



Garfield School District

145 East Center • P.O. Box 398 Panguitch Utah 84759 • phone (435) 676-8821 • fax (435) 676-8266

TO EMPOWER AND MOTIVATE LIFELONG LEARNERS

July 11, 2018

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: *EBS Allocation Letter of Support for UETN*

Dear Ms. Dortch,

Garfield County School District is a rural school district in South Central Utah. We are a Frontier district with a county population of less than 1 inhabitant per square mile. Our needs are mimicked by few across the USA. As a result, many services we receive are not cost effective but are still needed to provide educational opportunities for our students. Our support of the Utah Education Network and their request for EBS frequencies may be our opportunity to offer services to our students that could be left without should the EBS spectrum not be allocated for our educational needs.

The EBS white space that is available in many of the rural areas of Utah can extend the school network allowing the high need students access to educational resources while at home and helps state organizations like UETN in efforts to fill broadband access gaps stemming from the regulatory/funding gaps that persist across programs such as the E-rate Universal Service Fund (USF). The digital divide and homework gap is real here in Utah, UETN working with the Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to acquire EBS will make a tremendous difference in students' life and help extend broadband access to areas that likely remain unattractive to private investment.

An EBS based broadband network owned and operated by educational providers is paramount to overcoming the Digital Divide within the State.

Please consider the UETN comments and their response regarding how EBS can be effectively allocated and utilized for education equity and enhancement for our students.

Sincerely,

Tracy Davis, Superintendent
Garfield County School District