

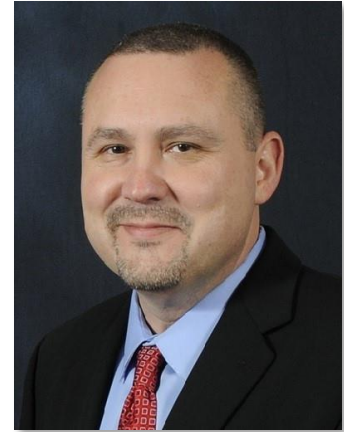


PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

July 2017

As I reflect on this past year and plan for the 2017-2018 school year, I would be remiss if I did not thank each of you for what you do every day as transportation professionals. Despite the daily challenges of unfunded mandates, training and employing qualified drivers and often times being mischaracterized in news reports, (and generally, only our worst days being publicized on local and national television), each of us continue to strive to do what we do, even better. For this reason, I am honored, humbled and proud to serve as your 2017-2018 TAPT president.

I would also like to thank our 2016-2017 TAPT Executive Committee, the guest speakers, vendors, certification instructors, Committee Chairs, our members and our loyal sponsors for an incredible conference and trade show. I congratulate all our award and scholarship winners, our School Bus Safety Road-e-o contestants and winners, our TASBT award winners and Texas Best technicians for their amazing accomplishments, and I look forward to seeing them all compete on the national level.



As we plan and prepare for our 45th TAPT Conference and Trade Show in Corpus Christi, Texas - June 2018, please remember that we also have several certification classes, workshops and chapter conferences scheduled throughout the year as you ***Chart Your Course to Success***.

- **July 26-28, 2017** – North East ISD, San Antonio, Texas - TASBT 5th Annual Workshop and TAPT Certification Classes (Registration open now)
- **October 21-22, 2017** – CENTEX Fall Conference, Live Oak, Texas - TAPT and TASBT Certification Classes
- **December 1-3, 2017** – South Texas, South Padre Island, Texas - TAPT and TASBT Certification Classes, Vendor Show and Workshop
- **January 2018** – Frisco ISD, Frisco, Texas - TAPT and TASBT Certification Classes
- **February 2018** – Gulf Coast Winter Conference, League City, Texas - TAPT and TASBT Certification Classes

I join the TASBT Executive Committee in recognizing and thanking Jim and Judy Kline's numerous contributions to TASBT and wish them all the best. Their efforts and those of the previous and current TASBT Executive Committees and members have generated statewide training classes and national award winners. All are commended for their work.

In closing, I encourage school districts to support the efforts of ***all*** transportation staff members who seek to enhance their knowledge and skills. I am excited to see all the new faces and I am proud of those who are working on or have completed their varying levels of Professional Certifications. You are our future and I look forward to the growth of both organizations as the executive committees work collaboratively for the success of all those responsible for the safe and efficient transportation of our students.

Best Regards,

William D. Powell