



October 5, 2018

The Honorable Ajit Pai  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors, CC Docket  
Nos. 97-21 and 96-45

Dear Chairman Pai:

We are pleased to extend our support of the nomination of Julie Tritt Schell to serve as the schools representative on the USAC board beginning January 1, 2019. Ms. Tritt Schell currently serves as the Pennsylvania state E-rate Coordinator. Her leadership among the applicant community and her knowledge of USAC matters related to E-rate program administration and process efficiencies has been and should continue to be a welcome asset to USAC, the FCC and all stakeholders.

Ms. Tritt Schell is uniquely qualified to serve in this role. As the Pennsylvania State E-rate Coordinator for 20 years, Ms. Tritt Schell assists over 1250 schools and libraries by providing hands on training and outreach, and she files E-rate funding applications for PAIUnet, the high-speed broadband network that interconnects the intermediate units. Her active involvement with multiple applicant groups around the country gives her an unequaled panoramic view of the E-rate program including the full breadth of the applicant experience. Ms. Tritt Schell has proven her ability to accurately interpret impacts of USAC's administration of program rules and requirements in the field. She also possesses a thorough understanding of the FCC's policy goals and vision of the E-rate program. Consequently, she is able to make contributions as a board member that are uniquely informed by her long experience and success as a professional E-rate practitioner.

She has been an instrumental voice in encouraging USAC to engage in more stakeholder outreach which we have found to be extremely beneficial. Ms. Tritt Schell builds bridges among applicants and USAC, and ensures that the administrator is aware of the applicant experience.

E-rate modernization has required USAC and applicants alike to implement and adjust to many changes over the past few years. Ms. Tritt Schell brings her unparalleled experience to the table and is the best candidate to help the FCC and USAC achieve the broadband goals and vision to meet the future needs of students and library patrons. We believe that Ms. Tritt Schell's experience and knowledge will best serve USAC's Schools and Libraries Committee, particularly with respect to the many challenges that still lie ahead.

For these reasons we encourage you to appoint Julie Tritt Schell to the USAC Board.

Sincerely,

Ray Timothy  
Executive Director  
Utah Education and Telehealth Network