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CIESC PROVES TALENT JUST IN TIME FOR BACK TO SCHOOL

Indianapolis— With all the concerns on a parent’s mind at the start of a new school year, the professional bus drivers at Central Indiana Educational Service Center (CIESC) have alleviated one concern. “Your kids are in good hands,” says CIESC Director of Transportation **Justin Wilczynski**.

Justin, who goes by the nickname “J,” is familiar to parents in this community because he has managed Franklin Township transportation operations for three years. But recent funding issues have prompted changes; and the formation of independent CIESC as a transportation service provider is one outcome. Wilczynski wants parents to know CIESC employs the same talented team of drivers, mechanics and office professionals to serve local families. In fact, the team at CIESC can now add the words “award-winning” to their resumes.

“We run more than 100 routes and deliver 8,000 students to their destinations every day,” he says. “There have been a few logistical headaches going into the school year, but we stay focused on doing our jobs as well as we can.” As proof of their commitment to doing their jobs well, the center entered a team in a recent training event. The School Transportation Association of Indiana hosts a skills competition known as the STAI Rodeo every year. Franklin Township (now CIESC) had never entered such an event before, but Wilczynski supported the drivers’ decision to enter this year.

He’s glad he did. They took first place.

“These drivers share the road every day with other drivers, and are entrusted with 84 lives every time their bus pulls out. I’m obviously proud they placed where they did,” says Wilczynski. “We had never participated before, so it was impressive that they would prepare well, come in and win it.”

The good natured competition is hosted by School Transportation Association of Indiana (STAI) and fueled by regional diesel and gasoline supplier Co-Alliance LLP. Hundreds of drivers from all over the state take part, and this year was the 15th annual event. According to STAI event coordinator **Monica Coburn**, STAI’s mission is to promote education and training to enhance safe school bus transportation. “We were honored to present this year’s trophy to CIESC, and know that they will start the busy school year with this achievement under their belts,” she said.

As sponsor and fuel provider for the Rodeo, Co-Alliance congratulates the award-winning CIESC team. For more information, visit www.ciesc.k12.in.us or visit www.co-alliance.com. Release contact: Laurel Mann, Co-Alliance LLP at laurel.mann@co-alliance.com or (317) 363-9126.



The award-winning CIESC team included: Kim Garvey, Steve Conwell, Nick Meyerrose (not pictured), Diane Nale, Debbie Scalf and Becky Kruezman (not pictured.)