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Caledonia Community Schools Bus Drivers Win Regional Bus-Road-e-o Competition

Caledonia, Mich. – Caledonia Community Schools is proud to announce that our exceptional team of bus drivers has reclaimed first place at the annual Region 8 School Bus Road-e-o, held on May 10, 2025, at Hudsonville Public Schools. Competing against nearly 60 drivers from districts like Grandville, Forest Hills, West Ottawa, and others across the region, Caledonia brought both the regional and county titles back home.

The 2025 School Bus Road-e-o challenged drivers with a series of real-world scenarios and precision maneuvers, including tight turns, parking challenges, backing exercises, and emergency simulations. Participants were also required to complete a rigorous written test and demonstrate safe student loading and unloading practices, all designed to highlight their expertise and reinforce safe driving standards.

Special congratulations go to Dan Ottenwess, who placed third overall and earned the opportunity to represent Caledonia at the State Bus Road-e-o on June 14 at Mason Middle School.

The award-winning Caledonia team included Dan Ottenwess, Tim Nurenberg, Heather Vantil, Deanna Hall, Ethan Fitzgerald, Janice Steensma, Tari Johnson, Sue Mullan, and Beth Pritchard.

"The School Bus Road-e-o is more than a competition – it's a celebration of the critical role school bus drivers play in student safety," said Michaellita Fortier, Director of Transportation. "We are so proud of our team for demonstrating exceptional skill, professionalism, and a deep commitment to excellence. They truly are the best of the best!"

The Caledonia School Bus Drivers' impressive performance reflects their strong commitment to student safety and professional excellence. Their first-place finish highlights the skill, preparation, and pride they bring to their vital role every day.

Thank you to all of our transportation staff! Your excellence keeps our students safe and Caledonia moving forward.