April 16, 2019

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch

Office of the Secretary

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street, SW

Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Ex Parte – In the Matter of Modernizing the E-Rate Program for Schools and Libraries, WC Dkt. 13-184**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On April 16, 2019, Representatives of the Education & Libraries Networks Coalition (EdLiNC) including Jon Bernstein, representing the International Society for Technology in Education, Marijke Visser, representing the American Library Association, Corey Williams, representing the National Education Association, and Zachary Scott, representing the National Association of Secondary School Principals met with Jamie Susskind of Commissioner Brendan Carr’s office.

During our meeting, we discussed our views on the Category 2 E-Rate report issued by the Wireline Bureau and on a potential Notice of Public Rulemaking (NPRM) on the universal service fund that has not yet been adopted by the Commission. Regarding the former, we indicated our preference for retaining the current formula system over reverting to the “two-in five-years” rule but indicated our interest in seeing an increase in the current $150 per pupil five-year formula based on anecdotal evidence and survey responses that suggested the formula’s inability to meet school Wi-Fi needs. Regarding the latter, we expressed our deep concerns about the reported contents of the NPRM, focusing on our concerns that an overall cap would potentially pit program against program when demand exceeded the cap. We also expressed strong concerns about how the reported proposal to combine E-Rate and the Rural Health Care programs under a single cap would also potentially pit schools and libraries against rural health care providers in a funding shortage scenario and create significant uncertainty for program beneficiaries about the availability of funding year-to-year. We also objected to reported prioritization criteria that would pit rural beneficiaries of USF program support against urban beneficiaries.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jon Bernstein

Co-Chair

Education & Libraries Networks Coalition