



November 30, 2020

Shannon L. Watson
Senior Advisor to the Associate Administrator for Policy
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee - Bob Ramsdell Appointment

Dear Ms. Watson:

On behalf of the National School Transportation Association (NSTA), I am pleased to recommend Bob Ramsdell for a seat on the Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee (MSAC). Bob is a veteran leader in the student transportation realm, and he will bring broad industry perspective to MCSAC.

About National School Transportation Association

NSTA is the leading resource for school bus transportation solutions and the voice for private contractors for over 55 years. We are a membership organization for school bus contract-operators engaged primarily in transporting students to and from school and school-related activities. Members range from small family businesses serving one school district, to large corporations operating tens of thousands of buses across multiple states. Regardless of size, our operators are staunchly committed to the safe and efficient transportation of our nation's school children. Private school bus contractors account for 38 percent of the nation's pupil transportation services and employ more than 250,000 individuals as bus drivers, mechanics, maintenance workers, dispatch, and office workers.

School transportation represents the largest form of mass transportation in the United States, as school buses outnumber other forms of public transportation vehicles almost 3.5 to 1. School buses are the transportation mode of choice by about a third of school-aged kids, who take a collective total of about 52 million trips a day. Other forms of mass transportation have 34 million daily boardings, and transport just 10 percent of American commuters each day, including children who ride the city bus to class rather than the yellow bus.

Daily, almost 26 million students are transported by an estimated 480,000 yellow school buses. Every day, the lives of children are entrusted to certified school transportation professionals who have received special training and have the experience to ensure the safe transport of students. School buses remain the safest way to transport a child to-and-from school, and school-related activities, as they are the most regulated form of transportation. In fact, school buses are far safer than a child walking, riding a bike, or being transported in a car with a fellow student or parent to school. According to National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) statistics, students are 70 times more likely to arrive at school safely when riding in a yellow bus.

When looking at the panel of MCSAC members, the majority of the members' experience comes from the motor truck industry. Since the retirement of Gary Catapano, a former NSTA representative on MCSAC, there has been no direct school transportation representation on this important committee

since 2017. As noted above, pupil transportation remains a vital part of the nation's transportation sector.

Bob has over 30 years' experience in passenger transportation from both a safety and operations perspective, and currently serves as the Chief Safety Officer at National Express, the second largest private contractor of school transportation services in the nation. Within NSTA, Bob continues to oversee and provide guidance to NSTA members on school transportation safety and security issues, and he has been instrumental in NSTA policy development on Automated Driving Systems (ADS).

I appreciate the opportunity to offer my support to the nomination of Bob Ramsdell to MCSAC. If you need any further information, please feel free to contact me at 703-684-3200 x 700, or via email at cmacysyn@yellowbuses.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Curt Macysyn". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Curt Macysyn
Executive Director
National School Transportation Association