

Aurora City Schools

October 11, 2017

www.aurora-schools.org

Board of Education
102 E. Garfield Rd.
Aurora, OH 44202
330-562-6106
Fax: 330-562-4892

Miller Elementary
646 S. Chillicothe Rd.
Aurora, OH 44202
330-562-6199
Fax: 330-995-5459

Craddock Elementary
105 Hurd Rd.
Aurora OH 44202
330-562-3175
Fax: 330-954-2087

Leighton Elementary
121 Aurora-Hudson Rd.
Aurora OH 44202
330-562-2209
Fax: 330-562-2265

Harmon Middle School
130 Aurora-Hudson Rd.
Aurora OH 44202
330-562-3375
Fax: 330-562-4796

Aurora High School
109 W. Pioneer Trail
Aurora OH 44202
330-562-3501
Fax: 330-562-3588

Chairman Ajit Pai
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael O'Rielly
Commissioner Brendan Carr
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel
c/o Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: ET Docket No. 14-165 and GN Docket Nos. 12-268 and 14-166 Via Electronic Filing

Dear Chairman Pai, Commissioner Clyburn, Commissioner O'Rielly, Commissioner Carr, Commissioner Rosenworcel, and Ms. Dortch,

On behalf of Aurora High School, located in Aurora, Ohio, that provides approximately 10 performances per year to 1,000 audience members and education programs to 150 students, I write with concern about available spectrum and protection for our wireless microphones and backstage communications devices.

I strongly support the Commission's proposal to expand Part 74 license eligibility to include persons and organizations that can demonstrate the need for professional, high-quality audio and have the capability of providing it through conscientious use of wireless microphones. We support and endorse the Comments filed in these dockets by The Performing Arts Wireless Microphone Working Group.

School theatre programs and professional performing arts organizations hold thousands of performances each year, and wireless microphones are essential to producing high-quality performances while limiting significant public safety concerns. Professional wireless capability, with successful interference protection, is essential to educational theatre, both in the training and safety of students, onstage and backstage.

About ten years ago a group of parents donated 12 wireless microphones to our high school with the promise that they be used for musical play performances. Since that time we have produced many plays both with our high school students as well as our middle school students using these mics. Audiences have become accustomed to musical performances where the actors and actresses are mic'd. This of any professional play performance that you have attended and you will understand. If our school and other schools around the country are not allowed to use these devices, then of course we will have to find/buy alternatives or break the law. My program is already strapped for cash and my donors are reticent to keep giving us money not knowing if the rules will be changed again in another ten years.

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I would urge the Commission to grant a Part 74 license if an applicant can provide certification of:

- A mission statement of providing performing arts to the public;
- A history of professional-quality wireless audio presentations to audiences without interference;
- Technical guidance and frequency coordination by qualified professionals (active in audio engineering who have academic degrees or equivalent professional experience and who are familiar with radio-frequency coordination);
- A commitment to register for protection only the frequencies, times, and locations actually needed; and
- A practice of keeping logs of all wireless microphone uses, including frequencies, for all performances.

Our wireless technology is over ten years old. Yes, that makes it outdated, but it works. And students are learning how these instruments work and isn't that what our purpose is: to enable students to become learners? Our program will go on if these stay is not granted, but it will make things harder. Please grant the Part 74 license.

Sincerely,

Rob Albrecht
Aurora High School