**School Bus Technician and Mechanic Qualifications**

Currently employed repair technicians and mechanics are encouraged to be state or Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) certified by September 30, 2006. New mechanics and technicians are encouraged to be either state or ASE certified within two years of the date-of-hire. All repair technicians and mechanics are encouraged to earn additional certifications in school bus and related areas.

Recognizing the importance of proper and systemic school bus maintenance in providing for the safe transportation of school children, it is suggested that all employed repair technicians and mechanics earn additional certifications in school bus and related areas.

This practice has been recommended by the Pupil Transportation Advisory Committee.