

NATIONAL SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION

2026 School Bus Driver International Safety Competition Stakeholder Meeting

December 3, 2025

1:00 PM (ET)





Today's Presenters

2026 SBDISC Stakeholder Meeting

Curt Macysyn
Executive Director, NSTA

Kevin Kilner
*Safety Competition Committee Chair
Chief Safety Officer, Beacon Mobility*

John Rojas
*Knowledge Test Chair
CEO, Bumper to Bumper Easy CDL*

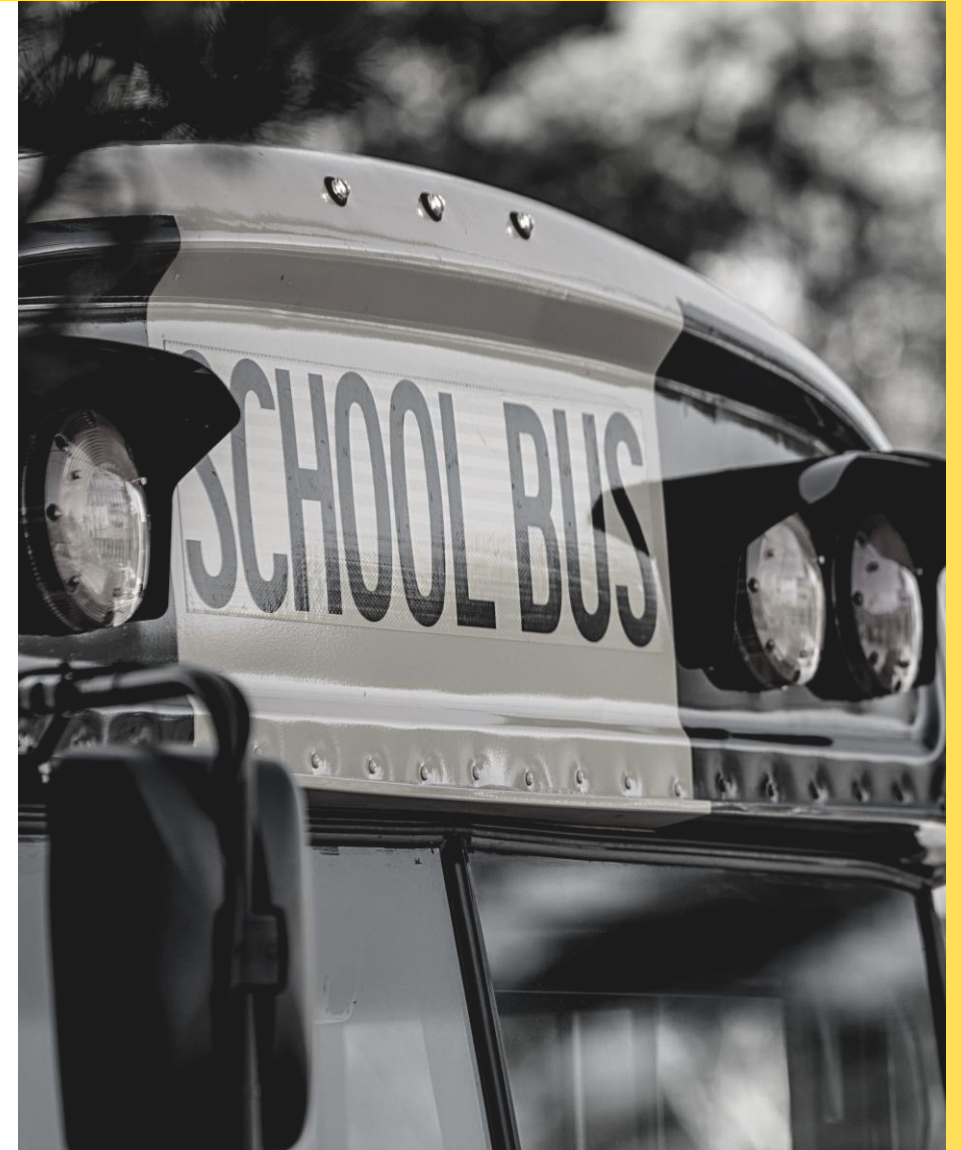
Cassandra Behr
*Competition Course Chair
Director of Transportation, Hays CSID (TX)*

Ronna Weber
Judge's Chair | Executive Director, NASDPTS



Opening Remarks

Curt Macysyn



Welcome!



We will open the floor for questions after the presentation!
Please keep yourself on mute until the Q&A Session.

2025 Safety Competition Recap

- NSTA partnered with Hays CISD (outside of Austin, Texas) as a permanent site.
- Competition featured **53 drivers from 25 States/1 Canadian Province**

Bill Loshbough Grand Champion Award:

Brian Rickmann - Beaverton School District (OR) Score: 734

He was featured on an episode of NSTA: The Bus Stop

First Place Winners:

- Type-A: Claudia Christen- Prairie Bus Lines, Alberta, Canada
- Type-C: Betty Nelson - Dean Transportation (MI)
 - *She was featured on an episode of NSTA: The Bus Stop*
- Type-D: Brian Rickmann- Beaverton School District (OR)



General Information

- 2026 School Bus Driver International Safety Competition will be held June 27-28, 2026.
- Host hotel: Austin Marriott Downtown
- Competition Site: Hays CISD Transportation Facility
- Interested in participating? Stay up-to-date by contacting info@yellowbuses.org to sign up for the Safety Competition mailing list
- Please reach out to Ana Ferrari via email at aferrari@yellowbuses.org with your state's local competition information



2026 School Bus Driver International Safety Competition

- Working to create robust communication platform not only to reach student transportation participants, but outside of that network as well
- SBDISC highlights the skills and professionalism of school bus drivers
- Positive publicity can spur interest in becoming a school bus driver
- Changes to our program are based on survey feedback from participants, as well as results from the skills competition
- Revisions also looked at the current environment within the industry and our desire to grow the size of the competition



Driver Eligibility Update

- State/Regional (Multi-State)/Provincial Competitions can send top three drivers regardless of class (public or private) in each of the three events (A, C, D) to the 2026 School Bus Driver International Safety Competition.
- If one of the classes is not represented (public or private) – a fourth driver representing the non-represented class will be eligible for participation.
- This change is effective immediately.
- Additional eligibility information will be outlined in the 2026 competition handbook.



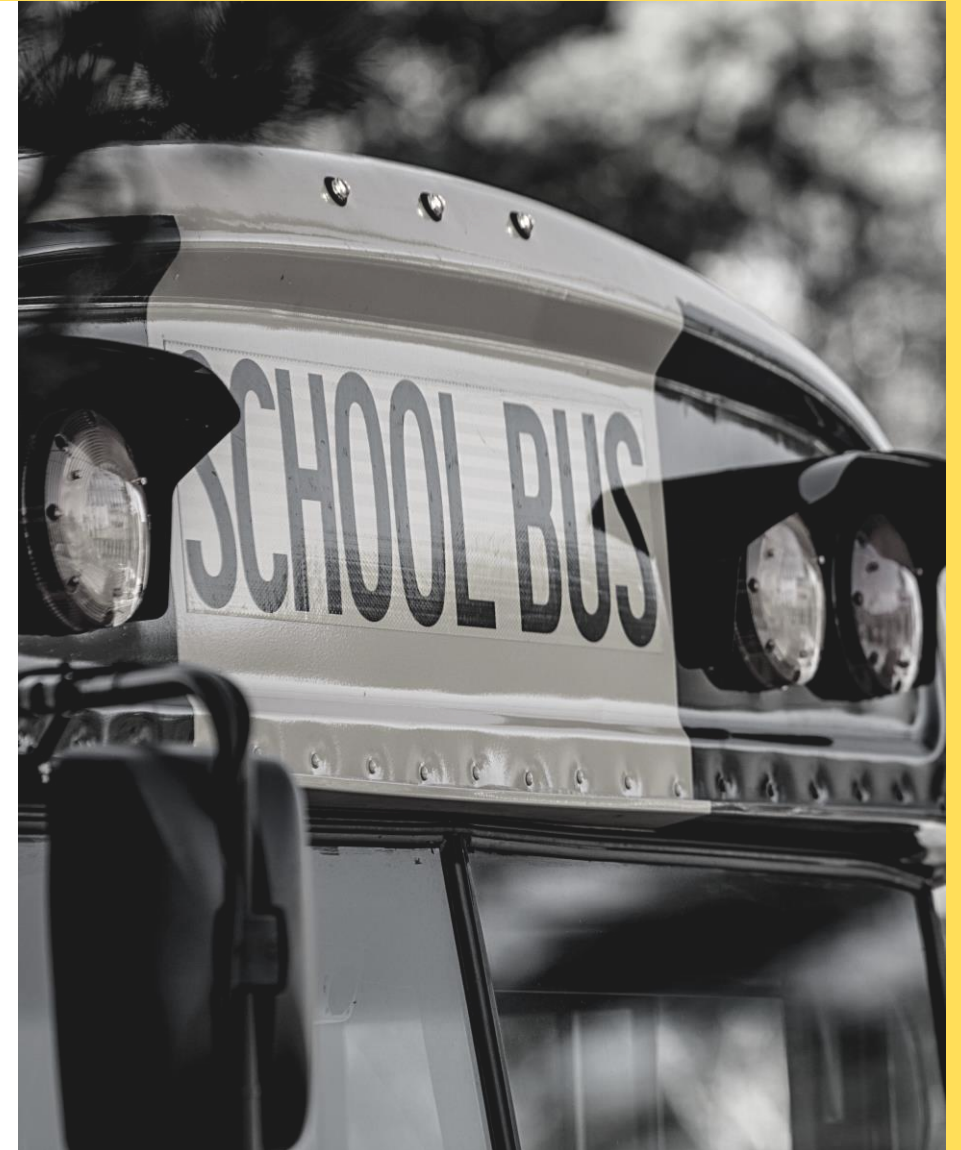
Driver Registration

- 2026 SBDISC Cut-off date - between Jun 28, 2025 to Jun 26, 2026.
- State Associations must inform NSTA of their final results and name all competitors qualified for the SBDISC, according to the eligibility criteria.
- Once the State Association declares all winners, drivers will self-certify and be able to register themselves with NSTA.
- \$175 Registration Fee must be paid in full online by credit card at the moment of registration, or paid by invoice (credit card or check) until June 12, 2026.
- Registration includes: (all meals on Sunday -breakfast and lunch at the competition site, cocktail and dinner at the hotel), plus badge, shirt, certificate, and other materials.
- Hotel and Airfares are not included and must be provided by drivers/state associations/school districts, or employers (local scholarships).



Competition Feedback and Survey Results

Kevin Kilner



2025 Safety Competition Course & Event Survey

Overall positive feedback for host city and hotel.

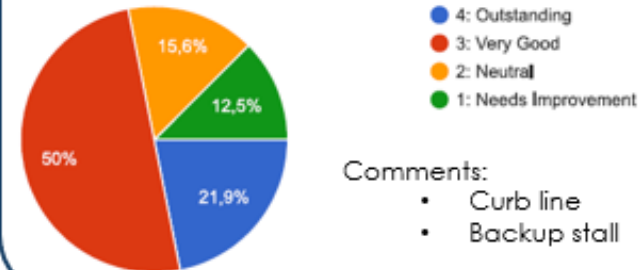
Driver orientation was good overall, **first-time** drivers could use a little more guidance.

Electronic test platform was a positive.

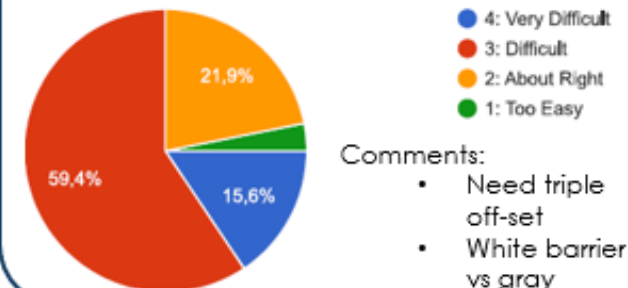
General comments:

- Would love to see vendors
- Score sheets per event to guide improvement
- Handbook needs alignment with scoring
- Tacos for breakfast, lunch, and dinner????

Course layout



Course difficulty

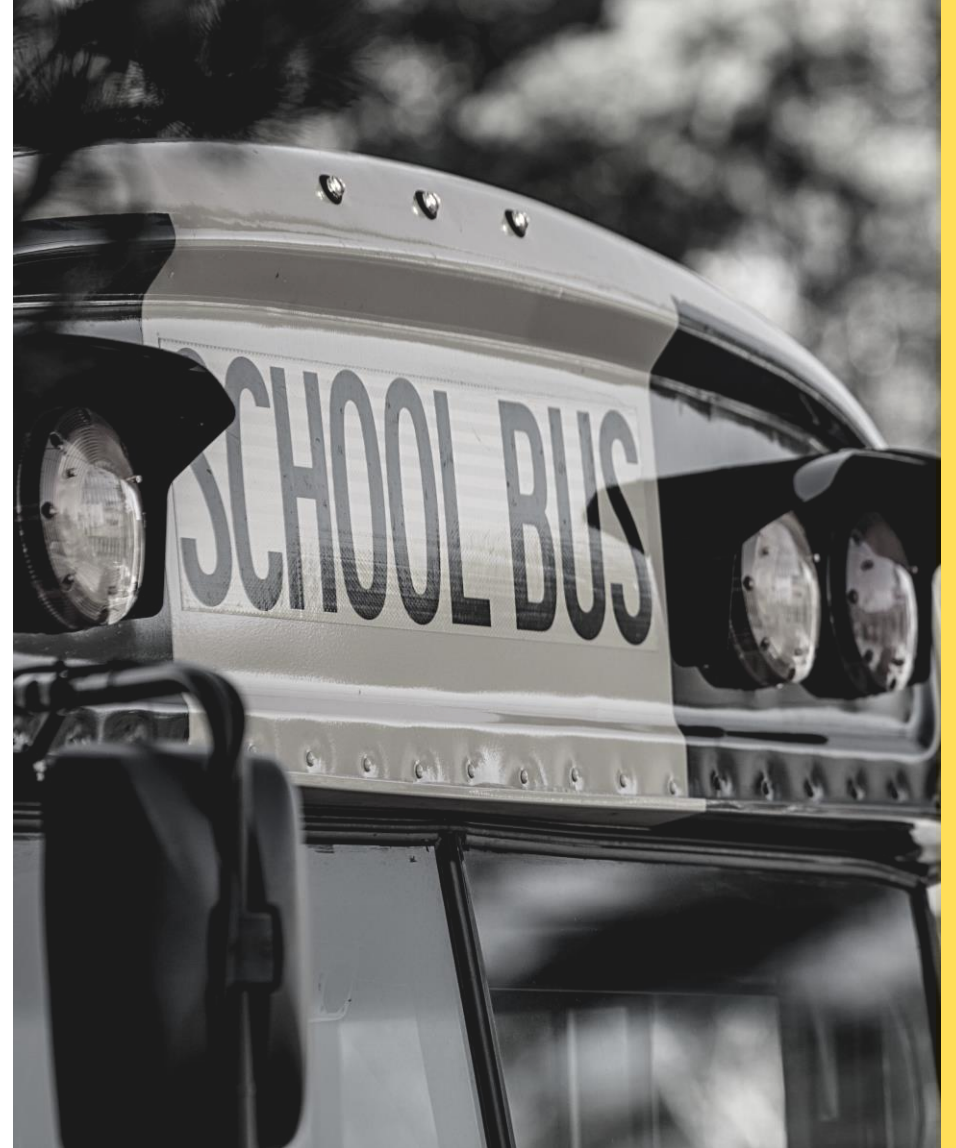


Additional adjustment: Top Score and bottom score driver from each class will be invited to driver steering committee.



Knowledge Test

Kevin Kilner & John Rojas



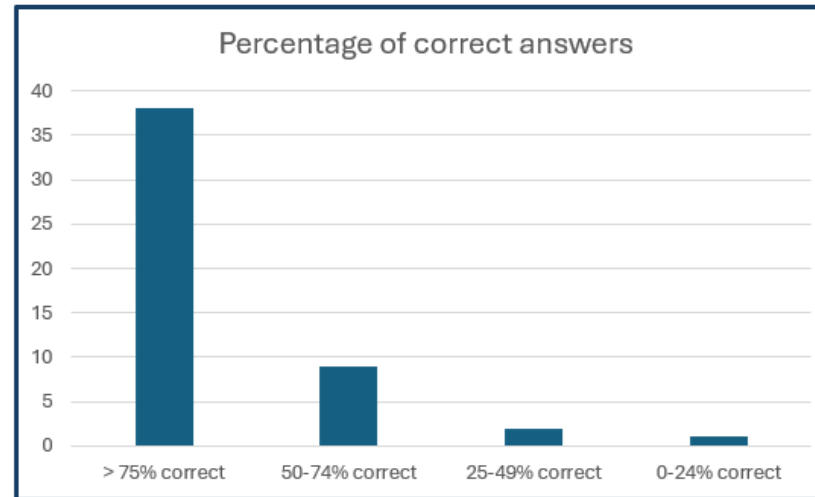
2025 Safety Competition Written Test Summary

More than 75% of the participants got 38 of the questions right.

More than 50% got 9 additional questions right.

Test outcomes demonstrate 3 questions are appropriate for adjustment:

- Q 20: 34 wrong answers (68%)
- Q 34: 35 wrong answers (70%)
- Q 48: 52 wrong answers (96%)



Solution:

- Modify multiple correct answer format to single correct answer.
- Modify questions 20, 34, and 48 to enhance clarity.

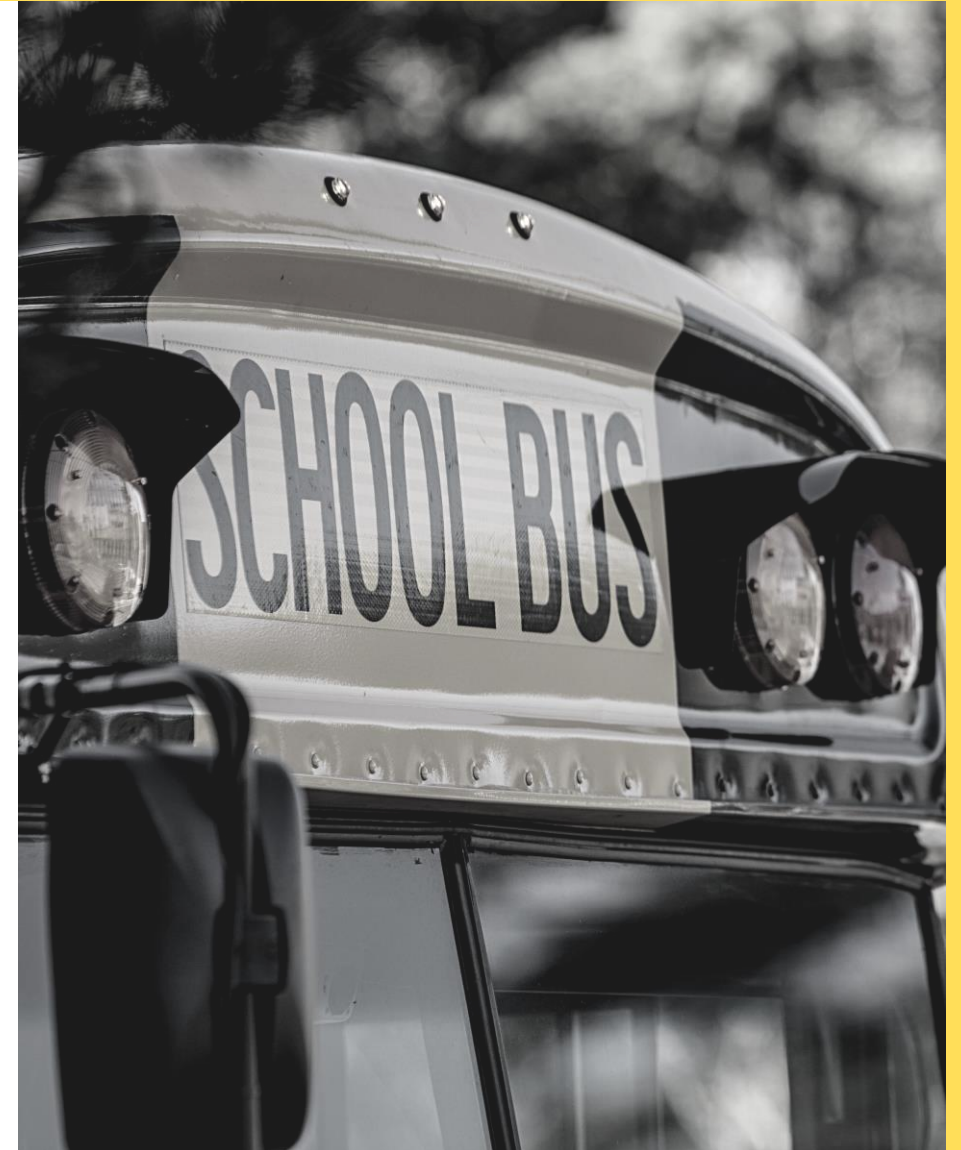
Driver's Knowledge Test

- The driver's knowledge test will be administered electronically through tablets on Saturday, June 27, 2026.
- The test will contain 50 true or false, essay, or multiple-choice questions.
- Drivers will have 30 minutes allotted to complete the test.
- Throughout the exam, there will be personnel present to help with any issues.
- Additional information will be detailed in the Safety Competition handbook.



Course Overview

Cassandra Behr



Course Information and Details

- The Safety Competition course layout will have some changes as to where events were held from the previous years.
- Hays CSID will provide shuttles from the hotel site to the course site. The shuttles will be released in flights (A, C, and D).
- Additionally, drivers will wait inside the facility before they compete on the course.
- The 2026 Safety Competition handbook will be released in January, so please watch for that update.
- Some competition events are in the process of being updated; more information will be included in the 2026 Safety Competition handbook.

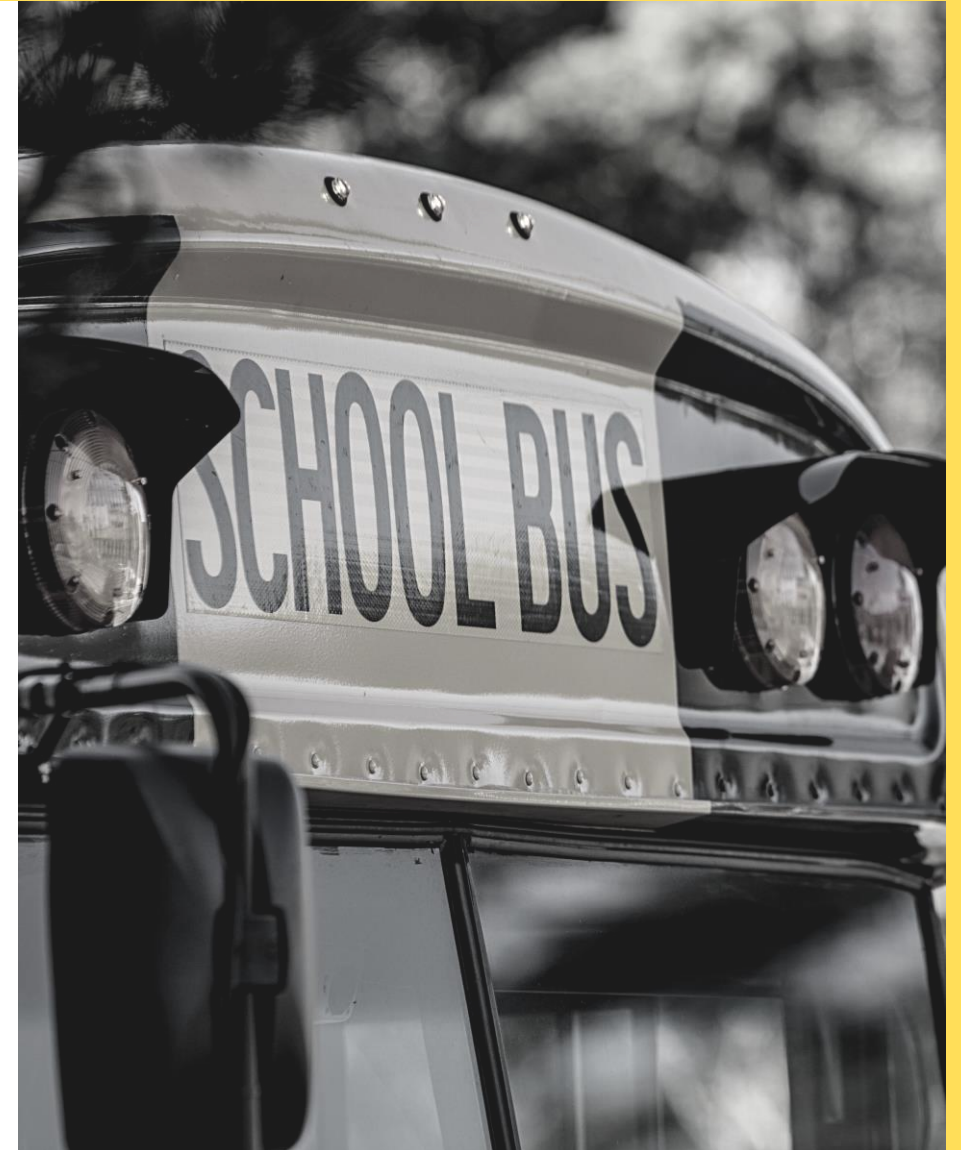
Map of Hays CISD





Judges Overview

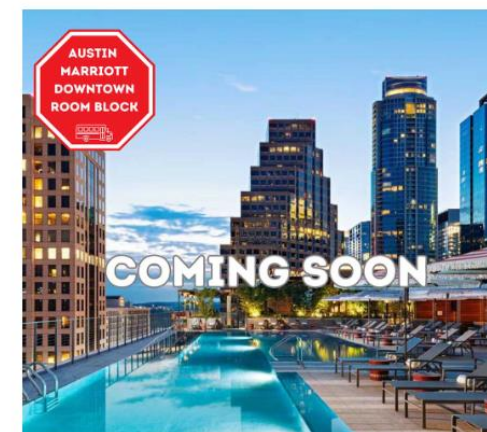
Ronna Webber



Applying to be a 2026 SBDISC Judge

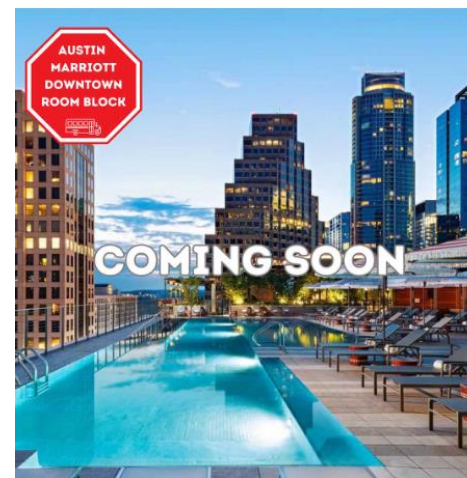
- All potential judges must apply using the form on www.yellowbuses.org.
- Ronna Weber (NASDPTS), will alert you when your application has been received as well as the status of your application, once your application has been reviewed.
- If you have any questions, please contact Ronna at execdir@nasdpts.org.
- Please watch for the 2026 Competition Handbook for event details as well as schedule information for the Judge Orientation in Austin, Texas.

Want to become a Safety Competition Judge? Apply online on NSTA Website (www.YellowBuses.org)



2026 Safety Competition Handbook and Event Details

- Please watch for the 2026 Competition Handbook for more event details.
- Handbook will also outline schedule information for the Judge Orientation in Austin, TX.
- Please make sure to use the NSTA Room Block link to reserve your lodging.



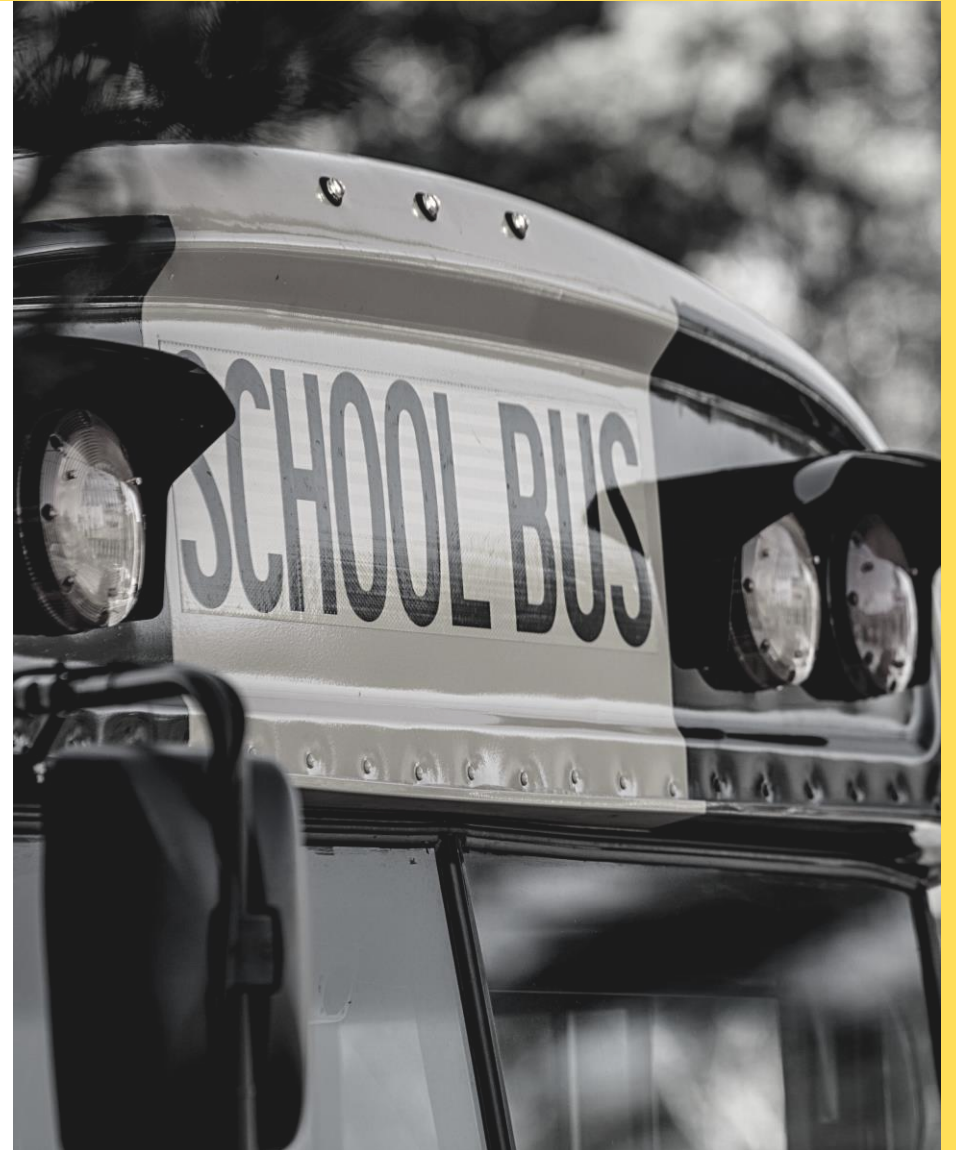
2026 Safety Competition Judge Reminders

- Meals directly associated with the Safety Competition are complimentary (Sunday Dinner, Breakfast at Competition, Lunch at Competition).
- You are expected to be present at Judges' Orientation on Saturday early afternoon (June 27th).
- Please be aware of flight delays when reserving your airfare to Austin.
- Please book your return on Monday, so you can attend the Sunday Night Awards Banquet.



Final Remarks

Curt Macysyn



Become a Safety Competition Sponsor/ Booster

- A competition of this dimension is only possible thanks to sponsors.
- Title Sponsor for the 3rd Consecutive year: Beacon Mobility.
- Several sponsorship opportunities will be available for contractors, vendors, and any other company interested in promoting SBDISC. Stay tuned for the Safety Competition communications next year and don't miss out.
- State Associations, School Districts, and Safety Competition Enthusiasts can contribute with a booster contribution of any amount.
- Any questions related to Sponsorships, please get in touch with NSTA Headquarters: Ana Ferrari – aferrari@yellowbuses.org

More information to come:

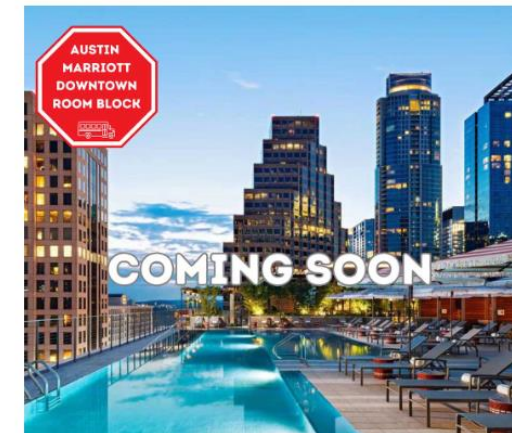
- The 2026 SBDISC Schedule is available on NSTA Website.
- A Zoom Meeting open for all 2026 SBDISC competitors, judges, state associations, supervisors and sponsors will be held on **June 22, 2026 – at 1 PM (ET)**. This meeting will provide important information about what to expect upon arrival in Austin.
- Any questions??? Please get in touch with NSTA Headquarters: at info@yellowbuses.org

Stay updated on all Safety Competition Information on the NSTA Website (www.YellowBuses.org)



About NSTA ▾ [Conferences/Events](#) ▾ Advocacy ▾ Membership ▾ Press Room ▾ Directories ▾ Why Contract? ▾ [SchoolBusFacts.com](#)

[Login](#) [Become A Member](#)



Questions from participants!

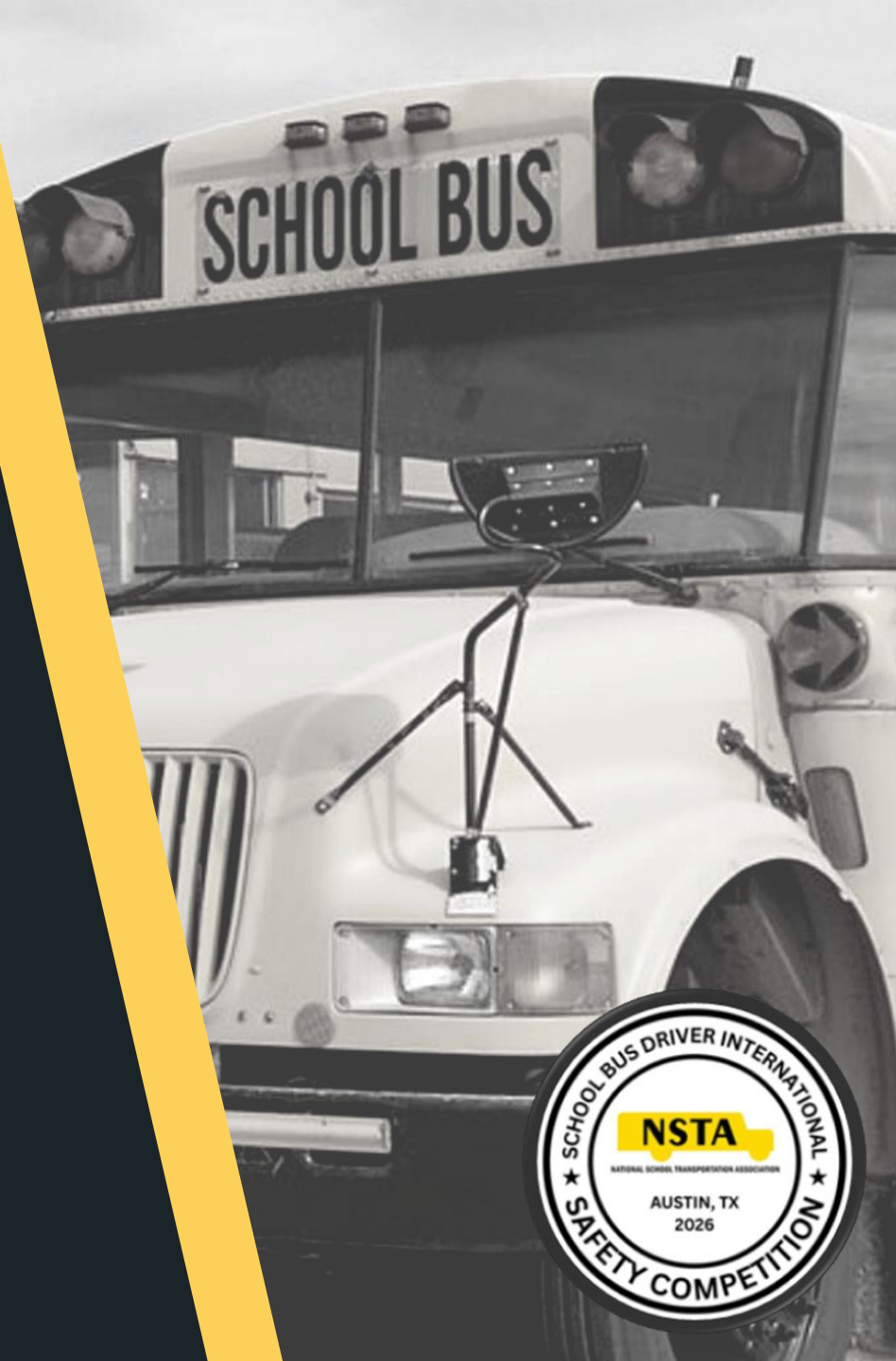


NSTA HEADQUARTERS

Contact us:

703-684-3200

or info@yellowbuses.org



THANK YOU!

