

Course Descriptions

Advisory Board Meeting – NCPTA State Officers and Board Members discuss association business. New slate of officers will be announced. Committees will report. Facilitator: Patsy Hudson, NCPTA President

App-Garden Product Demo – This session will introduce the product for information.
Presenter: Tammy Cook

App-Garden Travel Tracker – This session will offer course training on tips and tricks using Excel. Formatting tips, how to build pivot tables and charts. Also how to make the most of excel and reporting.
Presenter: Tammy Cook

Ask the Field Guys - This session is a review of defects found during school bus inspections this year and an opportunity for LEA staff to talk with the DPI staff that performed those inspections. Facilitators: Keith Whitley, Danny Reed, Anthony Avant

Background Investigation Bureau – Software demonstration to assist with the DOT Medical cards. Presenter: Sean Miller

Blue Bird Riffled Air A/C System Training and T/S – The class will go over system component location, maintenance best practices, technical resource material and trouble shooting. Attendees and classes are scheduled based on the beginning letter of your LEA. Presenter: Joe Cogburn
Classes are scheduled for LEAs A Thru M - N Thru Y

Blue-Bird Multiplex Overview and T/S – The class will go over component location, system logic and using proper troubleshooting material to diagnose electrical issues. Attendees and classes are scheduled based on the beginning letter of your LEA. Presenter: Joe Cogburn - Class is given a total of two times. A Thru M - N Thru Y

Blue Bird Bendix Stability Control System and Automatic Disc Brake Training – The class will consist of proper inspection process, proper brake pad replacement, system components theory and how they function. Presenter: Joe Cogburn and Jack Seal (From Bendix)
Classes are scheduled for LEAs A Thru M - N Thru Y

Blue Bird Part 123 Advanced Training – This class will go over all the parts resource material available to the customer. Parts counter representatives should all attend this class. Presenter: Joe Cogburn and Don Dulong (from Blue Bird Parts)

Bosch Discussing Diesel After-treatment System Overview – Jeff Hopkins, Presenter

Exhaust gas after-treatment systems are an integral part of today's common rail diesel vehicles and understanding how to diagnose and service these emissions control systems is critical for optimal vehicle operation and longevity of these expensive components. In order to reduce Nitrogen-oxide (NOx) output, many vehicle manufacturers have elected to utilize a Selective Catalyst Reduction (SCR) system. This session sponsored by Bosch will provide the information needed to understand and diagnose passenger car and heavy duty diesel Denoxtronic systems. Topics Covered:

1. Overview of after-treatment system components
2. Review of common rail pressure system
3. Review of SCR DeNOx theory of operation
4. Denoxtronic 3.1 passenger car system overview
5. Denoxtronic 2.2 heavy commercial and off highway system overview
6. Review diagnostic and service procedures

BSIP - Director's Report – How to interpret the monthly transportation director's report and address issues.
Presenter: NCDPI

BSIP - Fuel Receipt and Issuing Via ZFE2 and ZFUEL This class will show users how to receive fuel, verify proper receipt, and issue fuel to vehicles via two different methods. The class concentrates on the accuracy of fuel data input and odometer readings, as well as identifying issues with incoming fueling data and resolving them. Presenter: NCDPI

BSIP - Bus Parts Inventory–Searching, Stocking, and Verification - This class will focus on BSIP parts inventory; item search, new item application requests, and extension of the item to LEAs plant, items stocking, and verification of proper receipt. Presenter: NCPI

BSIP - Making Corrections-How to cancel and properly correct errors – This class will show users how to correct entry errors. It will deal with incorrect parts, time and how to make cancellation and corrections. Presented by: NCDPI

BSIP - Shortcuts and Tips- Ways to work smarter, not harder with tips from fellow users and introductions to some of the tools already available that you may or may not be using yet. Presented by: NCDPI

BSIP – Work Order Printing, Entry, and Storage – This class will focus on work orders; 30 day inspections, preventative maintenance plans, and TD-18 maintenance orders. Concentration on the components of data (expectations, verifications, and input) along with work order printing and storage. Presented by: NCDPI

BSIP - TD-1 Annual Report – This class will focus on the TD-1 annual report components that come specifically from BSIP and the steps necessary to gather the data. Presented by: NCDPI

BSIP TD-10 Bus Inventory Class (No. of Buses Operated Annually) – The class will explore how to be effective and efficient when planning for the annual TD-10 report in the spring each year. Participants will be taught, with the assistance of BSIP reports, to review bus data and make decisions at the beginning of the school year, which will enable them to correctly report buses operated on the TD-10 bus inventory form. Presented by: NCDPI

Build a Best Practice Alternative Transportation RFP – School districts face many challenges in supporting special needs transportation and it is critical to contract with the right partner. Many school districts struggle in developing RFPs. While they recognize that alternative transportation solutions differ from traditional bus services, they tend to struggle with how to develop the right RFP for their school needs. Presented by: Maritza Valentin, ALC Student Transportation Solutions.

Bus Concerns across the State Database on the Web...Let's Get it Started – This session will allow members to discuss items to be placed on NCPTA's web page. The class will create a new problem and solution database for technicians to share. Presented by Anthony Avant, NCDPI

Bus Drivers – From the Application to the Bus – This session will cover the process of driver recruitment, application processes and training. Presenter, Valeria Jones, New Hanover County Schools

Bus Garage Security – How Safe is Your Workplace – Presenter, David Spencer, New Hanover County Schools

Buster Programs, Repairs and Maintenance – Learn the different sketches used to teach student school bus safety. This session will also cover operating Buster at the state fair. This session will cover repairs made to keep Buster looking and running great. Presented by: Gail Baker, Wilson County Schools and Mickey Michael, Retired, ITRE

Carolina Thomas AC Basics, Theory and Operation - This class is designed for the beginner or as a refresher for the more experienced techs. We will cover theory and principles of operation, automotive refrigeration, electric controls, and temperature control systems. This class includes training in diagnosis, testing, service and repair. Class Instructor: Jamie McCaskill, Journeyman Technician.

LEAs A Thru M Class and LEAs - N Thru Y Class (4 HRs)

Carolina Thomas Basic Electrical Theory and Operation - This course will take you back to the basics and covers electrical theory, electrical terms, wiring diagrams, test equipment, diagnostics and repair. Topics include circuit construction, wiring diagrams, circuit testing, and trouble shooting. Upon completion, technicians should be able to use a DVOM, Properly construct electrical circuits, understand wiring diagrams, diagnose, test, and repair simple wiring circuits. Class instructors: Vinnie Rivera, Service Manager at Carolina Thomas and Harold McMillian, Journeyman Technician.

LEAs A Thru M Class and LEAs - N Thru Y Class (4 HRs)

Changing Tires - Safety & Procedures – This session will cover safety issues for your tire room, industry standards and accident prevention. Instructor: Joey Humphrey, Blacks Tire

Charter Bus Inspection – This session will cover all procedures from inspection charter buses and best practices of sharing approved charter bus companies. Presenter, Tammy Davis and Tralisia Owens, Union County

Closing Session and Dinner - This is a working dinner. We will have our business meeting and election of officers. The officers will take their oath of office. We will announce award winners and service pins.

District 5 Meeting – This session is for all NCPTA District 5 members to attend. There will be a full meeting to elect officers and conduct business. Facilitator: Johnathon Ash, District 5 President

DMV Staff Leadership Training – These classes are for DMV staff only. Classes will be held in the conference center.

DMV –Q & A Session for Directors – This is a session designed for director to ask questions concerning information new or changed policies regarding school buses. Presenter: Paul Dlouhy, DMV

DPI Updates – Staff from DPI will provide updates to LEA staff on the happenings in the Legislature and any other information relevant for the school year. Presenter: Kevin Harrison, State Director of Transportation for North Carolina.

Education Logistics Enhance Transportation Communication with Parents - With EDULOG's Parent Portal, parents will no longer have to call into the transportation department asking questions like "Where is the bus?" or "Why is the bus late?" This session will demonstrate how to provide parents with peace of mind via a routing-enhanced mobile application that allows parents to view the real-time location of their student's bus as it travels between the bus stops and the school, all displayed on a clean Google map overlay. Presenter: Derek Graham

Education Logistics Data Analysis - GPS in Routing (Comparative Analysis on one screen), New Geocode and Boundary Editor. You will learn about new functionality being released for TIMS. Presenter: Andy Leibenguth

Education Logistics GPS and Parent App Product Demo – This session will introduce you to Edulog's new GPS product, how it integrates with TIMS, the parent notification smart phone app and mobile data terminals (MDTs) for drivers. The MDT is home to Edulog's Driver Portal which interfaces with Edulog's Driver Time and Attendance, Student Ridership and Driver Directions. Presenter: Derek Graham

Ensuring Educational Stability for Children in Foster Care – Children in foster care represent one of our most vulnerable groups of children in the country. When compared to their peers, studies have shown student in care struggle more academically, can experience more school instability and have lower graduation rates. This presentation will provide an overview of the new federal protections under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) for children in care and how collaboration between health and human services and education is working to improve the educational success for students in foster care.
Presenter: Sara Bigley, State Coordinator for Foster Care

E-Zoil – Keep It Clean People – Keeping your buses clean inside and out. This session will review additives that will keep the school buses running in prime condition in any weather including a preventative maintenance topic. How to remove graffiti from bus seats, non-running glass cleaner and air purifiers will be demonstrated. Presenter: Glenn Miller

Go Energies Product Demo – This session will cover computer software designed for LEAs to easily complete work orders for fuel. Presenter: Phil Dorroll, President

Google Docs Class – This session will cover using Goggle drive and using google for meetings.
Presenter, John Warf

Grow Your Own – This session will encourage discussion between LEAs on the subject of where and how you find employees. Do you have an active vocational program that encourages and trains individuals to meet your job requirements? Presenters: Jim Pressly and Trey Michael, NCDPI-CTE

How Are Your Service Trucks Organized? – What do you need on your trucks to make your work day complete? Are you sure you have enough or too much? Share your LEAs ideas on what is a best practice.
Instructor: Cumberland County

How to Use IC Bus University and Diagnosis Software – This class will provide information on how to enroll in courses, complete courses and printing certificates. The class will include engine, electrical and body diagnostics training. The class is one hour. Presenter: Steve Kappus, White's International

How To Use Diagnosis Software – Allison – Technicians today are using technology to diagnose bus repairs daily. It is critical that they are trained not only to make the repairs, but how to use the software designed to assist them.

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IC Brake Training – This class will give training for heavy duty foundation brakes. Training program is designed to address customer's immediate products-and-systems technical training needs on undercarriage and drivetrain after-market components. This training will include both S-Cam Drum Brakes and Air Disc Brakes. This training will focus on service awareness and repair for service managers and service technicians.

Class is given a total of 2 times. . . A Thru M - N Thru Y

Trainer: Doug King

IC Bus Air Conditioning Training / Trans/Air Mfg. - Troubleshooting and Maintenance – This class will cover the basics of air conditioning, preventative maintenance and troubleshooting. Basics of air conditioning will cover each component and its function and how the system works. The preventative maintenance section covers all the routine inspection points and schedule. Troubleshooting gets in depth on diagnosing common issues on systems including proper evacuation and charging procedures.

Class is given a total of 2 times. A Thru M - N Thru Y

Presenter: Michael Johannesen

IC - Cummins Engine Diagnostics – In this 4 hour training course we will cover some of the most recent service procedure changes on the EPA 2013 and 2017 ISB6.7 / B6.7 engines. We will also give a review of the AfterTreatment systems. The course also includes the most recent changes with Cummins Engine and AfterTreatment Diagnostics. We will be using the Expert Diagnostic System and the latest version of the Insite software to support our most recent diagnostic strategies. Attendees and classes are scheduled based on the beginning letter of your LEA. Presenter: Fred Cox

Class is given a total of two times. A Thru M - N Thru Y

Implementing HCTB App and Other Public Facing Technologies – Parental notification apps such as Here Comes The Bus require synchronization between planned routes in TIMS and GPS tracks. Wake County Schools will share experiences with the app and the use of PowerSchool, SchoolMessenger, and other public facing technologies to improve customer experiences. Presented by Jeff Tsai and Bonner Sluder, Wake County

Integrated Child Seat and Lap Shoulder Belted Seat Repair and Maintenance – This class will give the technician hands on step by step instruction on how to repair, maintain and change covers on integrated child seats and the seats with lap/shoulder belts. We will show you the quick and easy way to keep your Syn-Tec seats in great condition on your Thomas Buses. Instructed: Rick Smith

Leece-Neville Heavy Duty Systems, Understanding the School Bus Charging System - This course discusses what it takes to properly maintain the charging system on school buses. Discussion includes an overview of the battery, alternator, cabling and connections, testing and replacements, system interactions, under hood temperatures and product support.

Presenter: Marion Jett

Lost Child Protocol...The Dreaded Phone Call – This session will cover what procedures you should have in place when a parent calls concerning a lost child. Presenter, Dianne Grumelot, Executive Director, Cumberland County

Lube Sample and Lube Alert – Citgo Petroleum – Instructor: Scott Evers

NC Best Bus Inspector Contest Written Exam – The contestants for the competition will take the first part of the contest, the written exam. The top 12 scores will go on to compete in the hands-on test.

Presenter: DPI Staff

NC Best Bus Inspector Contest – Top Twelve Hands On – The top twelve contestants compete with each other for the title of Best Bus Inspector. Presenter: NCDPI Staff

NC Bus Inspector Certification Course – Inspection certification and re-certification class. Presenter: DPI Staff

NC Bus Inspector Certification Test – Inspection certification and re-certification test. Remember for re-certification test a twenty-hour verification form must be turned in at the time of testing. Presenter: DPI Staff

NCBUSSAFETY Web Data Review – This session is will cover the current data found on NCBUSSAFETY web page and the migration to a new web platform. Presenter: Kevin Harrison, State Director

NC School Bus Crash Data – This session will cover a report on all accidents involving school buses across the state. Presenter: Kevin Harrison, State Director

NC School Bus Specification Committee Meeting – This session is only open to those members who serve on this committee.

Opening Session – The NCPTA President, along with local dignitaries will welcome members to the transposium. A dinner will be served.

OSHA – A session to cover workplace safety. Presenter, James Washington, Safety Education Specialist, North Carolina Department of Labor.

Reducing Tire Cost Through Effective Maintenance - Easy to find dollars that may be hidden in your tire program. Learn how to utilize Out-Service-Tire-Analysis and performance tracking to reduce tire cost. Presenter: Terry Lewis

Ricon Wheelchair Lift Training – Basic maintenance and diagnostics with troubleshooting of the Ricon S&K series product lines – Instructor: Matt Melleady, Ricon Lifts

Road Safety Class for Supervisors and Technicians – This session will cover safety tips for every member who is on the road daily in their job. Instructor: Kevin Davis, Cumberland County

Roundtable for Cost Clerks – This open format session will allow people to converse about issues and solutions they face with BSIP and other areas of transportation. We all face the same challenges and sometimes hearing what a neighbor has accomplished just might help you as well. Facilitator:

Roundtable for Directors - Come join fellow transportation administrators from around the state discuss current issues and resolutions. Perhaps someone has an idea that has paid off in their LEA that can benefit you. Facilitator: Kevin Griffin, Director Moore County Schools

Roundtable for Technicians– This session is designed for mechanics only. The session will provide an opportunity for fellow mechanics to openly share their challenges and successes. Facilitator: Kevin Davis, Cumberland County Schools

Roundtable for TIMS Data Managers – This will be a TIMS networking session for only TIMS personnel; bring your tips, suggestions and experience to this session. Facilitator: Dwayne Black, Robeson County

Roundtable for Special Needs – Here you can network with colleagues in an open dialogue on Special Needs Transportation in your operation. Facilitator: Deb Zeiber, Cumberland County Schools

Safe Fleet – Seon – This session will cover wireless video downloads and live GPS with camera interaction. Instructor: Joy Walsh, Safe Fleet/Seon Company

Safety Assistant Training for Special Needs Department – This session will cover the training program for the safety assistants on school buses across our state. Presented by: Gwen Ratcliff, Assistant Director of Transportation, Brunswick County

School Bus Evacuation Training Workshop – The class will cover how to perform school bus evacuations. The instructor is Marge McGill. She is a Transportation Coordinator from Johnston County Transportation Services

School Bus Maintenance and Operations for New Transportation Staff - The class will explore sections of the "Transportation Directors Manual". Sections covered will be fleet maintenance and school bus operations. The participant will learn about NCDPI policy and procedure as it relates to school buses. Presented by: NCDPI

Sensory Perception Disability – What if the squeak of the strobe light on a bus drives a student crazy? What if the EC child is yelling in his chair makes another student scream and cover their ears? We will cover how to handle sensory perception situations on the bus. Presenter, Carol Bowes, Director of Transportation, Person County

Service Animals and School Transportation – Presented by Leonard Campbell, Cabarrus County

Social Workers and Transportation Staff... Opening a Dialogue – This session will allow both departments the opportunity to share challenges and achievements in school transportation. This is a new class and a new opportunity to bridge any gaps past or present between the two departments. Presenter: Charly Farrow and Rebecca McSwain, New Hanover County Schools

Special Needs – Why we do What We Do? Do we really have to transport that student? Why? A class to learn why and when we do EC transportation, what is required by law and if we really do have to transport...how? Presenter: Carol Bowes, Director, Person County, Certified Director and Special Needs Certification through the National Association of Pupil Transportation.

Special Needs - Adaptive Equipment and the IEP – What equipment is available for the safe transportation of EC students and how do you write it into the IEP. Presenter: Carol Bowes, Director, Person County

State Bus Driver Rodeo - The best drivers in the state come to Ashley High in Wilmington, having placed in the top ten in their district ROADeo. They come to compete for the title of "Best School Bus Driver in North Carolina." They will take a test, go over the rules, and share a meal with NCPTA members.

State Surplus Property – Presented by: Stan Black, Areas covered will be:

Data entry procedures, making sure that the funds are redistributed correctly back to your garage location.
First Thursday Training Sessions and Webinar Classes
Using our Helpful Information Page
Property Description Entry.... Who, What, When and Where
Mandatory Contracts and Vendors...Pricing Magic
What happens when funds are not entered or incorrectly entered...?
SSP Contacts for questions and information

Steps to Implement a Stop Arm Camera Enforcement Program - This session will cover lessons learned implementing stop arm camera enforcement programs across the nation. Our team of stop arm camera enforcement program experts will teach members how to implement their own program and navigate all the difficult channels of getting a community program off the ground. We will focus strictly on the steps that districts need to take and not who to take those steps with. Presenter: Katie Sparkey, BusPatrol America.

Stop Arm Violation Joint Meeting with Law Enforcement and Judicial Officials – A panel discussion on enforcement of stop arm violations. This is an opportunity for all departments and agencies involved with a violation to come together share concerns. Presenter: Derek Graham, Graham Consulting and Ken Nance, Transportation Director, New Hanover County Schools

Synovia Training—This class is designed for members who have Synovia. You will learn shortcuts and hear success stories from across the state. Presenter: Eddie Sutton

TAG Meeting – A session to discuss major school transportation issue. Open for all members to attend. This session is facilitated by: Don Burns.

TDTIMS for Transportation Directors and Supervisors –This session will help transportation administrators better understand the annual TDTIMS Audit, how to correctly repair the TD2 (Headcounts) and TD2R (Buses, Miles, Drivers Hours) Reports as well as better understand TIMS data and how to look for potential errors. Presenter: ITRE/UNCC Staff

Technicians' Corner on the Web...Let's Get it started. – This session will allow technicians to come together and discuss creating a database on the NCPTA's web page. This will allow the opportunity for technicians to share ideas and concerns with one another. This is a beginning phase and we will need your input. Facilitator: Tony Leak, Caswell County

TIMS ESQL Experience – The TIMS ESQL experience is a demo with some hands on activity within the Edulog ESQL module. TIMS ESQL includes google street maps and satellite imagery backgrounds as well as many enhanced search and assignment features to help with daily bus routing. Presented by TIMS Staff

TIMS for Transportation Directors and Supervisors – This session will help transportation administrators better understand bus routing concepts to achieve a better operation as well as discuss strategies for getting better student data from parents, schools and drivers. Presenter: ITRE/UNCC Staff

TIMS Reports for Open House, Schools, Drivers and Accident Reports – This session will cover a variety of different report options available from TIMS. Driver packets for the first day of school and/or sub-drivers during the year, master spreadsheets for open house, accident reports for emergency officials and more. Presenter: ITRE/UNCC Staff

TIMS Through The Year – This session will discussed the various seasons of TIMS...Developing August routes, opening school, implementing and improving routes during the year, spring time ridership surveys, preparing for summer school transportation and then back to developing August routes. Presenter: ITRE/UNCC Staff

TIMS Advanced Topics – This session will cover a variety of intermediate to advanced TIMS topics; such as transfer stops, work list for advanced reports, ESQL tricks for drawing in MARIS, boundary work, etc. The session will also feature a general Q/A with TIMS Project Leaders and if you come prepared with any questions, you may get a chance to stump the trainers. Presenter: ITRE/UNCC Staff

TIMS 2019 Bus Routing Competition (Sponsored by Edulog) – Are you the best TIMS operator in North Carolina? Come put your Edulog skills to the test versus other bus routers from across the state in the first annual TIMS Bus Routing Competition. Similar to the school bus inspector competition, TIMS operators will be given a bus routing scenario to complete in Edulog and a winner will be chosen based on the final results of the bus routes created. This competition will require a full array of TIMS skills; from creating new stops, runs and routes, to shifting school bell times, reverse/copying runs, adding double loads to a bus, creating alternate stops form am/pm assignments, using work lists and advanced searches, assigning students to stops, running driver reports, etc. The competition is limited to 20 contestants. Presented by: ITRE/UNCC Staff

Tort Claims – Judicial Decision Affecting Local LEAs – This session will cover new rulings from the NC State Supreme Court that directly affect local LEAs. Presenter: Shelly Perry, Tort Claims Investigator Supervisor, NCDOJ

Tort Claims Paperwork and Procedures—The North Carolina Tort Claims Act allows parties to bring a claim against the state of North Carolina. There are many special rules, exceptions and notice requirements involved when you sue a North Carolina governmental unit and the laws dictating what the government can be sued for and how are extremely complicated. This session will cover the proper way to complete paperwork. It will also discuss procedures. Presenter: Shelly Perry, Tort Claims Investigator Supervisor, NCDOJ

Trade Show – Meet the vendors who supply our buses and everything in between. See new and innovative ideas from companies across the nation. Take a stroll through the expo center and meet vendors and discuss transportation needs.

Trade Show for Decision Makers Only— This allows directors and supervisors who make purchasing decisions early access with the vendors. They will also have lunch with them.

Transportation Funding and Budget Rating Simulator - Learn the basics of transportation funding as well as how to use the budget rating simulator to look at how changes in operations will impact your funding. Presented by: NCDPI

Transportation Requirements for Students Experiencing Homelessness - This session will provide participants will an outline of the transportation requirements under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) for students who are experiencing homeless. Discussion on working with the local homeless liaisons, strategies for providing the most cost-effective transportation services for students to and from school, and determining the best interest of a student will also be addressed. Presenter: Lisa Phillips, State Coordinator for Homeless Education

Type C School Bus, Service Trucks, Fuel and Wrecker Specification Class – A new type c school bus contract has been awarded by purchasing and contracts. The class will discover what's new on the Type C bus specifications for a school bus. It will include a review of the service trucks, fuel and wrecker specifications and orders. Participants will be able to provide feedback on what is good and what is not good for vehicles. Presented by: NCDPI

Ultimate Solution for Managing DOT Medical Cards— Proven solutions to help manage, track, and follow up with all DOT medical cards. No more excel spreadsheets, folders, or manual processes. BIB is pleased to share our Occupational Health Services Platform. The platform will reduce the administrative burden; easily track the status of an applicant, auto-notifications 90-60-30 days prior to DOT Medical Card certification expiration, flexible payment options and real time results. Presenter: Sean Miller, OHS, - Background Investigation Bureau

What's New with Mobile Lifts for Fleet Maintenance - This class is being offered for all technicians. See what is new in lifts for fleet maintenance. Instructor: Randy Linhart, Alan Tye & Associates

Wheelchair Hookup and Security Procedures – Presented by David Grant, Master Trainer and President of Grants Service Company.