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KANE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

FCC,

I am the Technology Director for the Kane Area School District, and I have administered the E-Rate program for the district since 2004. The shift of funding to internal connections was a welcome change in the E-Rate program. It allowed the district to upgrade network switches, firewall, and wireless networks to current technology. These upgrades have been key to handling the demand of the growing volume of end user devices employed by our students and teachers. One change in the program that would be extremely helpful to our rural and economically challenged schools would be allowing us to use funds from one school building, for a need in another school building.

Our elementary and middle school were re-wired in a construction project in 2009, and with the upgrades to network equipment through the E-Rate program, are working wonderfully and are not currently in need any additional upgrades. Our high school also received upgrades to network switches and the wireless network, but the network wiring is in desperate need of upgrading.

Our category 2 fund balance for our high school has under \$17,000 remaining. The elementary and middle school have a combined balance of just under \$26,000. If we were able to combine those funds, we would be able to address a large part of a wiring project at the high school.

Please consider changing the program to allow the use of category 2 funds for needed projects anywhere in the district, rather than restricting them to individual schools.

Sincerely,