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43RD ANNUAL BERKS COUNTY PUPIL TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION SAFETY COMPETITION ROAD-E-O TO BE HELD AT TWIN VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL ON MONDAY APRIL 17, 2017

For the 43rd time, the Berks County Pupil Transportation Association will hold its annual School Bus Driver Safety Competition. Formerly known as the School Bus Road-e-o, this year it will be held at Twin Valley Middle School in Elverson, PA. The event, which includes participants, judges, and contestants from all of Berks County's 18 school districts, and numerous school bus contractors, serves to showcase outstanding school bus drivers and to instruct school bus drivers in new and exciting ways to keep their students safe on the bus. The entire purpose of this competition and the mission on the Berks County Pupil Transportation Association is to increase student safety.

Safety competitions have proven to be one of the most effective instructional tools to improve a school bus driver's driving skills. Throughout the competition drivers have the opportunity to demonstrate their professionalism, skill, and dedication to pupil transportation. All entities that operate school buses in Berks county strive to foster these qualities in the drivers that they employ.

The competition will include three assessments: a written test, a driving skills test and a vehicle inspection test. The driving test includes events where drivers must back their nearly 40-foot bus, parallel park, simulate a difficult right turn, simulate picking up or dropping off students using the vehicle's eight-way light system, traverse an offset alley, cross a railroad intersection correctly, and operate in a straight line with diminishing clearances. The event culminates with an Awards Banquet and Ceremony, where the winners of the competition are announced.

The competition will award the top 10 contestants with an award certificate, a gas card, and an invitation to participate in the PA School Bus Driver Safety Competition to be held on June 23 and 24 in State College, PA and hosted by the Pennsylvania School Bus Association (PSBA). Pennsylvania winners will be selected to move on to this year's National Competition that will be held July 16th in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The press is welcome to take pictures and video at the event starting at 8:00am at Twin Valley Middle School, 770 Clymer Hill Rd, Elverson, PA 19520

John Coakley - President of BCPTA - Will be available for comment at that time.

