



# STS OF NJ

P.O. BOX 66, RARITAN, NJ 08869

Office: (908) 252-1991

Fax: (908) 575-7373

Email: Admin@njsts.org

December 6, 2023

Dear Members of STS of NJ:

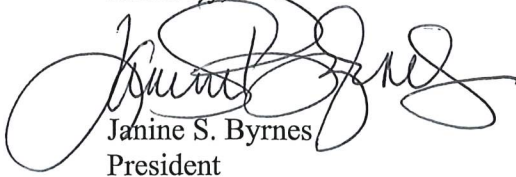
I am delighted to share the 2024 STS of NJ Pupil Transportation Conference information with you. We are grateful to be returning to the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, Atlantic City on March 20-22, 2024. This year we will open our conference on Wednesday, March 20, 2024 with a professional development session in collaboration with Rutgers Government Services. The three day event is filled with pupil transportation experts providing valuable training for all transportation professionals. Our Vendor show this year will be expanded to include breakout sessions for attendees, this will provide the opportunity to learn more about products and services that can enhance your daily operations.

Please take a moment to review the enclosed information. You will find the required registration form, hotel reservation instructions, NJDOE waiver and the conference daily schedule. The conference registration fee includes all events listed on the daily schedule. Hotel Rooms are not included and must be booked directly with the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino following the attached directions.

If you are returning to the conference this year, you will not be disappointed. I encourage you to invite a new transportation professional in your region to reap the benefits of this statewide event. The value of networking with your colleagues is immeasurable. Transportation Supervisors, Mechanics, Business Administrators, Transportation Support Staff and Vendors, we are looking forward to seeing you all in Atlantic City.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,



Janine S. Byrnes  
President

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**SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION SUPERVISORS OF NEW JERSEY**



**54th Annual New Jersey Pupil Transportation  
Conference and Equipment Show**  
Sponsored by:  
**School Transportation Supervisors of New Jersey, Inc.**  
**Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, Atlantic City**  
**March 20th – 22nd, 2024**

**CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Is this the first time you have attended an STS Conference? ( ) Yes ( ) No

\*\*\*ALL FEES ARE NON-REFUNDABLE. YOU MAY SEND A SUBSTITUTE\*\*\*

\*\*Guest fees are reserved for spouse or non-transportation personnel\*\*

	Member	Non Member	After 2/21/2024
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Conference	\$475.00	\$575.00	\$525.00 / \$625.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Daily rate (Please circle – 3/21 or 3/22)	\$250.00	\$350.00	\$300.00 / \$400.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Conference - Retiree	\$250.00		
<input type="checkbox"/> Mechanic's Program (Two days)	\$425.00		\$475.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Mechanic's Program (Please circle – 3/21 or 3/22)	\$250.00		\$300.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Guest of Member Full Conference	\$425.00		\$475.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Guest of Member Daily (Please circle – 3/21 or 3/22)	\$250.00		\$300.00

**\*\*Attendees MUST make room reservations directly with the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. Please see the attached instructions. \*\***

Conference registration fee for the full conference includes All Sessions, Events and Vendor Show.  
Room reservation fee for Wednesday and/or Thursday nights are in addition to conference fees.

Method of Payment:

☐ Check or Purchase Order made payable to STS of NJ, PO Box 66, Raritan, NJ 08869

Credit Card

**TO PAY BY CREDIT CARD, PLEASE REQUEST THAT AN INVOICE BE SENT TO YOU THROUGH SQUARE SO THAT YOU CAN CLICK THE LINK AND ENTER YOUR CREDIT CARD INFO DIRECTLY. EMAIL [ADMIN@NJSTS.ORG](mailto:ADMIN@NJSTS.ORG) TO REQUEST THE INVOICE.**



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## 54th Annual NJ Pupil Transportation Conference Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, Atlantic City

### 2024 ROOM RESERVATION INSTRUCTIONS

All Conference attendees **MUST** book their rooms directly with the hotel.

The group room rate is **\$96.00** per night.

**Group Code: GSTS24Z**

### DEADLINE TO BOOK ROOMS IN THE GROUP BLOCK

**February 21, 2024 - 9:00 AM**

Book your room online using the link below:

<https://book.passkey.com/go/GSTS24Z>

or

Contact the Hard Rock directly by phone:

609-449-6862

- When making the initial reservation your credit card will be charged for the first night. If you are paying with a PO please follow the directions included, your credit card will be refunded after the check is received. Checks must be received by the Hard Rock by February 19, 2024.

\* If you have any questions or issues booking your room, please contact Dolly Cristaudo, STS of NJ Facilities, at [fdccrist@comcast.net](mailto:fdccrist@comcast.net).

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**SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION SUPERVISORS OF NEW JERSEY**





ATLANTIC CITY

LOVE ALL. SERVE ALL.

**NJ STS 2024 CONF**

Please see the following guidelines regarding purchase orders.

- Guest(s) must make their hotel reservation prior to a purchase order being sent
  - A credit card is required when making the hotel reservation (no exceptions)
  - The credit card provided will be charged for the first night's room rate plus applicable taxes
  - When Hard Rock receives the check for the reservation, the credit card will be refunded
- Accounts Receivable will need to have the purchase order signed and returned within 2 weeks of the reservation being made.
  - Purchase orders can be emailed to [Jessica.Diaz@hrhcac.com](mailto:Jessica.Diaz@hrhcac.com) ;  
[groupfinance@hrhcac.com](mailto:groupfinance@hrhcac.com)
- Payment in full must be received no later than 30 days in advance of arrival. Accounts Receivable will need to have the check deposited (cleared) and posted to the reservation for a smooth check-in.

Following is the address to submit purchase orders, checks and ST-5 forms (ST-4 forms are NOT accepted):

Hard Rock Hotel & Casino  
1000 Boardwalk  
Atlantic City, NJ 08401  
Attn: Accounts Receivable/Jessica Diaz

Please be aware that any checks received with the incorrect amount or checks received that are not associated with a confirmed reservation will be returned to sender.

Following is a room night breakdown when a purchase order is used to reserve a room:

\$69.00 room rate
\$20.00 resort fee
\$ 7.00 tourism fee
<hr/>
\$96.00 per night

Checks must be received by **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19th, 2024** or the reservation(s) associated with the purchase order will be the responsibility of the guest.

No checks or purchase orders will be accepted at the Front Desk or after the event. The only exception to receive after event will be if PO has been previously signed (and on file) and the check is in route.



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PO Box 500

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

PHILIP D. MURPHY  
Governor

TAHESHA L. WAY  
Lt. Governor

ANGELICA ALLEN-McMILLAN, Ed.D.  
Acting Commissioner

November 6, 2023

Ms. Janine S. Byrnes, President  
School Transportation Supervisors of New Jersey  
PO Box 66  
Raritan, NJ 08869

Dear Ms. Byrnes:

The New Jersey Department of Education is in receipt of your letter submitted on behalf of School Transportation Supervisors of New Jersey (STS) requesting a waiver of the prohibition on overnight travel in order to facilitate the hosting of the STS Annual Conference planned for March 20 through 22, 2024, in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

As you are aware, *N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12* requires that boards of education must ensure that all school district travel expenditures are "in compliance with state travel payment guidelines as established by the Department of the Treasury..." *N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.11(b)* and State Department of the Treasury OMB Circular 16-11 Section X.B specifically prohibit reimbursement of in-state overnight travel. However, the circular and *N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.11(c)* authorize the Commissioner to grant overnight in-state travel waivers only in extremely limited circumstances, where the sponsoring organization can demonstrate that the conference is broad and multidisciplinary in scope, comprised of content-rich educational programming with important professional development opportunities and/or required training. In addition, the sponsoring organization must demonstrate that the conference's content, structure, scheduling, and anticipated attendance necessitate that it be held on multiple consecutive days with overnight lodging. Pursuant to the regulations, waivers will not be granted for reimbursement of lodging prior to the first day of the event or after check-out time of the last day of the event. The travel regulations are posted on the [NJDOE's website](https://www.nj.gov/education).

After carefully reviewing your submission, the NJDOE finds that the STS Annual Conference planned for March 20 through 22, 2024, meets the criteria of the regulations and is hereby approved. Because of this waiver, school districts, charter schools, and renaissance school projects will be able to reimburse eligible attendees for overnight lodging on **March 20 and 21, 2024** only, provided that the remaining conditions delineated in this letter are met.

Ms. Janine S. Byrnes  
November 6, 2023  
Page 2

Reimbursement for registration fees, mileage and meals, subject to the limitations and conditions set forth in OMB Circular 16-11 and OMB Circular 11-09, may also be permissible. School districts, charter schools, and renaissance school projects should ensure that they approve attendance only of board members, trustees, and employees whose duties are related to the purposes of the conference or who are required to attend to meet continuing education requirements as a condition of continued employment.

Moreover, please be advised that the waiver of the prohibition for reimbursement for overnight lodging covers only those attendees whose home to event commute exceeds 50 miles. In other words, only those individuals whose one-way commute to the Annual Conference in Atlantic City, NJ, exceeds 50 miles may obtain reimbursement from their school district, charter school or renaissance school project for overnight lodging for **March 20 and 21, 2024**.

Finally, I want to express my appreciation for the effort of the STS to provide professional development opportunities to those who strive to provide quality public education in New Jersey. My best wishes for a successful conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D.  
Acting Commissioner

AAM/SO/mp  
c: Senior Staff  
Executive County Superintendent

# 54th Annual NJ Pupil Transportation Conference

## Student Transportation Supervisors of NJ

*Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, Atlantic City, NJ*

**March 20 - 22, 2024**

### **Driving Transportation to the Next Level**

#### **Daily Schedule**

##### **3/20/2024 Wednesday:**

- 2:30 - 6:00 PM      Conference Registration Begins
- 4:15 - 5:45 PM      Fort Pierce (D) - All Attendees  
**Building and Sustaining Employee Engagement**  
Professional Development - RUTGERS Government Services  
*Presented by: Donna Conrad, MS, SPHR*
- 6:00 - 9:00 PM      Seminole Ballroom  
**STS Conference Welcome**  
Meet and Greet Networking Event for all Attendees  
\*\* Mardi Gras Theme \*\*

##### **3/21/2024 Thursday:**

- 6:30 - 7:45 AM      Seminole Ballroom  
Breakfast
- 7:30 - 4:30 PM      Registration Open
- 8:00 - 9:30 AM      Hollywood Ballroom (EAST) - Breakout 1  
**Baseline Assessment for Security Enhancement**  
Transportation Security Administration (TSA)  
*Presented by: Carol Randolph*
- Hollywood Ballroom (WEST) - Breakout 2  
**Transporting Special Education Students**  
*Presented by: Teena Mitchell, President of NAPT*
- 8:00 - 12:00 PM      Immoklee A - Mechanics Breakout 1  
**LDD-3005-4 Light Duty Diesel: Exhaust Aftertreatment Systems**  
Carquest Technical Institute  
*Presented by: Brian Ward*

9:45 - 11:15 AM	<p>Hollywood Ballroom (EAST) - All Attendees</p> <p><b>School Law Update: Transportation and Safety Issues</b></p> <p>Legal One</p> <p><i>Presented by: Sandra L. Jacques, Esq., LL.M.</i></p>
11:00 - 7:00 PM	<p>Seminole Ballroom</p> <p><b>Equipment and Vendor Show</b></p> <p>Preview and discuss new groundbreaking technology focusing on student safety and efficiency.</p>
12:00 - 1:00 PM	<p>Seminole Ballroom</p> <p>Lunch</p>
12:30 - 1:30 PM	<p>Seminole Ballroom - All Attendees</p> <p><b>30 Minute breakout classes</b> hosted by Vendors</p>
2:00 - 3:00 PM	<p>Hollywood Ballroom (EAST) - All Attendees</p> <p><b>Driving Transportation Costs Down</b></p> <p>Roundtable with Professional Panel</p>
2:00 - 5:00 PM	<p>Immoklee A - Mechanics Breakout 2</p> <p><b>HDD-5000-4 Heavy Duty Diesel: Advanced Diagnostic Techniques</b></p> <p>Carquest Technical Institute</p> <p><i>Presented by: Brian Ward, Carquest</i></p>
3:00 - 4:30 PM	<p>Hollywood Ballroom (EAST) - Breakout 1</p> <p><b>Baseline Assessment for Security Enhancement</b></p> <p>Transportation Security Administration (TSA)</p> <p><i>Presented by: Carol Randolph</i></p> <p>Hollywood Ballroom (WEST) - Breakout 2</p> <p><b>Transporting Special Education Students</b></p> <p><i>Presented by: Teena Mitchell, President of NAPT</i></p>
5:30 - 6:30 PM	<p>Seminole Ballroom - All Attendees</p> <p>Vendor Show Reception</p>
7:00 - 10:00 PM	<p>DAER Night Club - Vendor Sponsored Event</p>



**3/22/2024 Friday**

6:30 - 7:45 AM      Seminole Ballroom  
Breakfast

7:30 - 12:30 PM      Registration Open

8:00 - 12:00 PM      Hollywood Ballroom (EAST) -Breakout 1  
**604 - Prioritizing & Evaluating Operational Safety**  
National Association for Pupil Transportation (NAPT)  
*Presented by: Teena Mitchell, President of NAPT*

Hollywood Ballroom (WEST) - Breakout 2  
**704 - Strategic Planning for Transportation Department**  
National Association for Pupil Transportation (NAPT)  
*Presented by: Bill Kurts, NAPT Instructor*

8:00 - 12:00 PM      Immoklee A - Mechanics Breakout 2  
**HVAC-4000-4 Automotive HVAC Update**  
Carquest Technical Institute  
*Presented by: Brian Ward*

