



### **Dustin Wells, Haywood, Davie, & Pamlico receive awards at NCPTA CONFERENCE**

Dustin Wells from Pitt County Schools wins the NC Best Bus Inspector contest. On his sixth attempt he earns the top spot. Dustin received \$500.00 and an all expense paid trip to the “America’s Best” inspector competition in Kansas City later in the fall. The three buses were “rigged” by former national champions Rick Jennings and Danny Reed. All of the competitors who have previously had experience in this competition commented on the difficulty of finding defects over prior years.

Dustin who is a Tech II, has been employed by Pitt Co schools for 10 years. Dustin stated “I inspected the buses in the contest exactly as I do every day”. Dustin further states “I am dedicated to the safety of the kids whom ride buses and this competition highlights this endeavor”.



“I credit my supportive wife Ashlee for my ability to focus on work in order to keep my buses safe”  
Dustin said he arrived home after the conference to a family festivity including “chalk sidewalk art” drawn by his four children celebrating his win.  
“I am excited and honored to represent NC at the national competition”



Dustin pictured here being congratulated by his co-workers dedicates his win to his deceased grandfather whom he owes much of his “determination and focus” to. Dustin thanks his boss Joey Weathington, for allowing participation in the NCPTA sponsored competition event.



2<sup>nd</sup> place victory and \$300.00 goes to Tom Sullivan (center) from Dare County. Tom is no stranger to the competition and has previously placed in the top three. Tom also has a very supportive wife who challenges him to study vigorously for the contest. He is pictured with his boss and out-going NCPTA president David Twiddy (left) and Randy Henson, state coordinator of the Inspection competition. As part of his victory prize, Tom is offered the opportunity to travel to Kansas City in the fall to participate in the America’s Best Technician competition.



Ralph on the left, is presented a Third place check for 200.00 by Randy Henson

Ralph Trango, Team leader and Trainer from Wake County finished 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Ralph has previously placed in all three finish slots and has competed in this event for 9 years. He has been to America’s Best on two occasions, placing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 2011 national technician contest. “By having Danny Reed and Rick Jennings prepare the buses the defects were ramped up to a level similar to the national events I have previously entered” states Ralph.

The top 12 in order of finish

Pitt	Wells	Dustin
Dare	Sullivan	Tom
Wake	Trango	Ralph
Yadkin	Speer	Tim
Wake	Brown	Terry
Union	Tarleton	Buck
Brunswick	Callender	Rick
Wake	Dew	Robert
Brunswick	Johnson	Delwood
Lenoir	Daughety	Michael
Johnston	Parker	Dale
Robeson	Boganwright	Larry



The top twelve receive recognition at the NCPTA awards ceremony. They all received an LED work light and a screwdriver set.

**SCENES FROM THE 2014 COMPETITION**







**Thanks to all of the competitors who took time to participate and the folks who help make this event a success.**

*A special thanks goes out to;*

*-Dare County Schools for providing the buses used in the competition.*

*-NCPTA & GHSP for financial sponsorship*



# DPI ANNUAL TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT INSPECTION AWARDS

The “best inspection” banners were handed out at the NCPTA award session at Kill Devil Hills on June 26<sup>th</sup>.



1<sup>st</sup> place Eastern Region-Pamlico County Transportation Department



1<sup>st</sup> place Central Region-Davie County Transportation Department



1<sup>st</sup> place Western Region-Haywood County Transportation Department

**Congratulations go out to all of the transportation employees for the extra effort it takes to win the banner.**