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MARISA WEISINGER  
marisa@tapt.com

October 14, 2016

Dear School Administrator,

The Texas Association for Pupil Transportation is pleased to announce the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual School Bus Safety Speech Contest. The contest is intended to encourage high school students to be conscious of the importance of school bus safety and promote academic achievement. Through the generosity of our corporate sponsorships, scholarships will be awarded to the winners.

Students will be encouraged to compose and present an original speech based on the theme:  
**“My Driver – My Safety Hero!”**

Go to [www.tapt.com](http://www.tapt.com)

On the left side of the screen select “Scholarships, Awards, and Contest Guidelines”; then select 16<sup>th</sup> Annual School Bus Safety Speech Contest. You will find this letter and a link to the brochure and on-line registration. Please forward this information to all of your 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students and teachers.

Please note that only one participant from each grade level (9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup>) per public school district may be registered to participate at the Regional level. A representative of the school district must register these students to assure multiple registrations do not occur within a district. It may be necessary for students to compete within the district prior to official registration for elimination purposes.

**Deadline for entry is 4:00 pm on Friday, January 27, 2017.** Registration is to be done on-line at [www.tapt.com](http://www.tapt.com) only. No late registrations will be accepted.

Your local Regional Education Service Center will be the host site for the Regional Contest. Regional contests must be completed by March 10, 2017, and the first place winner from each grade level must then be registered *by the ESC representative* to participate in the state contest. *The Regional ESC Representative will complete the Regional Winners Registration by Friday, March 17, 2017.* The state contest will take place in Waco on Monday, April 24, 2017.

Should you have questions regarding this contest, you may contact Pat Garcia at [pat.garcia@region10.org](mailto:pat.garcia@region10.org). Please do not contact your local ESC with questions. Approximately one week after registration has closed, a representative from the local ESC will contact contestants to announce the date and time of the local contest.

Sincerely,

*Pat Garcia*

Pat Garcia  
Chairperson  
2016 – 2017 TAPT Speech Committee  
Region 10 ESC – Transportation Services  
400 E. Spring Valley Road  
Richardson, Texas 75081-5101

Texas Association for Pupil Transportation, P.O. Box 488, Kemah, Texas 77565  
Phone: 281.549.6573 Toll Free 866.561.2121 [www.tapt.com](http://www.tapt.com)



**Announces  
\$9,200 in Awards  
To be awarded at State Competition**

Available to any 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Student in a Public School in Texas

**2016 - 2017**

**School Bus Safety  
Speech Contest**

*Topic*

**“My Driver – My Safety Hero!”**

**Sponsored by:**

**Diamond Level: \$5,000 Plus**

*Longhorn Bus Sales / IC Corp.*

**Platinum Level: \$2,000 – \$4,999**

*Bus Air Manufacturing*

**Gold Level: \$500 – \$1,999**

*Rush Bus Centers*

*Longhorn International Trucks, LTD.*

*ESC Region 12*

**Contest Rules & Information**

1. Students in grades 9, 10, 11 & 12 in Texas public schools are eligible to participate.
2. 2016 – 2017 Speech topic theme is: **“My Driver – My Safety Hero!”**
3. All entries must be pre-registered on-line. All information must be legible.
4. One 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade participant from each public school district/charter may compete at a local Region contest, facilitated by each of the 20 Education Service Centers throughout Texas. A representative of the school district (official, administrator, transportation director) must register students to assure **only one student from each grade level per district is entered to compete at the Regional level. Entries accepted on-line only.**
5. District and region elimination contests must be held on or before the dates listed in the schedule of events (see back page). The State Contest date is also listed. This date may be subject to change.
6. Length of speech must be at least four (4) minutes, but not more than six (6) minutes. Contestants shall be penalized one (1) point for every ten (10) seconds that the speech deviates from the minimum or maximum time lengths.
7. Student must present speech **without** the use of notes, printed material or props. Speech must be their own original speech, although quotes will be permitted. Contestant must write/present his/her own speech.
8. Contestants may, but are not required to, introduce themselves. No points will be added or deducted.
9. No person may enter or leave the room while contestants are speaking.
10. Only one contestant, the one reciting his/her speech, will be allowed in the same room as the judges when speeches are being delivered. No other contestants will be allowed in the presentation room.
11. Contestants must prepare and submit to the site coordinator seven (7) each double-spaced, typewritten copies of the speech for the judges.
12. Contestants must prepare a complete and accurate bibliography used in writing the speech and attach it to each copy of the manuscript.

13. Contestants at both Region and State contests will draw a number and be introduced to speak in order of the number drawn.

14. A timekeeper will keep the student's time using a timing device. Time will be announced and recorded at the conclusion of each speech.

15. Judges will have knowledge of speaking and/or school bus safety. Each judge should have copies of score sheets, contest rules and other relevant information regarding the contest.

16. Score sheets will be totaled; M.C. will announce winners by name, grade, school district and region.

17. First place winner from each grade level from each of the 20 Regions will be eligible to compete for State awards at the State finals contest. Regional first place winners will receive a \$50 award at the state contest.

18. Final scores will determine first, second and third place winners for each grade level at State. Awards are listed in this brochure.

19. Texas Association for Pupil Transportation will present Scholarship awards to winners, except first place overall. The first place overall winner must present his/her speech and receive the award at the State TAPT Conference in Frisco in June, 2017.

**Register online at  
[www.tapt.com](http://www.tapt.com)**

**For further information contact:**

**Pat Garcia**  
Region 10 ESC – Transportation  
[pat.garcia@region10.org](mailto:pat.garcia@region10.org)  
(972) 348-1326  
400 E. Spring Valley Road  
Richardson, Texas 75081-5101

## Total of \$9,200

### Scholarship payments provided by

#### Sponsors of TAPT

- Region Champs: \$ 50 Check  
 Each Grade Level  
**Overall 1st Place: \$ 1,000 Check**  
 State Other 1st Place: \$ 600 Check  
 State 2nd Place: \$ 400 Check  
 State 3rd Place: \$ 200 Check

#### Schedule of Events

##### Local District Contest:

Winners from each grade level must be registered by January 27, 2017. No late registrations will be accepted. One 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade student from each participating school district may advance to the Region Contest. Each school district will decide on a method for advancement and register students to compete at Region.

##### Region Contest:

To be completed by March 10, 2017. First place winner from each grade level from each of the 20 regions will advance to the State Finals. (Potentially 80 participants)

##### State Contest Finals:

Regional winners will participate in the State Contest Finals in Waco on April 24, 2017. (Time and location will be announced.) Three winners will be chosen - first, second and third from each grade level. Overall 1st place finisher must present his/her speech at the TAPT Conference in June, 2017 in Frisco (hotel room provided).



# 2016 - 2017

## 16<sup>th</sup> Annual School Bus Safety Speech Contest

### “ My Driver – My Safety Hero! ”

Texas  
9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Public School Students

**Overall Winner**  
**\$1,000**  
**Scholarship**

Score Max	Explanation of Score Sheet Points
22	<b>INTRODUCTION</b> – includes: Did introduction gain attention? Did introduction lead into the speech? Was the theme clearly stated? Did thematic statement include a preview? Did the speaker establish credibility? Was the topic adapted to the audience?
32	<b>BODY</b> – includes: Were main points clearly identifiable? Were transitions effective? Did speaker use adequate support material? Did speaker cite sources adequately?
16	<b>CONCLUSION</b> – includes: Did it summarize the info provided? Did it provide definite closure? Did it leave the speech on a high note? Did the speaker adhere to time guidelines of 4 – 6 minutes? Length of speech in time: ____
30	<b>DELIVERY</b> – includes: Was the delivery enthusiastic? Did the speaker have good eye contact? Were other aspects of nonverbal delivery effective? Did the speaker use vocal variety & good projection? Did the speaker present him/herself in a professional manner?
<b>100</b>	<b>Total Maximum Score</b>