

School Transportation Business Management Forum - 2008

Summary of Observations and Recommendations

Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Presentation:	Acceptable	Needs Improvement
Suggested Improvements? 1. Good presentation. 2. Excellent speaker. 3. Would have liked a commitment to follow-up with a report. 4. Very self absorbed – very little practical information. 5. This presentation had the WOW factor, handouts would have been helpful. 6. Have follow-up next year once report is released. 7. Speaker could not provide specific information on security assessment.	X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	X X
Survival of the School Bus (Panel):	Acceptable	Needs Improvement
Suggested Improvements? 1. A lot of knowledge. Unfortunately with today's climate not a cheerful or pleasant listen. 2. Good, perhaps expand the panel to cover cost savings. 3. Motivational. 4. Handouts or power point presentation. 5. Very helpful to hear from a variety of districts. 6. Not impressed with speakers.	X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	X
Legal Issues in School Transportation Presentation:	Acceptable	Needs Improvement
Suggested Improvements? 1. Very informative. Good presentation. 2. Excellent speaker. 3. Increase time of session. 4. List of abbreviations & definitions when appropriate for better comprehension. 5. Speaker needs to focus on one issue. 6. Peter's information on AB 2222 helped tremendously.	X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	X X X X
Efficient Budgeting in School Transportation Presentation:	Acceptable	Needs Improvement
Suggested Improvements? 1. This issue was discussed at most every session. Good suggestions. 2. Please explain the acronyms – make the slide longer. 3. Excellent information. 4. Give names, addresses, phone numbers of organizations that can help. 5. More discussion directed at small school districts. 6. Need more on special ed. budgeting.	X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	X X
The Value of Efficient Leadership Presentation:	Acceptable	Needs Improvement
Suggested Improvements? 1. Keep a little closer to time. 2. Excellent presentation. 3. OK. 4. Not much information. 5. Very good. 6. The title didn't seem to fit presentation, no real specifics given in presentation. 7. Could have been the keynote – very informative – engaging. 8. The perspective is always from large operations. They are not the only industry experts. 9. Could have been better if specific leadership skills were given.	X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	X X X

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The School Transportation Coalition Presentation:	Acceptable	Needs Improvement
Suggested Improvements? 1. Steve has good information – he would be good on panel as well. 2. Very good. Steve is very passionate, very informative. Gave good direction for us to follow. 3. Explain the issues to those of us who are not up to date with the issues. 4. Steve was not afraid to say what needed to be said. Great voice for transportation. Could have been longer. 5. Good information – not a great speaker. 6. I would like to know what CASTO does to help?	X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	
The CASTO Legislative Update Presentation:	Acceptable	Needs Improvement
Suggested Improvements? 1. Very informative. Good presenter. 2. Explain the issues to those of us who are not up to date with the issues.	X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	
CCR 13, 2025 Proposed Regulations (CARB) Presentation:	Acceptable	Needs Improvement
Suggested Improvements? 1. Speaker and title didn't match – True CARB presentation needed with different speaker. 2. The speaker could not answer many of the questions. Seemed to come into the room with a negative attitude. 3. Mr. Landsberg knew the basics, but should have had someone from CARB who knows more indepth course of action on funding procedures. 4. Speaker not a decision maker. 5. We should behave as professionals and not show frustration to the presenter. 6. Important information . 7. Not impressed with such an expensive regulations. 8. Needed more information. 9. Poor Earl was very nervous – He was very well versed in the program.	X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X
Transportation Grants – Where to find them & how to get them (Panel):	Acceptable	Needs Improvement
Suggested Improvements? 1. Great. 2. Good information. Resources to follow-up on. 3. Have handouts with references. 4. Who are the people or agencies we need to get information from? 5. Would like to see information available on CASTO website.	X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	X X
Cost Savings Strategies (Panel):	Acceptable	Needs Improvement
Suggested Improvements? 1. Very Good. 2. Very informative. Gave me good resources to follow-up on. 3. This was an outstanding panel, would like individual districts to put their information on the CASTO website. 4. I find all topics previously discussed. 5. Need small school rural operations. 6. Thank you Paul Bailey for speaking about special Ed. 7. Good discussion & exposure to different operations. 8. Excellent. Need longer timeline. 9. Nothing earth shattering was shared, but additional dialog was okay. 10. This panel was all about large districts. There were many small school districts – very rural that got no benefit from this panel.	X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X	X X X

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We Know the Problem – What’s the Solution (Open Forum):	Acceptable	Needs Improvement
Suggested Improvements?		
1. Good discussion – we have to reach the smaller districts with the message.	X X X X X X	
2. This was one of the best sessions – very interactive.	X X X X X X	
3. Brainstorming very informative.	X X X X X X	
4. There are different ways to engage participants. Ron’s “Problem/Solutions” course was outstanding.	X X X X X X	
5. ½ of the group left which is rude to your forum – shows no support – NOT YOUR FAULT, THEIRS.	X X X X	
6. The open forum was very interesting. It might be nice to offer the open forum @ the end of each day.		

General Comments and Suggestions:

1. In the rural community the yellow bus is the hand that feeds the mouth of our district’s ADA. Take us away and loose 30 to 50% of the ADA.
2. Please put handout & power point on the CASTO website or mail them to all attendees.
3. It was a good conference with good information.
4. I appreciate the entire program and the professional presentations. Love the location.
5. Thanks to the vendors who provided lunch, breakfast and the breaks. Ask the hotel to have an early sign in to rooms for us.
6. Best overall set of speakers I have seen in a long time.
7. Contact names & numbers of every presenter.
8. Over all panels should be focused on the issues not their own sites.
9. This was the best CASTO forum that I have attended. The forum was very detailed, informative, organized and will make a difference in my practices as a contractor.
10. Next year – special ed/legal issues, negotiations/contracts/budget 101 – read and manage.
11. I leave this conference with the understanding that we are all in the same Bus – Cuts – Budgets and keeping a promise to provide safe and secure transportation for our students.
12. Congratulations, program was very good and timely.
13. Excellent workshop – Would like more handouts – Much better than last year.
14. Need to address issues facing small school districts.
15. Small school districts operations need to be heard from. What are they doing to deal with the challenges we are all facing?
16. I am new to the transportation world. I really enjoyed the entire conference. I realize that I have not been seeing the larger transportation “yellow” picture, but after this conference – I have a clear picture. Thanks
17. Perhaps we could have worked on some solutions prior to the last minute.

Registered Participants: 70

Registered Exhibitors: 20

Speakers: 20

Critiques Submitted: 44

Carriers from the following California Counties Represented at the Forum:
 Fresno, Tulare, San Diego, Solano, Los Angeles, Santa Clara, Contra Costa, San Mateo, San Bernardino, Placer, San Luis Obispo, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, El Dorado, Sacramento, Shasta, Humboldt, Santa Barbara, Kern, Merced, Sonoma, Lake, Kings, Alameda, Orange, Santa Cruz, Del Norte, Mendocino, San Francisco San Mateo

Counties Represented: 30

October 16, 2008