2012

FULL DAY Classes - 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 2012

1/2 DAY Classes - 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

#01 Introduction to Transportation	#08 Personnel Management
#02 Student Safety Mgmt: A Behavioral Perspective	#11 Special Transportation
#04 Accident Investigation	#12 State Reporting
#05 Routing & Scheduling	#12.5 Budgeting AM
#10 Evaluation of Transportation Operations	#14 Advance Student Safety Mgmt.
#21.5 Dispatcher Roll & Responsibilities AM	#15 Official Exit Exam
#33.5B Communication Skills: District Staff PM	#19.5 Field Trips & Extracurricular PM
#22 Documentation	#26 Technology for Trans. Dept.
#28 Training the Special Needs Team	

The cost of the courses still remains at \$75 for the full day classes and \$40 for 1/2 day classes. Half day classes are easily identified by the number. Any number having a .5 in the number is 1/2 day.

Certified TAPT members need to keep in mind that their certification status is affected by the the status of their membership. If dues are not kept current, your certification status becomes inactive and remains inactive until dues are paid and you have taken 2 (6) hours TAPT courses or a total of 12 hours to reinstate to your previous status. It is also necessary that you keep your status active by attending 6 hours of TAPT certification every 3 years.

—————▶ **OUTSTANDING EMPLOYEES** ◀—————

. . . . are not that easy to find or to keep when you do find them. That is why it is so important to let them know they are appreciated. If you are tired of seeing the same districts receive the recognition for their exemplary supervisors, specialists and drivers each year, then how about nominating some of your own transportation staff for these honors. The forms are posted on the TAPT web site in the left hand column under the heading [Scholarships, Awards, Contest Guide-lines](#). Nothing could be easier and your staff will thank you for it.

TAPT CERTIFICATION CLASSES

at

**Inn of the Hills
1001 Junction Hwy.
Kerrville, TX 78028
(800) 292-5690**

SUNDAY, Oct. 23, 2011

- _____ #04 Accident Investigation
- _____ #23.5B Leadership: Styles & Qualities
- _____ #28 Training the Special Needs Team

(Classes will be cancelled if enrollment does not meet required number)

Course Fee: \$75.00 for Full Day \$40.00 for 1/2 Day. Half day is indicated by .5 in the course number

Registration confirmation will be sent to you upon receipt of payment.

Name _____ Title/Position _____

School District/Organization _____

Mailing Address _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____ Cell # _____

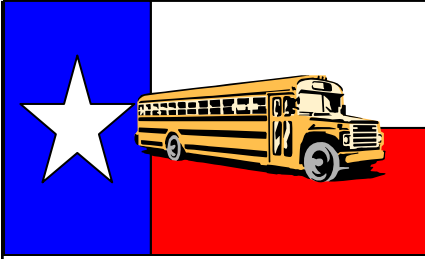
e-mail address _____

Please remit this form to Jolene Hawkins electronically or by fax at (325) 388-6369 as soon as possible. Make checks payable to TAPT and mail to TAPT, P.O. Box 996, Buchanan Dam, TX 78609. If you have questions, you may call TAPT at (866) 561-2121. To pay by credit card, call Jolene Hawkins at (866) 561-2121

When making hotel reservations, request CenTex APT rates:

***THESE CLASSES ARE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CENTEX FALL WORKSHOP
Oct. 21 - 22, 2011 and you may register for the Workshop at www.Centexbus.com
For directions to the Inn of the Hills, go to:***

www.innofthehills.com/driving.html



TEXAS ASSOCIATION FOR SCHOOL BUS TECHNICIANS

Texas Association of School Bus Technicians will be presenting classes at the Frisco ISD Transportation West Facility on January 21st & 22nd, 2012. The classes begin at 8:00 AM and continue all day with a lunch break. Classes to be offered are listed on page 9 and registration can be completed on the TASBT web site at www.tasbt.org

The address of the facility where classes will be held is:
Frisco ISD Transportation West
10701 N. Dallas Parkway
Frisco, TX 75034

There is a hotel close by it is:
Comfort Suites at Frisco Square
9700 Dallas Parkway, Frisco, TX 75034
Phone 972-668-9700
Website: <http://csfrisco.com>

The registration form and payment or purchase order needs to be received by January 3, 2012. If you paid your dues (registration fee) in June 2011, then you do not need to pay them again until June 2012.

There is no additional registration fee for the conference unless you are participating in the TAPT classes.

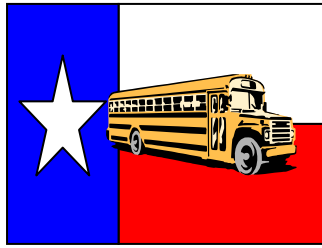
The Texas Best competition for Technicians was held at Frisco ISD, Frisco, TX on April 9, 2011 and the Americas Best competition was held at North East ISD in San Antonio in September.

Texas Best Winners were: INSPECTORS: 1st Place: Scott Bettinger, Temple ISD; 2nd Place: John Ewers, North East ISD; 3rd Place: Ariel Rodriguez, Houston ISD.
TECHNICIANS: 1st Place: David Ogg, North East ISD; 2nd Place: John Foreman, Alvin ISD; 3rd Place: Josh Nordin, Frisco ISD.

Scott Bettinger placed 3rd in the America's Best competition in Inspectors.

Judy Kline
TASBT Executive Secretary

2012 TAPT Conference in
 Frisco, TX
January 21 & 22, 2012
TASBT REGISTRATION FORM
Certification Classes
 Deadline for registration January 9



**TEXAS ASSOCIATION
 FOR SCHOOL BUS
 TECHNICIANS**

*****PLEASE TYPE or PRINT CLEARLY*****

NAME: _____
 SCHOOL DISTRICT: _____
 SCHOOL ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____ ZIP: _____
 POSITION: _____
 BUS. PHONE: _____ FAX: _____
 SIGNATURE: _____
 E-Mail Address: _____

Certification Classes Offered:

Saturday, Jan. 21, 2012

Sunday, Jan. 22, 2012

Class #	All classes start at 8:00 AM	Class #	All classes start at 8:00 AM
SBT6	Basic Electronic (AM) \$35	SBT7	Advanced Electronics (All day Sun) \$65
SBT8	Shop Safety (PM) (new) \$35		
Free retest on classes not passed in the last 12 months			

RE-TEST

Register me for **Saturday Only Class #** _____ \$ _____ No Charge

Register me for **Sunday Only Class #** _____ \$ _____ No Charge

Registration fee (Membership) (June 1, 2011-May 31, 2012) \$ 20.00

TOTAL DUE \$ _____

Please return this FORM and FEES to: TASBT, 595 County Road 3081, Lampasas, TX 76550 REGISTRATION MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A CHECK OR PURCHASE ORDER

For more information contact Judy Kline at (512) 556-9352 or fax (512) 556-5930 or email judy@tasbt.org

For Conference and TAPT certification class information and registration go to www.tapt.com

TAPT's Faithful Friends

The economic downturn this past year has negatively affected every area of commerce but our Faithful Friends have continued to support the TAPT and it's events. We are extremely grateful to those contributors.

DIAMOND

**Bus Air Manufacturing
Heavy Duty Bus Parts
International Corporation
Longhorn Bus Sales**

GOLD

**Hydrotex
Rush Bus Center**

SILVER

**Longhorn International Trucks, Ltd.
Pinnacle Medical Management, Inc.
Sure-Lok/Q'Straint
Texas Fleet Fuels
Transfinder
Safe Pupil by Vertical Alliance**

BRONZE

**Andy's Auto & Bus Air
AngleTrax
Buck's Wheel & Equipment
Compliance Consortium Corp.
Gulf Coast TAPT Chapter
Eco Systems
Forward Edge
Gonzalez Auto Parts
REI
Safeguard by IMMI
Seon
Thomas Bus Gulf Coast
Tyler Technologies
United School Bus Seat Service, Inc.
Unity School Bus Parts**

***IF YOU ARE SUPPORTING TAPT, YOU
ARE HELPING TO INSURE THE SAFETY
OF MILLIONS OF STUDENTS WHO
RIDE SCHOOL BUSES TO AND
FROM SCHOOL EVERY DAY!***

You can become a TAPT contributing sponsor by contacting:
Jolene Hawkins
866-561-2121 or
jolene@tapt.com

YOUR AD COULD BE POSTED HERE

**ADVERTISING RATES
FOR
TAPT *BUS CHATTER***

Rates are for one-time insertion of black and white camera-ready copy
(digital copy accepted):

3.5" x 2" business card	-	\$ 50.00
3.5" x 4.75" quarter page	-	\$ 75.00
4.75" x 7.25" half page	-	\$ 100.00
7.25 " x 9.75" full page	-	\$ 200.00

The TAPT *Bus Chatter* is posted on the web site in the spring and fall of each year.
Ad copy should be e-mailed to TAPT at the address shown below:

Texas Association for Pupil Transportation
P.O. Box 996
Buchanan Dam, TX 78609



Front view of the McAllen Convention Center - site of the 39th Annual TAPT Conference in McAllen, TX. June 22 - 26, 2012



Embassy Suites Hotel Courtyard - Conference Host Hotel



Embassy Suites Hotel