



# STS OF NJ

P.O. BOX 66, RARITAN, NJ 08869

Office: (908) 252-1991

Fax: (908) 575-7373

Email: Admin@njsts.org

December 4, 2024

Dear Members of STS of NJ:

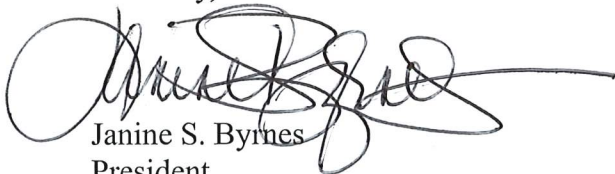
I am delighted to share the 2025 STS of NJ Pupil Transportation Conference information with you. We are grateful to be returning to the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, Atlantic City on March 26 -28, 2025. This year we will open our conference on Wednesday, March 26, 2025 with a professional development session 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 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,



Janine S. Bynes  
President



**55th 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 26 - 28, 2025**

**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\*\*\*

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

	Member	Non Member	After 2/21/2025
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Conference	\$500.00	\$600.00	\$550.00 / \$650.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Daily rate (Please circle – 3/27 or 3/28)	\$300.00	\$375.00	\$350.00 / \$425.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Conference - Retiree	\$275.00		
<input type="checkbox"/> Mechanic's Conference	\$475.00		\$525.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Mechanic's Daily rate (Please circle – 3/27 or 3/28)	\$300.00		\$350.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Guest of Member Full Conference	\$450.00		\$500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Guest of Member Daily (Please circle – 3/27 or 3/28)	\$275.00		\$325.00

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

**Conference REGISTRATION DEADLINE 3/11/25 – 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](mailto:ADMIN@NJSTS.ORG) TO REQUEST THE INVOICE.**

**55th Annual NJ Pupil Transportation Conference**  
**Student Transportation Supervisors of NJ**  
*Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, Atlantic City, NJ*  
**March 26 - 28, 2025**

**Safety Matters**

***Daily Schedule***

**3/26/2025 Wednesday:**

- 2:30 - 6:00 PM      Conference Registration Begins
- 4:15 - 5:45 PM      Fort Pierce (D) - All Attendees  
**Building and Sustaining Employee Engagement, Part 2**  
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  
**\*\*Wild, Wild, West - Theme\*\***

**3/27/2025 Thursday:**

- 6:30 - 8:00 AM      Seminole Ballroom  
Breakfast
- 7:30 - 4:30 PM      Registration Open
- 8:00 - 9:30 AM      Hollywood Ballroom (EAST) - Breakout 1  
**Transportation Security Concerns**  
Transportation Security Administration (TSA)  
*Presented by: Carol Randolph*
- Hollywood Ballroom (WEST) - Breakout 2  
**New Jersey McKinney - Vento**  
**Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program**  
*Presented by: Alan Ferraro, MOESC*  
*Regional Director McKinney - Vento*

- 8:00 - 12:00 PM Immokalee A - Mechanics Breakout 1  
**LDD-5310-8 6.7 Cummins: Operations and Diagnosis, Part 1**  
 Carquest Technical Institute  
*Presented by: Brian Ward, Carquest*
- 9:45 - 11:30 AM Hollywood Ballroom (EAST) - All Attendees Legal One  
**School Law Update: Transportation and Safety Issues**  
 Legal One  
*Presented by: Sandra L. Jacques, Esq., LL.M.*
- 11:00 - 7:00 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 - All Attendees  
**30 Minute breakout classes** hosted by Vendors
- 2:00 - 3:00 PM Hollywood Ballroom (EAST) - Breakout 3  
**Supervisors Transportation Discussion**  
 Roundtable with Expert Panel
- 2:00 - 5:00 PM Immokalee A - Mechanics Breakout 2  
**LDD-5310-8 6.7 Cummins: Operations and Diagnosis, Part 2**  
 Carquest Technical Institute  
*Presented by: Brian Ward, Carquest*
- 3:15 - 4:45 PM Hollywood Ballroom (EAST) - Breakout 4  
**Understanding the School-Based Behavioral Threat Assessment Process**  
 Office of School Preparedness and Emergency Planning  
 New Jersey Department of Education  
*Presented by: Jeffrey Gale, Director*
- Hollywood Ballroom (WEST) - Breakout 5  
**Transporting Special Education Students**  
*Presented by: Teena Mitchell, President of NAPT*

5:15 - 6:45 PM Seminole Ballroom - All Attendees  
**Vendor Show Reception**

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

**3/28/2025 Friday**

6:30 - 8:00 AM Seminole Ballroom  
Breakfast

7:30 - 12:30 PM Registration Open

8:00 - 12:00 PM Hollywood Ballroom (EAST) -Breakout 6  
**Enhancing Communication and Professionalism Leadership Course**  
Dale Carnegie  
*Presented by: Don Warkentin, Vice President of Training*

Hollywood Ballroom (WEST) - Breakout 7  
**Supporting Safe Behavior, Course #805**  
National Association for Pupil Transportation (NAPT)  
*Presented by: Teena Mitchell, NAPT Instructor*





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## 55th Annual NJ Pupil Transportation Conference Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, Atlantic City

### 2025 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: GSTS25Z**

### **DEADLINE TO BOOK ROOMS IN THE GROUP BLOCK**

**March 11, 2025 - 9:00 AM**

Book your room online using the link below:

<https://book.passkey.com/go/GSTS25Z>

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 March 11, 2025.

\* 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.

### STS CONF 2025 CONFERENCE

Please see the following guidelines regarding purchase orders.

- Guest(s) must make their hotel reservation 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 made. PO **MUST** have attendees listed to ensure correct check application.
  - 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.

**Note: When making initial reservation, you will be charged the first night's room rate plus taxes on the credit card provided. When Hard Rock receives the check for that guest's reservation, you will be refunded at that time.**

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  
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  

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\$107.00 per night

Checks must be received by **MARCH 11<sup>TH</sup>**, or the reservation(s) associated with the purchase order will be paid by credit card reservation was booked with.  
No checks or purchase orders will be accepted at the Front Desk or after the event.



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PO Box 500

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0500

PHILIP D. MURPHY  
*Governor*

TAHESHA L. WAY  
*Lt. Governor*

KEVIN DEHMER  
*Acting Commissioner*

October 9, 2024

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 26 through 28, 2025, 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 20-04 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](#).

After carefully reviewing your submission, the NJDOE finds that the STS Annual Conference planned for March 26 through 28, 2025, 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 26 and 27, 2025** only, provided that the remaining conditions delineated in this letter are met.



Ms. Janine S. Byrnes

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October 9, 2024

Reimbursement for registration fees, mileage and meals, subject to the limitations and conditions set forth in OMB Circular 20-04 and OMB Circular 16-11, 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 26 and 27, 2025**.

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,



Kevin Dehmer  
Acting Commissioner

KD/DC/mp

c: Senior Staff

Executive County Superintendent