



**“We Think We Know the Problem – What’s the Solution?”**  
**CASTO Transportation Management Forum**  
October 8, 2008 – South Lake Tahoe

**Group Exercise**

**Define the Problem:**

- Insufficient Funding
- Unfunded mandates
- Image and perception of school bus transportation by pupils, parents and general public
- What are the conditions on the bus – past experience
- Too many government agencies – over regulated- no funds attached
- We are the problem, don’t sell our story, we create the regulations as self regulators
- Safety – being able to improve the safety record, where do we go without the funds to support
- Standards, all doing something different, standardized
- Losing our ability to continue to improve
- Employee retention – quality of the employee
- First department for cuts within the system, why?
- The transportation image and public perception that was created by integrated (forced) busing
- History of the negative thoughts, image and value of school transportation by public
- Agencies not listening
- Representation of school transportation community beyond the local level
- No State Office of School Transportation that oversees all aspects of school transportation



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**What’s the Solution?**

- Mandated home to school regular education transportation
- Public awareness campaign (Change the image and perception of the pupils and public in general)
- Increase the responsibilities of the Office of School Transportation, an office that could oversee the needs for all aspects transportation
- Identify a central group for all support services for a large area, not simply a district. Leave the board with decision making but have the support group function independently.
- Go yellow, go green, the ultimate transportation car pool (public awareness campaign)
- Politically, how can we get a message created that would also support the politician and create a package for a win, win.
- Use the web for a better message for the support of the school bus and place the information in regards to the green of the bus, the safety, the car pool air quality, etc.
- Improved funding formula
- Regionalize and Consolidate non-instructional service throughout the state
- Regional service centers, become a vendor for others
- Collaboration with the unions, public and private interested parties



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### Group Exercise

#### **How do we get There and Who leads the Way?**

- Create an industry taskforce (team) to develop and implement a state school transportation master plan.  
Consider the following groups:
  1. CASTO
  2. CASBO
  3. CSTA
  4. Public and Private Sector Unions engaged in school transportation
  5. School transportation coalition
  6. PTA
  7. Other
- Involved appropriate state agencies going forward
- Partner up with appropriate Green organizations to move forward
- Involve the national school transportation organizations and ASBC