



Bus Lines



May 10, 2018

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Newsletter

Volume 1

Pupil Transportation News

Issue 1

Preservice Meeting Summary

Following the conclusion of the State School Bus Driver Safety Road-E-O on Saturday, May 5, 2018, the preservice team met to discuss several pertinent items. Old Business: 1.) Updated T-9 effective 4/2/2018; 2.) Ohio's New DL-ID effective 7/2/2018; 3.) FTA Drug and Alcohol Regulation Updates effective 1/1/2018; 4.) Operation and Safety Rules Update; 5.) State Director Update. New Business: 1.) Contact List Updates; 2.) Stop Signs at Railroad Crossings; 3.) Summer School Bus Driver Training Program. Joe Dietrich reported that current numbers are low for the summer classes at both locations, as well as Dr. Nancy Blackwell's presentation. Bill Leaming will compose a flyer/notice to be distributed to secure additional attendees.

OAPT Special License Plates

In April, preservice instructors received an email and the enclosed attachment regarding the distribution of a promotional flyer for OAPT's Special License Plate Program. Although ODE is supportive of the special license plate program, flyers may **not** be copied and distributed via preservice classes.

Retirement Celebration!

Look who is retiring! After 26 years of hard work and dedication to Centerville City Schools Transportation and more than 57 years of pupil transportation in Ohio, George Sontag, Jr. is retiring. A celebration is scheduled for Thursday, May 10, 2018, from 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. in the East Commons at Centerville High School, 500 East Franklin Street, Centerville, Ohio. Representatives from ODE plan to attend.



FTA Drug and Alcohol Regulation Updates

Please share the attached FTA Drug and Alcohol Regulation Updates with the transportation personnel in your region. Included in the January 2018 Special Edition is the DOT Part 40 Final Rule, Changes to the MRO Verification Process, DOT Drug Tests Are Still Five-Panel, and Required Policy Revisions.

CDL Testing Changes

Effective June 4, 2018, several CDL testing changes will become effective. Please read, review, and share the attached information with the transportation personnel in your region.

Quote

"Make today count. You'll never get it back!"
www.thinkpositive.com



John R. Kasich, Governor
Paolo DeMaria, Superintendent of Public Instruction

Stop Signs at Railroad Crossings

Section 4511.61 of the Ohio Revised Code requires the installation of stop signs at public, passive railroad crossings that are **NOT** identified and approved by ODOT for exemption. Beginning in September 2015, drivers should have noticed a change in traffic signals at railroad crossings that do not have flashing lights or gates. The Ohio Department of Transportation, in conjunction with the Ohio Rail Development Commission, reviewed nearly 2,000 of these crossings as a result of a change in state law. Around 1,000 of the crossings will be getting stop signs. The stop signs will replace yield signs already at the crossings. Local railroad crews have begun the installation process in some communities already. The signs mean drivers must come to a full stop at these locations and can be ticketed if they choose not to obey. This change will reinforce driver behaviors of being safe and cautious around railroad tracks. They will need to stop, look both ways, and proceed across with caution. In 2013, the Ohio General Assembly included a provision in the state budget bill that required stop signs at certain railroad crossings, replacing existing yield signs. The intention behind the change in law is to increase safety for drivers and passengers. Please communicate this information to your region's transportation personnel.

T-2 Reports

These reports are due either on or before Wednesday, August 1, 2018. Please begin the process of gathering data to complete the reports. All data needs to be inputted into the system, with the report signed and submitted.

Regional & State Road-E-O 2018 & New Dates for 2019

The State Road-E-O Executive Board Committee members congratulate Ms. Karlene Anderson from Graham Local Schools – Our 2018 State Champion. Also, kudos to all participating Regional winners, state judges, Licking Heights School District, Westerville City Schools and Columbus City Schools for a job well done and for your continuous support. We are excited to announce the Spring Road-E-O will now take place this Fall. Please Save the Dates: Regional Road-E-O October 13, 2018, & State Road-E-O October 27, 2018, for the 2018-2019 school year. Locations TBA. Please visit the website for more information and updates at: <https://www.ohioschoolbusroadeo.com/>

Driver Compliance Tracking System

The Office of Pupil Transportation is rolling over to a new system for all transportation directors, supervisors and/or designees who currently input data and monitor driver records. The system is operational with a few more details to complete. Training is forthcoming via Webinar/On Site/Off Site.

National School Bus Safety Week

Nationwide, we will celebrate National School Bus Safety Week from October 22-26, 2018. The 2018 National School Bus Safety Week theme is: "My Driver – My Safety Hero!" This is a great time to communicate with your communities to let them know about the value of school transportation services, and to help them understand all the care and professionalism that goes into keeping children safe. You are encouraged to share information with the media, your drivers, and other staff in your schools to help everyone focus on school bus safety. Please click on the link for more information: <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Finance-and-Funding/School-Transportation/School-Transportation-Safety/National-School-Bus-Safety-Week>

Safety Poster Contest

Please look at the annual safety poster contest materials on our website. This is a great opportunity to have students at your schools submit school bus safety posters in a national competition. A link to the web information is here: <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Finance-and-Funding/School-Transportation/School-Transportation-Safety/National-School-Bus-Safety-Week/School-Bus-Safety-Week-Poster-Contest>

Calendar Events

May 10	George Sontag, Jr. Retirement Party Recognition	5:30 – 8:00 p.m.	Centerville HS Centerville, Ohio
May 31	Warren Co. ESC Transportation Supervisors Mtg.	10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Warren Co. ESC Lebanon, Ohio
June 4	Ashtabula Co. ESC Bus Driver Safety Meeting	9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.	Ashtabula Co. ESC Ashtabula, Ohio
June 6	Financial Reporting & Data Collection NW Region	9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Hilton Garden Inn Perrysburg, Ohio
June 11	How Do You Handle Student Behavior on the Bus? Dr. Nancy Blackwelder	8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Lakota West HS West Chester, Ohio
June 12 & 13	Summer School Bus Driver Training Program	7:30 a.m. -4:30 p.m.	Lakota West HS West Chester, Ohio
June 14	Homeless & Foster Care Seminar	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Embassy Suites Dublin, Ohio
June 15	Financial Reporting & Data Collection SW Region	9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Hilton Garden Inn Miamisburg, Ohio
June 19 & 20	Summer School Bus Driver Training Program	7:30 a.m. -4:30 p.m.	Avon Lake HS Avon Lake, Ohio
June 21	How Do You Handle Student Behavior on the Bus? Dr. Nancy Blackwelder	8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Avon Lake HS Avon Lake, Ohio
June 22	Financial Reporting & Data Collection NE Region	9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Hilton Garden Inn Twinsburg, Ohio
June 26	Midwest Regional ESC Bus Driver Training	8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Botkins Local Sch. Botkins, Ohio
June 27	Financial Reporting & Data Collection SE Region	9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Athens City Schools The Plains, Ohio
June 28	Financial Reporting & Data Collection CE Region	9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.	OASBO Board Rm. Columbus, Ohio



OHIO PRESERVICE TEAM

Together We Make a Difference!