

**Dr. Linda F. Bluth Ed.D.**

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&

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Dr. Linda Fran Bluth has more than 57 years of experience as a Special Educator including 43 years in special needs transportation. Her past experience includes work at the United States Department of Education (USDE); University Professor; School System Administrator; and Policy Specialist in the Maryland Governor's Office for Children Youth and Families. She was employed as a special needs transportation consultant at the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Early Intervention/Special Education Services from 2009-2020.

Dr. Bluth is the Past-President, National Association for Pupil Transportation (NAPT), as well as the recipient of the NAPT Distinguished Service Award (2000). She previously served as the NAPT Director at Large (1995–1998) and Advisor Emeritus to the NAPT Special Needs Advisory Committee. In 2013 she was also the recipient of the Sure-Lok Special Needs Transportation Award for excellence in transporting students with special needs. She has authored five NAPT editions of *Transporting Students with Disabilities*. In addition, she has over 125 publications in the field of school transportation and numerous education publications. In 2015 Dr. Bluth was appointed to the NAPT Foundation Board of Trustees and the Linwood Center Board for individuals living with autism and related developmental disabilities. In 2018 Dr. Bluth was awarded the NAPT Hall of Fame Award, the highest NAPT professional award, for her distinguished work in the disabilities community and commitment to safe school transportation.

Dr. Bluth has presented on a variety of transportation topics in 44 States, Canada, Israel and Dubai since 1981. She currently serves as a tenured emeritus faculty member at the Edupro National Conference and Exhibition on Transporting Students with Disabilities & Preschoolers. Her expertise is in the area of special needs transportation policies and procedures. She has served as both Chairperson and Co-Chairperson of the Infants, Toddlers and Preschool Writing Committee (1995, 2000, and 2005 & 2010) at the 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 15<sup>th</sup> National Conference on School Transportation and currently serves on conference planning committees across the country. She contributed to the 16<sup>th</sup> National Congress on School Transportation as a writer for the Infants, Toddlers and Preschool Writing Committee and has been invited to do so for the 17<sup>th</sup> National Congress on School Transportation.

She received her Doctoral Degree in Special Education from the University of Illinois (1972) and was awarded the College of Education, Education Alumni Association, Distinguished Alumni Award (1999) for her work in Transportation for Students with Disabilities. Dr. Bluth was the recipient of the 2013 Emporia State University (ESU) Distinguished Alumni Award. This award is the highest honor that can be granted by the Alumni Association.

Dr. Bluth holds current Maryland Certification in Elementary Education 1-6 and Middle School; Elementary-Middle School Principal/Supervisor; Special Education Kindergarten-12; Special Education Principal; Superintendent; Supervisor of School Transportation; and Supervisor of Special Education.

Dr. Bluth is currently employed by the National Association for Pupil Transportation as a Special Needs Transportation Consultant and Maryland State Department of education. She is actively involved in matters related to special education and transportation. Dr. Bluth is a current speaker at International, National and State meetings.