

July 13, 2018

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th St. SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: **Ex Parte Communication**  
***Modernizing the E-rate Program for Schools and Libraries -- WC Docket No. 13-184***  
***Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism -- CC Docket No. 02-6***

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On July 12, 2018, I provided FCC staff with the final results of a nationwide survey of E-rate applicants. The following are the FCC Wireline Competition Bureau staff to whom the report was sent: D'wana Terry, Associate Bureau Chief, Ryan Palmer, Division Chief (TAPD), Bryan Boyle, Kate Dumouchel, April Jones, Stephanie Minnock, Mark Nadel, Joseph Schlingbaum, and Peter Shroyer.

I encouraged the FCC staff to review pages 25 through 41 of the report. These are the unfiltered, anonymous comments provided by respondents. I shared that there were a range of opinions and experiences expressed by respondents, and I offered the following representative comments:

- "E-rate funding is vital to our districts. Without E-rate funding we would be unable to continue providing high quality Internet access to our schools." (#47)
- "It is the only way we can afford to provide reliable Internet to our students." (#119)
- "Full funding of this program is vital to our rural school districts in Minnesota." (#68)
- "Our Library would not be able to provide Internet services to the public without E-rate!!" (#154)
- "The application process is getting better and responses are timelier than in the past." (#10)
- "The phase down of telecom has been a big issue in our school system. In my opinion, this needs to be re-evaluated." (#252)
- "Redesign EPC Portal to be more user-friendly." (#184)
- "The next five-year cycle of C2 funding support needs to be approved so we can start planning." (#248)
- "Category 2 budget by district would be so helpful." (#24)

The report is included as an attachment to this letter.

Respectfully submitted,

*/s/ John D. Harrington*

John D. Harrington  
Chief Executive Officer

Attachment: *2018 E-rate Trends Report*

cc: D'wana Terry  
Ryan Palmer  
Kate Dumouchel