



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **National School Transportation Association Announces 2017 Industry Award Winners**

**Indianapolis, Indiana** - The National School Transportation Association presented annual industry awards honoring those who have achieved a level of excellence from all facets of the industry at NSTA's Awards Dinner held on Tuesday, July 18 as part of NSTA's Annual Meeting and Convention in Indianapolis, Indiana.

"The National School Transportation Association is delighted to honor this year's recipients for the dedication and commitment made by each to the school transportation industry," stated NSTA President Todd Monteferrario.

The 2017 National School Transportation Association awards and the recipients of each included:

The Golden Merit Award recognizes excellence in the industry in service, safety and community responsibility. This year's recipients include:

Lydell Banks, New Orleans, Louisiana, First Student  
Darlene Davis, Olathe, Kansas, First Student  
Keith Harms, Great Lakes Region, Michigan, Petermann Bus  
Sandra Higgins, Alliston, Ontario Landmark Student Transportation  
Emma Hussey, Windsor, Ontario, First Student  
Alma Lawrence, Irvine, California, Durham School Services  
Scott Parker, Chicago, Illinois, First Student  
Esther Sanford, Lansing, Michigan, Dean Transportation  
Russ Stratton, Cuba City, Wisconsin, Stratton Buses Inc.

The Outstanding Driver Service award is given to school bus drivers who have demonstrated exemplary safety performance and a commitment to excellence. This year's recipient is Manuel Vasquez of First Student in Phoenix, Arizona.

NSTA's Green School Bus Fleet Certification Program recognizes NSTA members for their efforts in working toward a cleaner environment. This award has been reviewed and is endorsed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Clean School Bus USA Program. The certification levels to be bestowed are Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze depending on the level of fleet reduction in particulate matter. This year's award winners include:

## **Platinum**

### First Student

Council Rock, Pennsylvania

## **Gold**

### First Student

Bozeman, Montana

Lewisville, Texas

Portland, Oregon

Ogden, Utah

Olathe, Kansas

Orono, Minnesota

Waukesha, Wisconsin

### Landmark/Sinton

Vaughn, Ontario

### National Express LLC

Durham School Services, Casa Grande, Arizona

Durham School Services, Rosemead, California

Durham School Services, Waterbury, Connecticut

## **Silver Level**

### Dousman Transport Co.

North Lake, Wisconsin

### First Student

Avalon, California

McMinnville, Oregon

Providence, Rhode Island

Palm Springs, California

Springfield, Massachusetts

St. Andrews, California

West Valley, California

### Hendrickson Bus

Bayville, New York

### Huntington Coach

Harbor Yard, New York

### Landmark/Sinton

Alliston, Ontario

Mid Columbia Bus Co.  
Rainer, Oregon

**Bronze Level**

First Student  
Santa Ana, California  
Seattle, Washington

Huntington Coach  
Fifth Avenue, New York  
Northport, New York

National Express LLC  
Durham School Services, Racine, Wisconsin

The Hall of Fame Award recognizes excellence in long-term efforts on behalf of pupil transportation. This year's recipient is **Kyle Martin** of the TransPar Group of Companies in Lee's Summit, Missouri.

The Meritorious Service Award was established to recognize individuals who have displayed unparalleled vision, support, and leadership toward improving pupil transportation safety, the promotion of NSTA and the school bus industry. This year NSTA is honoring two such individuals: **Barry Stock** of Landmark Student Transportation in Aurora, Ontario and **Ronna Weber** of the National School Transportation Association in Alexandria, Virginia.

The Contractor of the Year Award is presented to a contractor who has demonstrated an outstanding ability in improving the operations and management of their companies. This contractor has made significant contributions to promote contracting at the national or state level. This year's award recipient was **John Corrado** of Suffolk Transportation Service in Bayshore, New York. The Contractor of the Year Award is presented by *School Bus Fleet Magazine*.

***About NSTA:***

*The National School Transportation Association has been the voice of private school bus contractors, manufacturers and suppliers for over 50 years. The association provides school transportation professionals with the tools and resources they need to make school buses safe, affordable, and efficient nationwide.*

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