



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

February 26, 2020

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey *E.G.M.*
State Superintendent of Education

SUBJECT: 2020 Alabama School Transportation Association Conference

The 78th Annual Alabama School Transportation Association (ASTA) Conference will be held in Mobile, Alabama, June 8-12, 2020, at the Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel in Mobile, Alabama. The conference program will again offer an excellent selection of training sessions. Conference topics will include: "hands-on" topics like medication on buses, student behavior, bid law, mechanic classes, and more. A special part of the conference will be the trade show that will feature local, state, and national vendors. Alabama's school bus dealers will also provide information about their new buses and other products.

The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) and local school systems in Alabama have supported this conference since its beginning. The conference has always provided excellent training for transportation supervisors and office personnel, shop personnel, and other key persons in our local transportation programs. Therefore, I strongly encourage your system's participation. A conference registration form and other conference information are included with this memorandum. However, all conference materials and entry forms for all events, including the School Bus Road-e-o, can be found on the ALSDE website at www.alsde.edu under Department Offices/Pupil Transportation/Documents. Hotel reservations can be made by calling 1-800-922-3298. *The cut-off date for reserving a room at \$139.00 is May 1, 2020, so please make your reservation early.*

The Alabama's Best Competition will be held Monday, June 8 (registration form attached). There is **no fee** for participation in this event. The School Bus Rodeo will be held in 2021.

At this year's conference, door prizes will be given at the closing session. If possible, bring one or more door prizes that will be taken at registration on Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning. If asked, local businesses, may be willing to donate a door prize. Door prizes are greatly appreciated and do not have to be expensive.

The ASTA Board of Directors have worked hard to provide an excellent, but inexpensive training opportunity for your transportation personnel. **Travel expenses for the conference are eligible transportation expenditures.** In order to help with conference planning and preparation, please register and reserve your lodging at the host hotel as early as possible.

If you have questions regarding the conference or conference events, please contact Mrs. Barefield at 334-774-5197 ext. 3505 (for Hotels), Mr. Jon Murphy 334-585-2206 ext. 1240 or the ALSDE Pupil Transportation Section at 334-694-4545.

E.G.M./CC/JL

Enclosures

cc: City, County, and Contract Transportation Supervisors
School Bus Dealers
Mr. Andy Craig
Mr. Perry Taylor
Mr. Chad Carpenter
Mrs. Jackilyn Barefield
Mr. Jon Murphy

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