

10:00 – 10:45 a.m. Expert Panel Speaker Biographies

Leon Langley

Mr. Langley spent the first 31 years of his education career working for the Calvert County Public Schools, MD, first as a high school history teacher and coach for 12 years and then the next 16 years as a vice principal and principal followed by 3 years as the director of Pupil Transportation and Athletics. For the last 7 years, he has been the Maryland State Department of Education Director of Pupil Transportation. He has also served NASDPTS for the last 6 years and is in the first year of a 2 year term as president.

Ronna Weber

Ms. Weber was named Executive Director of the National School Transportation Association (NSTA) in June 2012.

Ms. Weber was most recently the U.S. Export Control Officer for Alstom Power Inc. where she worked to implement an effective export control program and educate employees to the export control laws of the United States. In addition, she managed the legal subsidiaries for two of the company's U.S. divisions, maintaining corporate records and state qualifications for the numerous entities of the company.

Prior to joining Alstom in 2008, Ms. Weber served as a Senior Associate with Prime Policy Group, where she specialized in transportation policy. Ms. Weber worked with NSTA for over 12 years, concentrating on legislative and regulatory affairs. During her tenure with Prime Policy, Ms. Weber also worked with other clients in a variety of areas to include travel and tourism, health care and international affairs.

Ms. Weber received a master's degree in lobbying from the Graduate School of Political Management of the George Washington University and a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of South Carolina.

Tom Cohn

Mr. Cohn was born and raised in Helena, Montana. He taught history and coached at the high school level for 15 years, and has been the transportation manager for the past 14 years for Helena Public Schools.

Bob Downin

Mr. Downin worked for an agricultural organization for 20 years where he specialized in legislative outreach and public relations. He then moved into the school transportation arena starting as a school bus driver, and then worked as a safety coordinator and transportation director. In 2009 he accepted a position as transportation director at Durham School Services, one of the largest school transportation companies in the world. He has also served as the transportation director at school districts in Florida, Louisiana and now back in his home state of Indiana at the Clark Pleasant Community School Corporation.