



**California Association of School Transportation Officials
State Board Meeting**

MINUTES
Saturday June 3, 2023
10:00am-1:00pm
Delta by Marriott, Garden Grove

I. OPENING – President Mike Sawyer, 10:00am – Mike dedicated the meeting to Tommy Thompson.

A. Pledge of Allegiance – Mike Sawyer

B. Attendance

1. 1, 2, 3, 4, ~~5, 6~~, 7, 8, ~~9~~, 10, 12, 13, ~~14~~, 15, ~~17, 18~~, 19, 20

President, 1st VP, 2nd VP, Secretary, Treasurer, Past President,
Professional Associate Rep., Contractor Rep., ~~Sustaining Member Rep.,~~
~~CASBO Rep., CDE Rep., Legislative Rep.~~

2. **Verification of Eligibility** – Chrissy Stevenson

1, 2, 3, 4, ~~5~~, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, ~~17~~, 18, 19, 20

C. Introductions and Welcome -Executive Board, State Board, Special Reps

D. Minutes of Prior Meetings –February 26, 2023 (M) Sam Anderson (S) Adriana Catledge (C)

E. Correspondence – Jana Graham- None to report

F. Additions / Changes to the Agenda – None

II. Reports

A. Treasurer – Christina Celeste- Checking \$229,292.08, Savings \$30,795.96 total \$260,088.04. Shared the current budget vs. actuals for the current fiscal year. Sam Anderson had a couple of questions regarding Mechanics Workshop regarding the expenses, budget vs actuals and wanted to know if it was a mixture of both 22/23 and 23/24 event, Christina explained it was. Sam Anderson also about the conference expense regarding the increase in budget for the cost, it was due to an increase of attendees. The Presidents reception was also over budget, Christina explained it was for gifts, and additional expenses for the event as far as Chapter Presidents attending, and food. Christina shared there will be a report provided with all expenses upcoming and future events in July. (M) Sam Anderson (S) David lee (C)

B. Membership – Chrissy Stevenson- Current membership is 2,996. We are challenging everyone to increase membership by 10 percent. We are working on a Chapter prize, for the Chapter that increases their membership by October. All renewal notices have been sent out.

C. State Officers – Executive Board.

D. Special Representatives –

1. *California Department of Education* – Anna Borges-Not in attendance-No Report.

2. *Sustaining Member Representative*- Not in attendance-No Report.
3. *Contractors Representative* —Michael Sloan- Did not have a lot to report, just trying to recruit drivers, and trainers. Touched on the new testing requirements with CHP, and re-tooling how to do it. Touched on State Bill 88 Skinner new restrictions on 8 passenger vehicles. Everyone is getting involved.
4. *CASBO Representative*- Carlos Chicas-Not in attendance-No report

III. Standing Committee Report

1. *Legislation* – David Neben- Mike Sawyer read the update David had sent in which stated. Budget Update: On May 12th, Governor Newsome published his May Revision to the 2023-24 Budget. The May revision sought ways to address \$9 billion in additional, anticipated revenue shortfalls on top of the \$22.5 billion revenue shortfall predicted back in January. This additional shortfall results in a drop of \$2 billion to the Proposition 98 minimum guarantee for K-12 schools and community colleges. At the May Revision, the Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) used to for LCFF purposes is set at 8.22%, up slightly from the 8.13% estimate in January. In the Governor’s May Revision, there were no proposed cuts, delays, or deferrals related to the Zero-Emission Vehicle replacement program or the Home-to-School Transportation program. On May 23rd, the Senate and Assembly published their respective legislative budget packages. Legislative leadership are currently working towards a comprehensive budget agreement, which will then be negotiated with the Administration for a final 2023 Budget Act. ZEV Replacement Program: In the proposed legislative budget packages, the ZEV replacement program would be delayed in the roll-out of funding, with \$500 million being pushed back to each 2024-25 and 2025-26 fiscal years. The entirety of the \$1.5 billion appropriation is still intact. Home-to-School Transportation: In the proposed legislative budget packages, there is no change to the structure of the HTST changes made in 2022. There is a total of \$302,000 for two total staff positions at the Office of School Transportation and the School Fiscal Services Division for data processing workload associated with the HTST program. Legislation: The Legislature has reached its “House of Origin” deadline on June 2, 2023. All bills must pass through the second house by September 14. Any bills that reach the Governor’s desk by this date will have 30 days to be signed into law or returned under veto authority. SB 88 (Skinner)- Pupil Transportation: Driver Qualifications: This bill applies various requirements currently applicable to bus drivers to all drivers providing transportation for pupils to or from schools. This bill also mandates all vehicles used for pupil transportation for compensation by local educational agencies to be inspected and equipped with a first aid kit and a fire extinguisher. Specifics of SB 88: Applies to all drivers, including those contracted by LEAs and not directly employed by LEAs, to complete similar qualifications as school bus drivers, including the following: A) Hold a valid California driver’s license for the appropriate class of vehicle. B) Be at least 18 years of age. C) Pass a criminal background check, as specified. D) Have a satisfactory driving record, as specified. E) Not have demonstrated irrational behavior to the extent that a reasonable and prudent person would have reasonable cause to believe that the driver’s ability to perform the duties of a driver may be impaired. F) Not have been convicted of any specified offenses listed in the VC. G) Provide their employer or the private entity contracting with the LEA a report showing the driver’s current public record as recorded by the DMV and participate in the DMV pull-notice system. H) Be

subject to and comply with drug and alcohol testing pursuant to the VC. I) Be a mandated reported and comply with provisions of law as required by the Child Abuse Neglect Reporting Act. J) Complete a medical examination consistent with the VC and provide a copy of the medical examiner's certificate of clearance to their employer or the private entity contracting with the LEA. Neither the driver nor the medical examiner need to submit this examination result to the DMV. K) Submit and clear a tuberculosis risk assessment. L) Not driver for more than 10 hours within a work period, or after the end of the 16th hour after coming on duty following eight consecutive hours off duty. M) Complete a minimum of 10 hours of initial training and minimum of two hours of annual refresher courses, as specified. N) Maintain a daily log sheet and complete the daily pretrip inspection of the vehicle being driven that day. O) Hold a valid and current first aid certificate issued by the American Red Cross or by an organization whose first aid training program is at least equivalent, as specified. The purpose of SB 88, according to the author, is to further ensure the safety of children who are transported to and from schools. NHTSA indicated that school buses driven by school bus drivers are 70 times more likely to arrive at schools safely compared to cars and vans. The fatality rate of cars and vans is 7.5 times higher per 100 million vehicle miles traveled than for school buses. Opposition to this bill points to the potential cost increases this bill would create for school districts, charter schools, and county offices of education that currently use third-party transportation companies. However, the author, Senator Nancy Skinner, helped secure an increase of more than \$650 million in additional HTST reimbursement for school districts in 2022. Additionally, based on current budget negotiations, there is \$500 million available for school bus replacement and purchasing in each of the 2023-24, 2024-25, and 2025-26 fiscal years. A portion of these funds are eligible for use to incentivize new school bus drivers through hiring bonuses. Status: SB 88 was passed 29-9-2 along party lines in the Senate and now heads to the Assembly for committee referral. Action: We recommend CASTO maintain a support position.

2. *Roadeo Report* – Doug Smith- Shared we went to a few chapter Roadeo's and enjoyed it, it was a lot of fun. He enjoyed each of the different Roadeo's. Spoke about a Northern and Southern Roadeo. We are looking at April 27th and May 4th for these sectional Roadeo's. The open positions will be posted, so apply if interested in filling these spots.
3. *Access & Mobility* – Christina Celeste, Dano Rybar- There is about 50 books left in inventory. Looking in to revamping and update current book and get a new version out to members.
4. *Fundraiser / BINGO* – Dano Rybar – Shared Bingo started in 2011, with 2 sessions a week. Bingo was able to provide \$19,000 financial assistance to the State Conference. Bingo will pay insurance for the Chapters, around \$20,000, so that Chapters will not have to worry about that it will be covered. We assisted with financial travel for the Roadeo committee. Bingo will also be providing mugs and notebooks to the Mechanics Workshop for the attendees, as well as the luncheon on Thursday and breakfast. Dano shared that Bingo is going really well. Jeremy wanted to say thank you for honoring him with the award at conference. A baseball field was named after us "CASTO field". Parents still volunteer, and make \$30 an hour to assist, with their earnings being donated to their child's school. Grassvalley has a baseball team with parents who are traveling to help out at Bingo as well. \$29,000 paid out each session. We pay \$10,000 a month in rent each month for just 2 sessions a week. 4th year as best Bingo in Sacramento.
5. *CASTOways.org* – Mike Sawyer- Start planning now for next year's events and we will get them uploaded. Send in officers list after elections. Send in anything school bus related and we will get it posted.

IV. Business and Issues

A. Old Business

1. *2023 State Conference Report- Dano Rybar, Executive Board-* Thank you for attending. Thank you to all of our vendors, bowling was a blast. 531 attendees, had a great turnout. We maxed capacity. We had 126 vendor participants, 58 booths. \$60,000 profit. Still have outstanding balances, but we still did good.

B. New Business

1. *2023-2024 Proposed Budget-* Christina Celeste- Shared the proposed budget vs actuals. (M) Sam Anderson (C) Danielle Lane
2. *2023-2024 Calendar -* Mike Sawyer- Shared a copy of the upcoming calendar. (M) Brad Kirby (C) Doug Smith
3. *Membership Pins-*Mike Sawyer- They have been ordered, and will be handed out at Officer's Workshop. They will be paid for out of this years budget, but hasn't been posted yet because they were just ordered.
4. *2023 Mechanic's Workshop and CA Best Tech & Inspection-* Tony Lavezzo, Pam McDonald- Mike shared from an email that there are currently 7 vendors with a total of 18 individuals as of May 31st. Thursday breakfast sponsored by A-Z Bus sales, Friday breakfast sponsored by Gatekeeper Systems. Thursday night hospitality sponsored by Transtraks. We due still need more sponsorships and three more vendors for hospitality. Currently have 55 registered as of June 3rd.
5. *Officer's Workshop-*Dano Rybar, Executive Board- First Saturday in August at the Burbank Marriott. It will be a 1-day event. Friday will be a beach theme or Hawaiian theme with a taco bar that goes from 6pm-10pm. This workshop is to work on "How to make CASTO effective at your level". We need to book a minimum of 60 rooms for Friday. We need at least 4 people from each chapter to show up. There will be teachings for all officers, to learn how to keep records, minutes, and treasurer responsibilities. It will be a good training for all Chapters, so please attend. If you need assistance to attend, have your Chapter President reach out to us and we will get a plan worked out to get you there to attend.
6. *2023 School Transportation Business Management Forum-* Dano Rybar, Mike Sawyer, Executive Board- Dano asked what is a specific topic that you think would benefit you. Some discussion was on Elop and Clearing House. Email any ideas for topics you want to learn about at this forum. It will be October 11th-13th at the Anaheim by Delta. Trainings on Thursday and a board meeting on Friday after forum.
7. *2024 State Conference-* Dano Rybar, Executive Board- The 56th Annual State Conference will be February 24th-26th 2024 at Anaheim Delta by Marriott. Send any ideas in for program topics if there is anything you would like to see. There will be no charge for buses, it is a first come first serve for parking for them. The theme for the Saturday banquet is "Back to the 80's".

V. INFORMATION EXCHANGE

- ##### **A. Chapter News** – Chapter Presidents 1,2,3,4,6,7,8,10,12,13,15,19, 20

VI. ADJOURNMENT 1:16pm (M) Brad Kirby (S) Gingi Borg (C)