

OCTOBER

2025

NEWSLETTER

MOAPT's New President



Jared Richmond has proudly served the Carl Junction School District for more than 20 years. He began his career as a School Resource Officer and part-time bus driver before becoming the Director of Transportation in 2015.

Under Jared's leadership, the Carl Junction Transportation Department safely transports nearly 2,100 students every day. His team has made safety and service their top priorities — enhancing fleet maintenance, modernizing operations, and embracing technology to better serve families.

The district has moved from paper route sheets to advanced routing software, giving parents easy access to bus stop information while reducing office calls. Jared also introduced tablets for substitute drivers to help ensure every student's safety and accountability.

Jared and his wife, Heather, have two sons, Chase and Cutler, and are now enjoying life as empty nesters.



Jared's involvement with MOAPT began in 2015 as a member. He was later appointed, then elected, as Western Director and was elected as President-Elect (2023). He values the strong professional network and quality training MOAPT provides and looks forward to continuing that tradition as the new President — supporting members, expanding training opportunities, and advancing pupil transportation across Missouri.

If you have questions, ideas, or ways to collaborate, Jared welcomes you to reach out anytime.



Regional Meeting Series

Meeting Dates & Locations

- **Region 1 – KC Area**
Raytown | Thursday, Nov. 13, 2025
Raytown School District, 10301 E State Rte. 350, Raytown, MO 64138
- **Region 2 – North Area**
Brookfield | Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2025
Linn County Area Career & Technical Center, 124 Pershing Rd, Brookfield, MO
- **Region 3 – STL Area**
St. Louis | Thursday, Dec. 4, 2025
Parkway School District Welcome Center, 760 Woods Mill Rd, Ballwin, MO 63011
- **Region 4 – Central Area**
Camdenton | Thursday, Nov. 20, 2025
Camdenton Middle School, 88 Laker Dr., Camdenton, MO 65020
- **Region 5 – SW Area**
Willard | Friday, Nov. 21, 2025
Willard School District, 500 E. Kime, Willard, MO 65781
- **Region 6 – SE Area**
Dexter | Friday, Nov. 14, 2025
Hickory Log Restaurant, 1314 W Business U.S. 60, Dexter, MO 63841

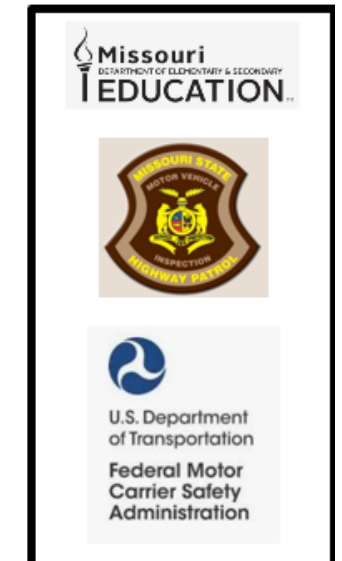
All meetings: 10:00 am – 12:30 pm

Cost (includes lunch):

- \$30 Members
- \$45 Non-Members
- (Early Bird ends **November 1**)



Updates From

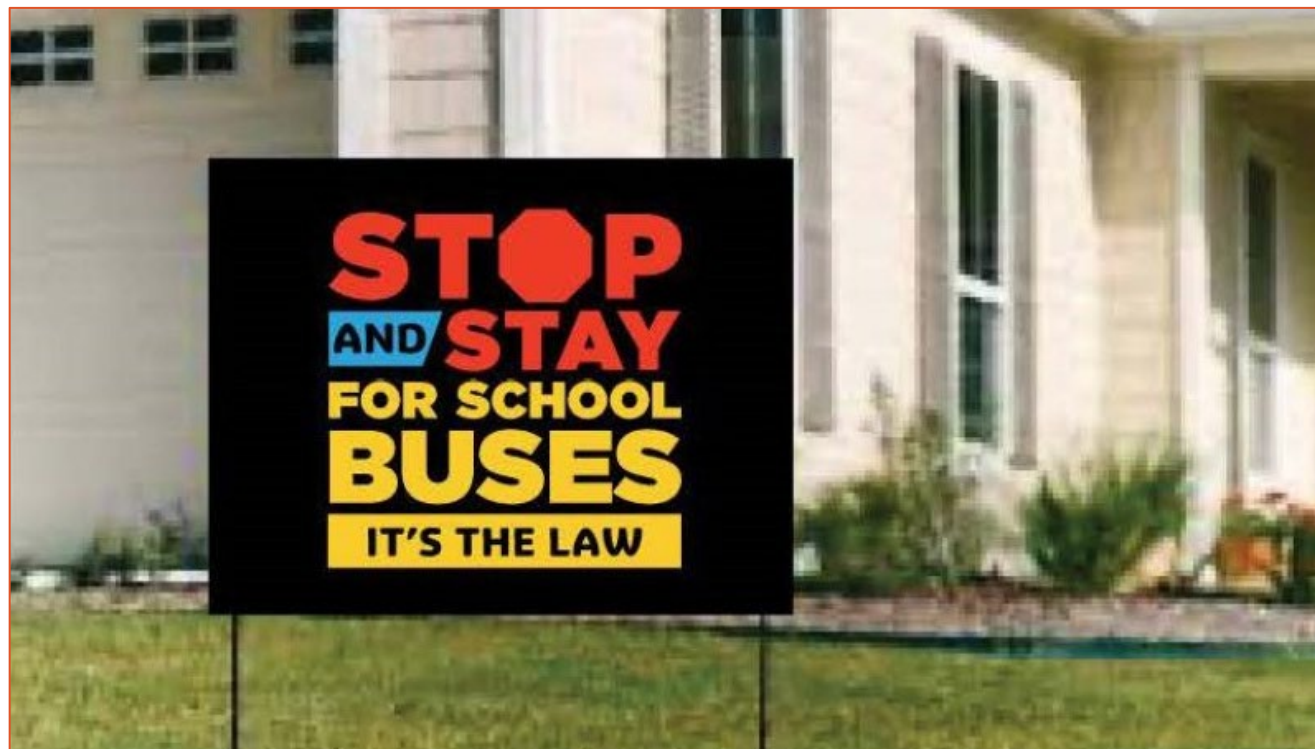


Get your yard signs today!

Help promote school bus safety on Missouri highways by proudly displaying a 24" x 18" Stop and Stay for School Buses yard sign in your yard! They are available for free to individuals, schools, or organizations within Missouri.

Contact Heather Luebbert with MoDOT's Highway Safety and Traffic Division by email

at heather.luebbert@modot.mo.gov or by phone at (573) 751-5419 to get a sign(s) mailed to you!



Click Here for more School Bus Safety Resources



MISSOURI PROPANE SCHOOL BUS GRANT OPEN NOW



Through the Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, Missouri school districts can once again apply to the **Missouri Propane School Bus Grant** program to receive reimbursement grants of **\$50,000 per propane bus**, with a maximum of 4 buses per school. Plus, up to **\$25,000 in new fueling infrastructure reimbursements!** Applications are now open through December 15, 2025.

2025-2026 Missouri Association for Pupil Transportation School Bus Safety Poster Contest

Theme:

“Safe Rides, Everyday Heroes”

Click Here
for Information on how
to take part in the 25-26
Poster Contest

Divisions

| | |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| Division 1: | Grades K-2 |
| Division 2: | Grades 3-5 |
| Division 3: | Grades 6-8 |
| Division 4: | Special Ed K-12 |
| Division 5: | CAD K-12 (Computer Aided Drawing) |

Awards/Winners

Overall Winning Submission: \$500.00

The winning submission for each division will receive the following:

- 1st: \$100.00
- 2nd: \$50.00
- 3rd: \$25.00

The submitting school/teacher will be contacted for guidance how MOAPT should present the award. Award may be presented to either school, class, program, student or other.

Submissions must be received by MOAPT by April 3, 2026

2024-2025 \$500 Winner

Perryville Elementary School - Nicholas Hernandez Pastor



L-R: Sarah Orf-Director, Donald Gwin-Asst Director, Keith Henry-MOAPT, Dr. Amy Dill-Principal



**ALL MODELS AVAILABLE
FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY**



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CONTACT YOUR REGIONAL SALES MANAGER TODAY!

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doug.messer@midwesttransit.com

JOE CRABTREE

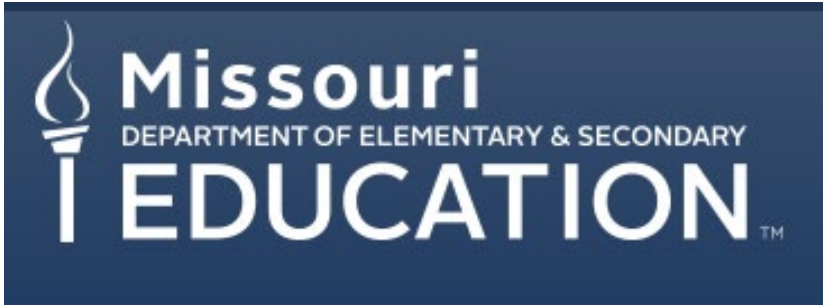
x1330 | C: (417) 343-1078
joe.crabtree@midwesttransit.com

KEN PEARCE

x1497 | C: (314) 712-7535
ken.pearce@midwesttransit.com

MidwestTransit.com | (800) 933-2412

**MTE
HELP
BUTTON**



MO Propane Bus Grant

The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's (DESE's) [Missouri Propane School Bus Grant](#) is now available for local education agencies (LEAs). The 2024 Missouri General Assembly made \$970,000 in funding available in FY 2025 for the purchase of qualifying propane-powered buses.

- [Administrative Memo](#)
- [Guidance for Missouri Propane Bus Grant](#)
- [Missouri Propane Bus Grant Application](#)

School Bus Aisle Blocking

State Board of Education Rule 5 CSR 30-261.010 requires that school bus aisles not be blocked. As your district makes field trips and activity trips this year, please ensure that all school bus drivers know and adhere to this rule. The aisles must be free of any obstruction so the bus, if needed, could be evacuated quickly without difficulties caused by the aisles being blocked by trash cans, coolers, book bags, band equipment, or other items.

Requirement to Provide Transportation

Staffing shortages continue to create many challenges for businesses and industries across the country, and Missouri's public schools are no different. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) recognizes these are complex issues and that school leaders are working hard to be strategic and creative when troubleshooting these problems locally. One of those challenges is a shortage of school bus drivers leading to changes in bus routes, bus stops and travel time for students on the bus. Our office is fielding many questions regarding these changes and continue to advise parents and patrons that these decisions are made by local district and school board.

It is important to note that when making changes to bus routes, be cognizant of sight distance guidelines and regulations regarding distances between stops. Please refer to the guidance in the Administrator's Handbook related to establishing stops.

School Bus Driver Seat Belt Use

5 CSR 30-261.010, RSMo (Requirements for the Operation of School Buses), requires school bus drivers to use their seat belt whenever the bus is in motion. Please verify compliance with this requirement within your school district.

[Click here to see a video of what happened to a school bus driver that failed to wear their seat belt](#)



Southern Bus & Mobility NEWSLETTER

NEW MO FACILITY

At Southern Bus & Mobility, we're proud to be your trusted source for new and pre-owned school buses, commercial buses, vans, wheelchair vans, lifts, and mobility equipment. With locations in Breese, IL, and our newly built facility in Valley Park, MO [994 Meramec Station Rd.], we're here to serve you better than ever. Our new Valley Park location features a state-of-the-art showroom and eleven service bays to keep your vehicles running smoothly. From sales to parts and service, SBM is here to keep you moving — safely and reliably.



TransTech 32 Passenger School Bus

MPV 10 PASSENGER VAN

The 10-Passenger Van offers schools an affordable and efficient alternative for transporting 10 passengers, including driver, or fewer. With lower investment and operating costs than a Type A bus, it delivers a more comfortable ride and practical solution. This vehicle meets state transportation regulations, making it legal for both IL and MO schools.



BUSES IN STOCK!

Multiple Chevy 14 - 32 Passenger School Buses available. Call to secure yours TODAY!



Scan to view our Inventory

CONTACT US TODAY!



Contact: Phyllis Gebke, Sales Rep

Phone: 618-526-4131

Email: pgebke@southernbusandmobility.com

IL

12950 Koch Lane, Breese, IL

+618-526-4131

MO

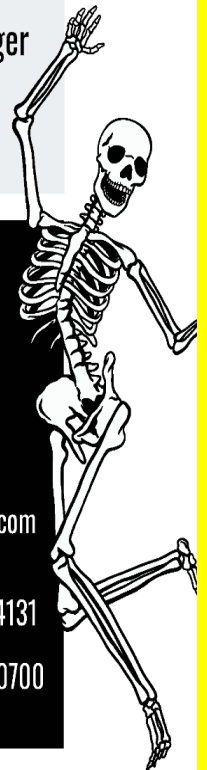
994 Meramec Station Rd., Valley Park, MO

+636-825-0700

**SOUTHERN
BUS & MOBILITY**

**HELP
BUTTON**

HELP BUTTON



2025- 2026 MOAPT Board of Directors

2025-2026 M.O.A.P.T. BOARD

Rev 9.22.25

MAILING ADDRESS

MOAPT
P.O. Box 1222
Columbia Mo 65205

Executive Director

Keith Henry
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Columbia, MO 65205
Office (816) 806-0226
maptboard@gmail.com

Executive Board 2028

President

Jared Richmond
Director of Transportation
Carl Junction School District
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Carl Junction, MO 64834
Office (417) 649-7026 ext.: 1800
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President-Elect

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cindy.bultemeier@nkcschools.org

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Treasurer

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Director of Transportation
Special School District
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Office (314) 989-7118
kmulder@ssdm.org

Affiliate Member

David Tramel
Coordinator, School Finance &
Administrative Services.
Mo. Dept. of Elem. & Sec. Ed.
P. O. Box 480
Jefferson City, MO 65102
david.tramel@dese.mo.gov

Regional Directors

Region I

Jeff Putnam 2026
Fleet Supervisor
Independence School District
900 S. Powell Rd
Independence, MO 65056
Office (816) 521-5335, ext: 71009
jeff_putnam@idschools.org

Region II

Jennifer Fowler 2028
Director of Transportation
Mexico School District
2101 Lakeview Rd
Mexico MO 65256
Office (573) 581-3773/2424
jfowler@mexico.k12.mo.us

Region III

Lloyd Givens 2026
Maintenance Manager
Special School District
5500 N. Hanley Rd
St. Louis, MO 63134
Office (314) 989-7162
lgivens@ssdm.org

Region IV

Tony Hatfield 2026
Director of Transportation
Camdenton School District R-III
172 Dare Blvd
Camdenton, MO 65020
Office (573) 346-5651
ahatfield@camdentonschools.org

Region V

Tony Blackwell 2026
Director of Transportation
Marshfield R-1
1764 Greenwood Rd
Marshfield, MO 65706
Office (471) 859-2120, ext. 1
anthony.blackwell@mjays.us

Region VI

Jon McKinney 2026
Director of Student Services
Poplar Bluff R-1 School District
1844 Maud St
Poplar Bluff, MO 63901
Office (573) 785-5801
jonmckinney@pb.k12.mo.us

Directors At Large

Central Area

Marshall Gingrich 2028
Director of Operations
Centralia R-6 Schools
1399 HWY 22 Suite B
Centralia Mo 65240
Office: (573) 682-3561
marshall.gingrich@cr6.org

East Area

Jennifer Simpson 2027
Director of Transportation
Francis Howell School District
4535 Central School Rd
St. Charles, MO 63304
Office (636) 851-6227
jennifer.simpson@fhsdschools.org

West Area

Tony Philpot 2027
Director of Transportation
Webb City R-7 School District
411 N. Madison
Webb City, MO 64870
Office (417) 673-6021
tphilpot@wcr7.org

Admin Staff

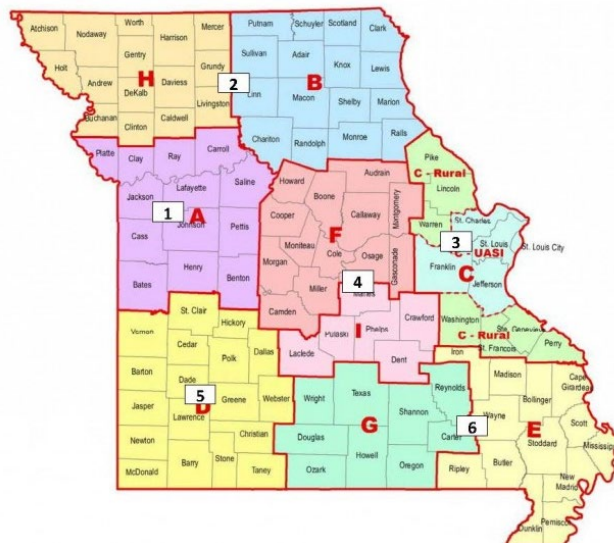
Member Services Coordinator

Brenda Davis
P.O. Box 1222
Columbia, MO 65205
Office (573) 418-4647
moaptmemberservices@gmail.com

Physical Mailing Address

MOAPT
511 E. Walnut
#1222
Columbia, MO 65201

| Region | Highway Patrol Troop |
|--------|----------------------|
| 1 | A |
| 2 | B & H |
| 3 | C |
| 4 | F & I |
| 5 | D |
| 6 | E & G |





Board Meeting Dates

January 15, 2026

April 9, 2026

July 10, 2026

All Members are Invited!

For details on attending,
please reach out to MOAPT.

2026 School Bus Safety Poster

- Over \$3,000 in prizes; overall winner receives \$500!
- Link: [MO Safety Poster Contest](#)
- Must be received by MOAPT by April 3, 2026



2026 Missouri School Bus Safety Competition

- June 18 & 19, 2026
- Jackson MO
- Link: [2026 MO School Bus Safety Competition](#)
- Registration will open in December 2025

61st Annual Conference and Trade Show

- July 7 – 10, 2026
- Springfield MO
- Link: [61st Annual Conference & Trade Show](#)
- Registration will open by December 2025 – watch for more information

MO Best Technician and Inspector Training Event

- July 7th and 9, 2026
- Held in conjunction with the annual Conference and Trade Show
- Link: [26 MO Best Training Event](#)