The Indiana State School Bus Committee met for a regularly scheduled meeting on March 19, 2003. The following members were in attendance.

The chairman called the meeting to order. The chairman inquired if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes. With none being made, Mr. Rahn made a motion to accept the minutes. Seconded by Mr. Mathews. Motion carried unanimously.

The item of action was a recommendation to adopt final rule on LSA #02-315 concerning the display of the United States flag on school buses. After a brief discussion, Mr. Lake made a motion to accept the proposed rule. Seconded by Mr. Stout. Motion carried unanimously.

The first item of discussion was regarding the use of assistive devices to re-enter through the school bus emergency door. The following members, Mr. Lake, Mr. Alspach, Mr. Zehr, and Mr. Mathews, agreed to serve on an ad-hoc committee to collect data on the number of states that use an assistive device and the type/design of the device. The Department of Education’s general council will be contacted concerning a legal opinion on the liability of the device being required vs. optional.

In items of information the chairman:

• Reviewed correspondence
Mr. Mathews announced that the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration developed a curriculum on the use of child restraint systems in school buses. The curriculum will be offered through the Automotive Safety for Children Program.

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Stout made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Chew. Motion carried unanimously.

Michael Benway, Chairman

Tobi Gummer, Secretary