

STS OF NJ

P.O. BOX 66, RARITAN, NJ 08869

Office: (908) 252-1991 Fax: (908) 575-7373 Email: Admin@njsts.org

December 3, 2025

Dear Members of STS of NJ:

I am delighted to share the 2026 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 25 -27, 2026. This year we will open our conference on Wednesday with an NAPT course beginning at 1:30 PM. The three day event is filled with pupil transportation experts providing valuable workshops for all transportation professionals. Our Vendor show will include breakout sessions for attendees, providing 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,

Valvine S. Byrnes President



56th 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 25-27, 2026

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Name:		Title	:	
Guest 1	Name:			
Emplo	yer:	,		
Busine	ess Address:			
Business Telephone:Fax:			E-Mail	
Is this	the first time you have attended an STS	S Conference?	() Yes	s () No
	***ALL FEES ARE NO **Guest fees are reserved for spouse			ersonnel** After 2/20/2026
			Member	
	Full Conference	\$500.00	\$600.00	\$550.00 / \$650.00
	Daily rate (Please circle – 3/26 or 3/27)	\$300.00	\$375.00	\$350.00 / \$425.00
	Full Conference - Retiree	\$275.00		
	Mechanic's Conference	\$475.00		\$525.00
	Mechanic's Daily rate (Please circle – 3/26 or 3/27)	\$300.00		\$350.00
	Guest of Member Full Conference	\$450.00		\$500.00
	Guest of Member Daily (Please circle – 3/26 or 3/27)	\$275.00		\$325.00

**Attendees MUST make room reservations directly with the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. Please see the attached instructions. **
Conference REGISTRATION DEADLINE 3/10/26 – NO EXCEPTIONS

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 Registration form MUST accompany PO or Check

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 TO REQUEST THE INVOICE.

56th Annual NJ Pupil Transportation Conference

Student Transportation Supervisors of NJ Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, Atlantic City, NJ March 25-27, 2026

Driving Excellence in Leadership

Daily Schedule

3/25/2026 Wednesday:

12:30 - 5:30 PM

Conference Registration Begins

1:30 - 5:30 PM

Fort Pierce (D) - Breakout 1

Overseeing Fleet Maintenance Program, Course #501

National Association of Pupil Transportation

Presented by: Dr. Peter Lawrence

6:30 - 9:00 PM

Seminole Ballroom

STS Conference Welcome

Meet and Greet Networking Event for all Attendees "and the OSCAR goes to....." a RED Carpet Event

3/26/2026 Thursday:

7:00 - 8:30 AM

Seminole Ballroom

Breakfast

7:30 - 4:30 PM

Registration Open

8:00 - 11:00 AM

Hollywood Ballroom (EAST) - Breakout 2

Leadership Development Workshop

Dale Carnegie

Presented by: Don Warketin, Vice President of Training

Andy Zinsmeister, Managing Director

9:15 - 9:45 AM

Seminole Ballroom

Beverage Break

9:30 - 11:00 AM	Hollywood Ballroom (WEST) - Breakout 3 Clarity and Impact: Setting Expectations for Success Professional Development - RUTGERS Government Services Presented by: Trish Nolfi
8:00 - 11:30 PM	Immokalee A - Mechanics Breakout 1 Cummins Factory Training - Part 1 Presented by: Russ Mager Gregory Diaz
11:00 - 6:45 PM	Seminole Ballroom Equipment and Vendor Show Preview and discuss new groundbreaking technology focusing on student safety and efficiency.
12:00 - 1:00 PM	Seminole Ballroom Lunch
12:45 - 1:45 PM	Seminole Ballroom 30 Minute breakout classes hosted by Vendors
2:00 - 3:15 PM	Hollywood Ballroom (EAST) - Breakout 4 Supervisors Transportation Discussion Interactive with live QR code questions Presented by: Expert Panelists
2:00 - 3:15 PM	Hollywood Ballroom (WEST) - Breakout 5 Federal Motor Carrier Presented by: Chris Rotondo
2:00 - 5:00 PM	Immokalee A - Mechanics Breakout 2 Cummins Factory Training - Part 2 Presented by: Russ Mager Gregory Diaz
3:00 - 3:30 PM	Seminole Ballroom Beverage Break
3:45 - 5:00 PM	Hollywood Ballroom (EAST) - Breakout 6 Steering Toward Safety: Empowering your Team and Preventing Risk Transportation Safety Consultants Presented by: Eric Heitmann

5:15 - 6:45 PM Seminole Ballroom

Vendor Show Reception

7:00 - 10:00 PM The Balcony at the Hard Rock - Vendor Sponsored Event

3/27/2026 Friday

7:00 - 8:30 AM Seminole Ballroom

Breakfast

7:30 - 12:30 PM Registration Open

9:00 - 12:00 PM Hollywood Ballroom (EAST/WEST) - Breakout 7

School Law Update: Transportation and Safety Issues

Legal One

Presented by: Sandra L. Jacques, Esq., LL.M.





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56th Annual NJ Pupil Transportation Conference Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, Atlantic City

2026 ROOM RESERVATION INSTRUCTIONS

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

The group room rate is \$107.00 per night.

Group Code: GSTS26Z

DEADLINE TO BOOK ROOMS IN THE GROUP BLOCK March 10, 2026 - 9:00 AM

Book your room online using the link below:

https://book.passkey.com/go/GSTS26Z

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 24, 2026.

* If you have any questions or issues booking your room, please contact Dolly Cristaudo, STS of NJ Facilities, at fdccrist@comcast.net.



LOVE ALL. SERVE ALL.

NJ STS 2026

Please see the following guidelines regarding purchase orders.

- Guest(s) must have their hotel reservation booked prior to a purchase order being sent
- Accounts Receivable MUST have the purchase order signed (HRAC policy) and returned within 2 weeks of the reservation being booked. PO <u>MUST</u> have attendees listed to ensure correct check application. Purchase orders can be emailed to Jessica. Diaz@hrhcac.com; groupfinance@hrhcac.com
- Payment in full must be received no later than **30 days** in advance of arrival. All reservations MUST have correct dates, and all cancellations will need to be submitted to Customer Care PRIOR to sending payment.
- 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. ST-5 forms are to be sent if no PO is being submitted (ST-4 document is NOT accepted):

Hard Rock Hotel & Casino AC 1000 Boardwalk Atlantic City, NJ 08401

Attn: Accounts Receivable/Jessica Diaz

Please be aware that any checks received with the incorrect total (not matching total on PO sent) or checks received that are not associated with a confirmed reservation will be returned to sender. A check will also be sent back if there is no PO in file for the check received.

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

\$75.00 room rate \$ 25.00 resort fee \$ 7.00 tourism fee

\$107.00 per night

Checks must be received by FEB 24TH, or the reservation(s) associated with the purchase order will be paid by credit card reservation was booked with. Late check-out/early check-in & parking fees are not to be included in Purchase Order total, as these are incidentals and must be paid via cc. No checks or purchase orders will be accepted at the Front Desk or after the event.



PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor
TAHESHA L. WAY

Lt. Governor

State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
PO Box 500
TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

KEVIN DEHMER Commissioner

October 22, 2025

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

Re: Approval of Overnight Travel Waiver for 2026 STS NJ Annual Conference

Dear Ms. Byrnes:

The New Jersey Department of Education has reviewed your request submitted on behalf of the School Transportation Supervisors of New Jersey (STS) seeking a waiver of the in-state overnight travel restriction to support the STS Annual Conference in Atlantic City, New Jersey scheduled for March 25 - 27, 2026.

Under N.J.S.A. 18A:11-12, N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.11, and the State Department of Treasury OMB Circular 16-11, reimbursement for in-state overnight travel is generally prohibited. However, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23A-7.11(c), exceptions may be granted for events that are broad and multidisciplinary in scope, comprised of content-rich educational programming, and offer important professional development opportunities or required training. After carefully reviewing your submission, it has been determined that the conference meets these criteria and is hereby approved.

Waiver Approval Details:

- Overnight lodging reimbursement is approved for March 25 and 26, 2026 only.
- Reimbursement is limited to attendees whose one-way commute exceeds 50 miles.
- Registration fees, mileage and meals may be reimbursed per the OMB Circulars 20-04 and 16-11.
- Districts must ensure attendance is limited to staff whose roles align with the conference's purpose or continuing education requirements.

We appreciate STS NJ's commitment to advancing education and wish you a successful event.

Sincerely,

Kevin Dehmer Commissioner

KD/DC/mp c: Senior Staff

Executive County Superintendent



· Conference Attendees & Vendors You ore Invited!

<u>and the oscar goes to...</u>

A RED CARPET EVENT

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25TH, 2026

6:30PM - 9:00PM

\$1,500.00 IN DOOR PRIZES

MOST OUTRAGEOUS \$150

BEST RED CARPET LOOK (MALE) \$200

BEST RED CARPET LOOK (FEMALE) \$200

Seminole Bollroom

HARD ROCK HOTEL & CASINO 1000 BOARDWALK ATLANTIC CITY, NJ 08401