

October 4, 2018

Re: Nomination for J. Todd Finnell to a seat representing the K-12 community on the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC)'s Board of Directors

Dear Sir or Madame:

I wish to express my support to nominate J. Todd Finnell to serve as a director for the Universal Service Administrative Company representing the K-12 community and schools that are eligible to receive discounts pursuant to section 54.501 of the Federal Communications Commission's rules.

Dr. Finnell currently serves as the Superintendent of Schools for Imperial County Office of Education (ICOE). Prior roles at ICOE include Assistant Superintendent of Technology Services, Chief Executive Officer of the California K-12 High Speed Network (K12HSN), Executive Director of TechSETS, Senior Director of Learning Technologies, and Teacher/Counselor in Alternative Education.

Dr. Finnell holds a Professional Clear Administrative Services Credential, a Pupil Personnel Services Credential, a Multiple Subject Professional Clear Teaching Credential, a certificate as a Certified Chief Technology Officer, and a certificate from the ACSA Personnel (HR) Administrators Academy. He holds a doctoral degree in Educational Leadership (Ed.D.) and a Master of Arts (M.A.) in Education. Dr. Finnell also possesses experience teaching in elementary classrooms, instructing university students in a teacher preparation program, and serving as Vice President for Student Services, Technology and Research for Imperial Community College District.

Since 2004, Dr. Finnell and the Imperial County Office of Education have administered the K12HSN from the California Department of Education. The program administers K-12's participation in the California Research and Education Network operated by the Corporation for Education Network Initiatives in California (CENIC). Todd Finnell and the Imperial County Office of Education have led this important work on behalf of the California Department of Education effectively, both from a budgetary perspective and from a service delivery perspective.

As evidenced by his success in county-wide and state-wide efforts, Dr. Finnell is very accomplished at working collectively and collaboratively across agencies. Some of the prestigious awards he has received include the Innovation in Technology Award from the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association, the Exemplary Research and Practice Award from San Diego State University, the Brian L. Talbott Award for Innovative Technology and Collaboration and the Technology in Learning Leadership Award from CUE (formerly Computer Using Educators).

As a colleague, I appreciate Dr. Finnell's integrity, honesty, creativity and service-driven leadership. He truly has a sincere concern for the welfare of others. These qualities served the K12HSN program well as he built strong relationships with our counterparts and amongst stakeholders in Sacramento.

The federal telecommunications subsidy programs are extremely beneficial and important to schools nationwide. I believe Dr. Finnell understands the importance of this program and its value to education. His vast experience in understanding complex budgets, project implementation and the challenges of leading large staffs will allow him to be an excellent member of the Board of Directors for the Universal Service Administrative Company. If you have any questions, or would like additional information, please feel free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ted Alejandre". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ted" and last name "Alejandre" clearly distinguishable.

Ted Alejandre
County Superintendent