## E-Rate’s Positive Impact on Fort Bend ISD

Fort Bend ISD has the mission to inspire and equip students for a modern world and the Profile of A Graduate focuses on skills for life including proficiency with technology.  The E-Rate program has been key in the impact for the District since 2015 when we applied for the Schools and Libraries Program.  The $4.9 million in reimbursement has helped refresh the 80 campuses in the District with network gear to support a wireless infrastructure, as well dark fiber to increase the speed of data access accessibility.  Technology in the classrooms helps improve students’ performance and the overall impact has been critical with the support of the E-Rate program.  To support the Technology Master Plan the equipment purchased with E-Rate funding has been able to provide technological innovations to facilitate a blended learning approach to reach students that have different learning modalities including adaptive programs, pre-assessments, one-to-one instructional methods, collaborative and individual learning – all supported by the network equipment that allowed us to support wireless connectivity.

The Wi-Fi access points in classrooms, libraries and areas such as courtyards has not only supported the faster connectivity to instructional materials but also supports the blended learning initiative that is in process across the District.  Wireless connectivity has also allowed us to advance the BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) program.  Collectively, the E-Rate program has made a significant and positive impact to the students we serve in our schools.  The network refresh and access to higher speed data connectivity for classroom teaching and learning has allowed Fort Bend to support our mission and vision for our students.

Please consider retaining the E-Rate program for the purpose of supporting public schools.