Under subscribed?  In the last round of rule revisions a number of things were taken out of eligibility as they were not in direct alignment with the program mission, so yes the utilization dropped. Between the restrictiveness of the rules and the needling of the audits it's no wonder.  It is unfortunate that critical issues such as bridging the access / homework gap are not eligible as a service.

If category 1 and 2 are impacted, it should be noted that category 1 has no "cap" to the District - but we have to defend what we request and why.  Category 2 does have a cap as it is calculated per pupil, per campus.

In essence, without adequate E-Rate funding the Humboldt Unified School District would not have the financial capacity to purchase adequate internet bandwidth, adequate site-to-site bandwidth or build out campus networks and wireless access.  Without this infrastructure we could not support the quantity of devices or the quality of access we enjoy today and are planning to expand tomorrow.  Digital curriculum such as ELA could be unsupportable and the ability to connect our students in any meaningful global sense would difficult to say the least.

E-Rate is utilized in HUSD for:

- Internet

- Connecting all of our sites to the internet and data center

- Building out campus networks to support increased bandwidth and device density

- Deployment and maintenance of a wireless network to support 1 to 1 access for our students

In HUSD we only pay 20% of the services and hardware stated above.  E-rate is the reason we can support the continued build-out of Chromebooks and digital curriculum.  E-Rate is the reason we have full coverage wireless at our sites.

This program has saved us hundreds of thousands, possibly at this point millions, of dollars.  Capping E-Rate caps our ability to provide our students with the tools and access they need.  Capping E-Rate forces us to cap the innovation taking place in our classrooms.  Capping E-Rate caps the potential for technology use and could result in lack of bandwidth, instability and an overall decrease in the confidence and utilization of technology as part of our educational mission.

Thank you,

**Daniel Streeter**

Superintendent

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