

CC96-45



Oregon Public Library District

300 Jefferson Street
Oregon, Illinois 61061-1697

Phone 815/732-2724
Fax 815/732-6643

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 18, 1997

Honorable Reed Hundt - Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW - Room 884
Washington, DC 20554

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APR 22 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am writing to urge your support for discounts of telecommunications and critical, non-telecommunications services for public libraries and schools as envisioned by the Federal-State Joint Board in their Recommended Rules published last November.

Our library is in a small town in a rural area and we do not have a local Internet provider because of the lack of telecommunications infrastructure. The Oregon Public Library has a limited budget, as a result we have to charge our patrons for the use of the Internet. That is why a discount in telecommunication rate is especially needed in less populated towns like ours.

Then Internet is a valuable tool to a library, particularly a small library. It furnishes us with a large amount of data that we could not afford to purchase in print or on CD ROM such as: a directory of businesses and residents for the entire United States, facts on millions of companies and organizations, and travel and legal information. In addition, the Internet provides a huge amount of up to the minute information on stocks, government, technology and medicine.

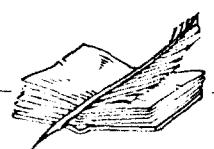
Many people cannot afford or the cost of Internet service or the necessary computer equipment. Thus, it is important that libraries and schools be able to supply their community with this service. It can help make for a more educated, informed and empowered community.

Thank you for your attention. Please call if we can be of any assistance to you.

Please help us relate these recommendations to the members of the FCC and the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) on our behalf. We would appreciate a copy of any correspondence you might send to the ICC on this matter.

Sincerely,
Phil Kashdan
Phil Kashdan
Reference Librarian

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CC 96-45

PINE ISLAND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

106 S.W. 2nd Street
P. O., Box 715
Pine Island, MN 55963
(507) 356-8103

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communication Commission
1919 M St., N.W., Room 814
Washington, DC 20554

April 14th, 1997

RECEIVED

APR 22 1997

Federal Communication Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt

It is our understanding that the Joint Board recommendation would stop federal universal service support, which is vital for maintaining affordable telephone rates for small rural telephone companies. If enacted, this recommendation would have a devastating effect on rural telephone companies, and on the quality and range of services offered to rural customers.

As a rural economic developer, I urge you to adopt the recommendations submitted to you in an ex parte of March 26th by the state members of the Federal-State Joint Board. The above mentioned ex parte urges the FCC to adopt the February 13th, 1997 Rural Telephone Company Transition Plan proposed by the United States Telephone Association and the Rural Telephone Coalition.

I can not over emphasize the importance of a modern communication infra-structure to the economic growth and well being of our community. The freeze on federal universal service support would eliminate any incentive for rural telephone companies to invest in new infra-structure and would hamper our efforts at creating new economic development opportunities for rural areas.

I am also concerned about communication equal access opportunities for existing and future area businesses. It is crucial that rural businesses are offered the tools to help them locate here and create jobs for area residents.

The Joint Board recommendations would also cut off support for most business lines and all second residences, or second lines in the same residence in high cost areas. This action would mean a significant decrease in the amount of universal support these customers' lines receive. Direct adverse results of this proposal include:

- Significantly higher cost of Internet for rural households and businesses (both traditional and home based), that use a second line for their computer or business hookup.
- Increase price of doing business in rural areas, and further contributing to business migration to nearby urban centers. This would also result in increase in number of commuters.
- Create an administrative nightmare in trying to figure out which line(s) fit in the supported versus the non supported category.
- Jeopardize the ability of many small Telephone Companies to actively support local economic development projects through available rural development programs.

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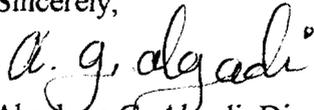
Page 2
Honorable Reed Hundt
4/14/97

It is essential that the FCC establish policies and goals to encourage investment in, and access to modern telecommunication services for all Americans, no matter where they live or work, not just the high end users. If modern advances in telecommunication technology encourage decentralization by default, the FCC should not enact rules that counter that.

Your support for fair universal transition plan for rural telephone companies and rural communication consumers is vital to the future of economic development in Pine Island

Please let me know if you need additional information, or have any questions. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "A. G. Algadi".

Abraham G. Algadi, Director.

C: EDA Board
Pine Island City Administrator

C:\Rule.fcc

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February, 1997

APR 22 1997

The Honorable Reed Handt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554
Commissioner Handt

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

We are writing to urge the Federal Communications Commission to hold a public hearing as part of its review of the television industry's ratings system.

The National Association for Family & Community Education and its affiliate, Ballinger Young Homemakers State Association, are grass-roots organizations which have been actively involved in family issues for the past 60 years. We are very concerned that the family issue of the recently implemented television ratings system does not address the needs of parents.

The questions generated by the current age-based television ratings system deserve a public hearing. We urge you to hold such a hearing soon on this issue which is so important to families in America today.

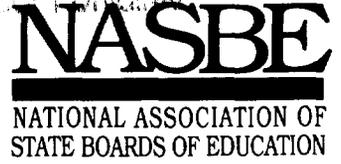
Sincerely,

Ballinger Young Homemakers
8317-B FM 2133
Ballinger, Tx. 76821-9728

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009645



April 10, 1997

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APR 22 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Mr. Reed Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

The National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) is a private nonprofit association representing state and territorial boards of education. Our principal objectives are to strengthen state leadership in education policy-making, promote excellence in the education of all students, advocate equality of access to educational opportunity, and assure responsible governance of public education.

We are writing to express our support for the Federal-Joint State Board on Universal Service's recommendations to the Federal Communications Commission regarding discounted access charges to telecommunications services for schools and libraries. Establishment of an educational rate, the "e-rate," and final approval of their proposals are vital to providing students and teachers affordable access to the information superhighway.

While the nation is experiencing fantastic growth in Internet use, our schools lag far behind in the ability to utilize its educational benefits. According to the Department of Education only 14% of schools nationwide are now connected to the Internet. For many cash-strapped schools struggling to provide the bare minimum of basic instructional materials such as textbooks, the costs associated with obtaining advanced computer technology and installing the necessary wired infrastructure remain prohibitively high. Adoption of the Federal-Joint State Board's plan would go a long way toward enabling schools to offer the technological opportunities and education students will need to succeed in the 21st century.

If the recommendations are approved, the average school would receive a 60% discount rate on a all telecommunications services including Internet access, internal classroom connections, and installation and maintenance costs. The proposals allow schools the flexibility to develop a level of service best suited to their educational goals and financial budgets. Perhaps most importantly, direct classroom connections to the Internet will become more common and ensure students receive a hands-on learning experience.

This matter is in the utmost public interest. Without educational discounts, many students will remain technologically illiterate. NASBE urges you to approve the universal service recommendations for schools and libraries in implementing the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

Sincerely,

Brenda L. Welburn
Executive Director

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- President-Elect**
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Arizona
- Judith Stiegler
Oregon

1012 Cameron Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

703-684-4000
FAX 703-836-2313
E-mail: boards@nasbe.org

Brenda Lillenthal Welburn
Executive Director



CC96-45

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
CAPITAL PLAZA TOWER 500 MERO STREET FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601
Wilmer S. Cody, Commissioner

April 14, 1997

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APR 22 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

The Honorable Reed Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W.
Washington DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am writing you to encourage support for implementation of the Universal Services for both public and private schools and libraries under the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The provisions are essential to expand access to advanced technologies for all elementary and secondary school students and library users. As you know, Kentucky has made significant progress in providing advanced technology and communications services to Kentucky's public schools, regardless of where they are located or the relative wealth of the district. There is still, however, much to be done to reach our goals for all our schools, public and private, and their education partners in the communities, such as our public and private libraries.

Please support the FCC Joint Board recommendations to provide up to \$2.25 billion a year in discounts for all school and library services. These discounts will serve as a catalyst to finally connect every classroom in Kentucky to the Kentucky Information Highway as well as the Global Information Network. Please support inclusion of the Internet services and infrastructure necessary to establish connections among classrooms within schools as eligible for discounts.

Please be assured that the Commonwealth of Kentucky already has in place the experience and resources necessary to implement this essential program for the benefit of all Kentucky schools and libraries. We have worked collaboratively with the Kentucky Public Service Commission, state government agencies, and the state system of higher education to ensure equitable access to quality telecommunications services.

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The Honorable Reed Hundt

Page 2 of 2

April 14, 1997

On behalf of the citizens, students and teachers of Kentucky schools, I thank you and the members of the Committee for support of this bill in 1996. We look forward to working with the FCC to make this a most successful implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wilmer S. Cody".

Wilmer S. Cody

cc: Sister Juanita Nadicksbernd

CC96-45

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 2, 1997

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APR 22 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW, Room 814
Washington, D.C., 20054

Dear Chairman Hundt,

As public school teachers, we write in support of meaningful discounts on telecommunications services for schools and libraries so that every school child and life-long learner can have access to the world of information technology. The Telecommunications Act--through its Universal Service Fund provisions--mandates the development of special discount rates for all schools and libraries so that they can secure services at affordable prices.

Educators know that advanced telecommunications services are important to improving learning, sparking the imagination and leveling the playing field for all of our nation's children. Affordable access to technology in all classrooms and libraries will assure that our children and life-long learners can connect with the technology they would need to compete in today's and tomorrow's workforce. Advanced telecommunications services in the classroom will also create informed and skilled consumers of new technology well into the 21st century.

Last November, the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service sent to the FCC a set of recommendations for implementing the Universal Service Fund provisions related to schools and libraries. These recommendations would give our learning institutions significant discounts on all services that are commercially available, with deeper discounts for those schools and libraries least able to pay and more expensive to service. All schools would get discounts on connections to classrooms and Internet connectivity, both of which are essential to providing the most advanced learning opportunities to the greatest number of students.

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We urge your support for the Joint Board's recommendations. Taken as a whole, they will provide affordable discounts for a full range of services, and give schools and libraries flexibility in choosing the services needed to meet each community's diverse needs. Most importantly, these provisions, if adopted by the FCC, will make advanced technology for learning available to all Americans.

Thank You,

Undersigned Faculty and Staff Members

Northridge High
(Name of school)

Davis County School District, Utah

Patricia Jenkins
Rebecca Olli
Rosemary Steele
Kandee J Edwards
Ramon Anderson
Dawn Dexter
Jenna Greenwood
Juana M. Au
Sharalyn Maughan
Sherif Swares
Nesley M. White
N. Reilly
Amedi Deion
Wendell

Vanessa Johnson
Amy James
S. Michael Jones
Julie Boren
Christy Barnard
Wendy Nimick
Kath Ann Yahr
Kim Call
Shelley H. Moser
Judy Scott
Dorothy J. Dean
Janice Bateman

CC 96-45



Hill Field Elementary School

389 South 1000 East • Clearfield, Utah 84015

Judy A. Nixon
Principal

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED Telephone
(801) 774-7408
Fax
774-1714

April 2, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW, Room 814
Washington, D.C., 20054

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APR 22 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

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Thank You,

E. M. Tanner

Kathleen Wiley

Undersigned Faculty and Staff Members

Hill Field Elementary
(Name of school)

Bridget Fyfe
Jackelyn OProbert

Davis County School District, Utah

Dianne Call

Susan Hood

Karunystrickland

Char Shuckey

Lawell Sandberg

Patricia Knave

Kristy Zumbo

Bonnie Kell

Michelle Wandy

Rob Marble

Stefanie Walker

Winne Kelpack

Amy Furman

Lauren ...

Gary Christensen

Kathy Sutherland

Stacy Callison

Jay Paulsen

Krus Mitchell

Jay Tuelser

Alie Crollini

Janice B. Dean

Adel Anderson

Maggi Jones

Juan ...

Juni ...

...

Sharon Moore

...



California Library Services Board

LIBRARY-COURTS BUILDING
P.O. BOX 942837
SACRAMENTO, CA 94237-0001

(916) 654-0266

April 15, 1997

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

The Honorable Reed E. Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W. Room 814
Washington, DC 20554

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APR 22 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt:

As President of the California Library Services Board, a citizen body appointed by the Governor and the Legislature to administer the State-funded resource-sharing activities among libraries, I am most pleased with the Universal Service section of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 that allows libraries to receive discounted rates. This discount will enable widespread public access to a broad range of telecommunications services, a provision reinforced by the Federal-State Joint Board's recommendations that reflect the rapidly-changing spectrum of telecommunications. While the \$2.25 billion cap may prove too low in the long run to accommodate the citizens of this nation, it is a realistic starting point.

The California Library Services Board generally supports the Joint Board's recommendations. However, we do have several suggestions:

1. Clarify that for-profit libraries may, indeed, receive the Universal Service discount if they are eligible for federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) funds under their individual State-based plans, as per the Telecommunications Act itself which did not distinguish between for-profit and not-for-profit libraries.
2. Cost-recovery fees charged to library patrons for telecommunications services should not be defined as "resales;" the proposed definition and related recommendation would have the negative impact of limiting public access to terminals and services in libraries.
3. Discount schedules based on the National School Lunch Program do not work well for libraries that are not part of K-12 school jurisdictions. U.S. Census data on poverty among the general population would be a far better, and more reliable, indicator for public libraries; there may be other measures more suitable for college, hospital, etc., libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

John K. Kallenberg (BW)

John K. Kallenberg, President
California Library Services Board

cc: William F. Cayton
Mark Madel

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April 18, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, N.W., Room 814
Washington, D.C. 20554

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APR 22 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt:

Subject: CC Docket No. 96-45

I am writing to you in support of the telecommunications discounts for our schools and libraries. I have two children, Nicholas 11 and Hannah 8 that attend Yacks Elementary School in the L'Anse Creuse Public School System in Macomb County Michigan. I will do all I can to make sure that my children will be prepared to meet the challenges of the quickly changing computer environment. What I believe is so important about this legislation is the example it sets for the future advancements in technologies. There is no better way to assure the future of our country than to invest in the education of all of our children and by giving them the tools to succeed. Please help to make sure that these tools are in the classroom.

Sincerely,



Donald Hubler
Father

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EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Paramount Unified School District

15110 California Avenue, Paramount, California 90723-4378
(562) 602-6000 Fax (562) 634-6029



BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Member

April 17, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington DC 20554

Re: CC Docket No.96-45

RECEIVED
APR 22 1997
District Superintendent

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am Director of Student Services from Paramount Unified School District in the City of Paramount, California, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board's decision will guarantee that all school districts have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our District's Technology Use Plan provides the opportunities for students, teachers, and parents to access to the Information Superhighway for distance learning, teaching strategies, college planning, and guidance information.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support of the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me at (562) 602-6028.

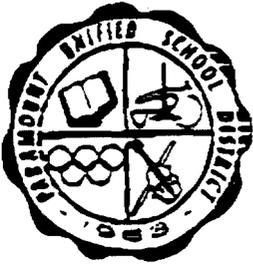
Sincerely,

E.J. Harcharik, Director
Student Services

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EH:ew

Paramount Unified School District



15110 California Avenue, Paramount, California 90723-4378
(310) 602-6000 Fax (310) 634-6029

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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- BETTY HARKENA
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- JANET M. MILLER
Member
- CRAIG OLSON
Member

MICHELE LAWRENCE
District Superintendent

TELECOPY TRANSMITTAL

TO: Reed Hundt

Business Number

(202) 418-2801

Fax Number

FROM: Mr. Ed Harcharik

DATE: 4/18/97

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES SENT, INCLUDING THIS SHEET 2

If you have not received the correct number of pages, please contact me
(310) 602-6028 for Student Services at (310) 602-6035 for Support Services
Our fax (310) 529-7587.



WOODLAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1620 LIVINGSTON STREET • MANDEVILLE, LA 70448

MARIAN C. ARROWSMITH, PRINCIPAL
JEAN KRIEGER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



April 8, 1997

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Hundt:

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APR 22 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

I am a teacher from Woodlake Elementary School in St. Tammany Parish, Mandeville, Louisiana and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools and poorest school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ann Chassee

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WOODLAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1620 LIVINGSTON STREET • MANDEVILLE, LA 70448

MARIAN C. ARROWSMITH, PRINCIPAL
JEAN KRIEGER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



April 8, 1997

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Hundt:

I am a teacher from Woodlake Elementary School in St. Tammany Parish, Mandeville, Louisiana and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools and poorest school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lynette Davis

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APR 22 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary



DRAKE PUBLIC SCHOOL

500 NORTH MAIN
P.O. BOX 256
DRAKE, ND 58736

GEORGE WIELAND
Superintendent
MARVIN GOPLIN
Principal
BOARD MEMBERS
CAROL SPEAR, Pres.
ROLAND BROMLEY, Vice Pres.
DOROTHY MARTWICK, Director
RYAN KRIEDEMAN, Director
BERNICE SMITH, Director
SHIRLEY NEUHARTH, Bus. Mgr.

PHONE (701)465-3732 FAX (701)465-3634

April 14, 1997

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communication Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814
Washington, D.C. 20554

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APR 22 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am currently Superintendent of Drake Public School District, a district that is located in rural north central North Dakota. I would like to let you know that your efforts in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway is greatly appreciated. We thank you.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have affordable access to the Internet and be able to provide-learning opportunities in areas such as our area where they are desperately needed. I'm am confident that the \$2.25 billion per year will address the needs of all our schools, and most importantly, will bring services to classrooms where students learn. Your inclusion of internal class-connections for discounts is vital. In a rural area such as ours, this plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

The Drake School District is trying desperately to catch up with the richer urban districts, but with half of our students on free and reduced meals, we don't have the resources to do so. In fact, we continue to fall farther and farther behind. We need funds to take us beyond stand-alone computers, most of which are Apple 2e's. We don't have the resources to pay for wiring, servers, routers and the hookups that are needed to bring the advantages of the internet to students in our classrooms.

I urge you to fully support the Joint Borad's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you,

George Wieland
George Wieland
Superintendent

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0

NEW CASTLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
420 Fern Street
New Castle, PA 16101-2640

Telephone: (412) 656-4771
Fax (412) 656-4786

Marie L. Pisano
Board Secretary-Business Manager

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Joseph A. Martin, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools

April 17, 1997

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APR 22 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No 96-45

Dear Commissioner Hundt :

I am a Board Member from the New Castle Area School District in Pennsylvania and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

With this discount, we would be able to purchase new adoptions of textbooks which have repeatedly been cut from our local budget. Western Pennsylvania has been extremely hard hit and our school has lost \$13,000,000 of tax base in the last ten years and we rank ninth in the Commonwealth for local tax effort.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Mr. Paul Malley
Board Member

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NEW CASTLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

**420 Fern Street
New Castle, PA 16101-2640**

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**Telephone: (412) 656-4771
Fax (412) 656-4786**

**Marie L. Pisano
Board Secretary-Business Manager**

**Joseph A. Martin, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools**

April 17, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Commissioner Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

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Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC

RE: CC Docket No 96-45

Dear Commissioner Hundt:

I am a Board Member from the New Castle Area School District in Pennsylvania and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

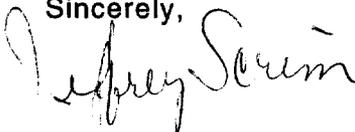
The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

With this discount, we would be able to purchase new adoptions of textbooks which have repeatedly been cut from our local budget. Western Pennsylvania has been extremely hard hit and our school has lost \$13,000,000 of tax base in the last ten years and we rank ninth in the Commonwealth for local tax effort.

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Mr. Jeffrey Scrim
Board Member

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NEW CASTLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
420 Fern Street
New Castle, PA 16101-2640

Telephone: (412) 656-4771
Fax (412) 656-4786

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Marie L. Pisano
Board Secretary-Business Manager

Joseph A. Martin, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools

April 17, 1997

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Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No 96 - 45

Dear Commissioner Hundt :

I am the Treasurer from the New Castle Area School District in Pennsylvania and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

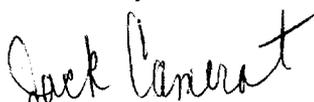
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Thank you.

Sincerely,


Mr. Jack Camerot
Treasurer

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Board Secretary-Business Manager

Joseph A. Martin, Jr.
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Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
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RE: CC Docket No 96 - 45

Dear Commissioner Hundt: :

I am the Superintendent from the New Castle Area School District in Pennsylvania and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

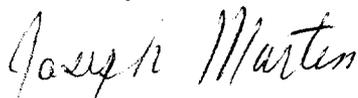
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Thank you.

Sincerely,



Mr. Joseph A. Martin, Jr.
Superintendent

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Board Secretary-Business Manager

Joseph A. Martin, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools

April 17, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am the Business Manager from the New Castle Area School District in Pennsylvania and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

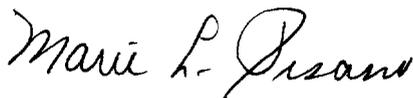
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Thank you.

Sincerely,



Marie L. Pisano
Board Secretary-Business Manager

cc: Board of Directors

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Board Secretary-Business Manager

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Joseph A. Martin, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools

April 17, 1997

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Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No 96-45

Dear Commissioner Hundt: :

I am the Board Secretary from the New Castle Area School District in Pennsylvania and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

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Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marie L. Pisano

Miss Marie L. Pisano
Board Secretary

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Marie L. Pisano
Board Secretary-Business Manager

Joseph A. Martin, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools

April 17, 1997

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1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

RE: CC Docket No 96-45

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Thank you.

Sincerely,



Mr. Sam Trivilino
Board Member

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