

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED



"Preparing today's students to succeed in tomorrow's world."

April 9, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED
APR 22 1997
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20541

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt,

As superintendent of Saddleback Valley Unified School District, I would like to thank you for your efforts 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 decision will guarantee that all 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 our schools, and importantly, the plan will bring services directly to the classroom. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

We would like to request that public education receive free Internet access to all classrooms. California schools are below the national average in per pupil funding and seventy five percent of all school districts in the United States have greater financial resources than the schools in California.

Saddleback Valley Unified School District consists of 35 schools, 1700 classrooms, and over 32,000 students. We have recently made a commitment to provide six Internet connections in all classrooms by September 1, 1997. All 35 schools currently have three or more Internet connections in a centralized location. Most schools do not yet have Internet connections in each classroom.

In order for systemic change to occur in public education, it is absolutely necessary that telecommunications functions, such as access to the Internet via high speed cable fiber optics connections, be provided to every classroom throughout the nation for no charge, regardless of the

**SADDLEBACK VALLEY
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

25631 DISEÑO DRIVE
MISSION VIEJO, CALIFORNIA 92691
(714) 586-1234

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SUPERINTENDENT
Dr. Peter A. Hartman

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Bobbee Cline, President
Dore J. Gilbert, M.D., Vice Pres.
Marcia L. Birch, Clerk
Debbie Hughes, Member
Don Sedgwick, Member

number of computers being connected. Schools should not incur any monthly fees for Internet access. Even if our local cable provider offered discounts on providing cable modems for each of our computers in our classrooms, we would not be able to afford the monthly or annual cost of these connections.

Based on current cable modem monthly costs, the annual cost to use the Internet via cable modems in all 1700 rooms with six computers per room would be \$5 million without a discount. This number is based on the local cable company's current monthly charge of \$44 per connection per month. This fee amounts to approximately \$500 per year to connect one computer to the Internet on a high speed line. Even if Saddleback qualified for a 40% reduction in fees, the annual cost would still be in excess of \$3 million per year which we definitely could not afford.

I strongly encourage your Commission to follow the lead of the National Cable Television Association (NCTA) which has recently announced in their new initiative, "Cable's High Speed Education Connection", that they will provide free Internet access through cable modems to all schools. The long term goal is to link all computers in all classrooms to all appropriate areas served by cable television networks to the Internet for no on-going charge. Accessibility to all appropriate educational information on demand in every classroom is a priority if public education is to bridge the gap to the 21st century.

Sincerely,



Peter A. Hartman
Superintendent

gp

ST. ROSE SCHOOL

523 N. West Street
Lima, Ohio 45801
223-6361

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 15, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Room 814
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED
APR 22 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Consumer Affairs

CC: Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I write in support of affordable and meaningful discounts for all school and libraries so that all students, both school and lifelong, can have access to information technologies. Last year's passage of the Telecommunications Act mandates that a rate for education be developed so that affordable rates be secured reflecting the financial capability of this community.

St. Rose School can not afford the services without discounts on internal wiring and Internet access. Catholic schools are excluded from most local and state funded initiatives for purchasing technology hardware. Many Catholic schools are significantly disadvantaged in technology. As an example, our school has a small computer lab with access to the internet via one computer. There is no other access in our building.

Our teachers desire to integrate technology into the curriculum, but classrooms are without telecommunication services and accesses. It is our plan to move forward by putting computers into every classroom, wire the building for connectivity, and have internet access. With affordable rates our technology plan could be realized.

I ask you to ensure that telecommunications companies provide significantly discounted rates to all schools and libraries. The world of information must be assessable to every student and lifelong learner. Your support can make this happen.

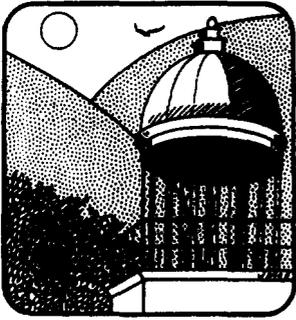
Sincerely,

Janet A. Swallow
Principal

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Catholic Schools





El Tejon Unified School District

Gary W. Fuller
District Superintendent

Frazier Park School
El Tejon School
Frazier Mountain
High School

April 17, 1997

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APR 22 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20541

Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 814
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. I am a locally elected school board member from El Tejon Unified School District, and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools will have access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country, and more importantly, the plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classrooms, where they can have the greatest impact on students. It is important to remember that each element of this plan is vital to the overall success of the discount program. Therefore, the inclusion of discounts for internal classroom connections should not be eliminated, nor should the size of the Universal Service Fund be reduced. As I am sure you are aware, this program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow.

The E-Rate Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge you and the other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Bob Connor

Robert Connor
President, Board of Trustees

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WOODLAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1620 LIVINGSTON STREET • MANDEVILLE, LA 70448

MARIAN C. ARROWSMITH, PRINCIPAL
JEAN KRIEGER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 8, 1997

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

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Hundt:

RECEIVED
APR 22 1997
Federal Communications Commission

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.

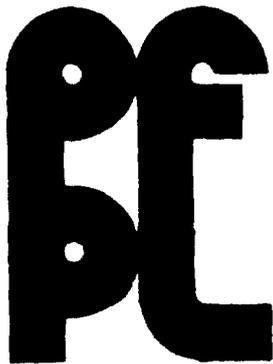
Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Casey Ann Aurin
3rd grade teacher

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Park Forest Public Library
400 Lakewood Park Forest, Illinois 60466
(708) 748-3731

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 9, 1997

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

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APR 22 1997
Federal Communications Commission

Re: CC Docket 96-45 - Universal Service to Libraries and Schools

Dear Chairman Hundt:

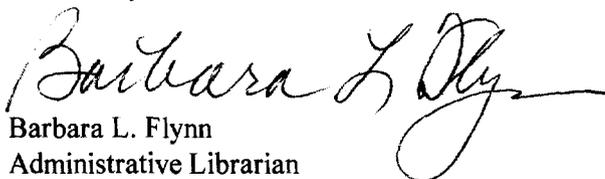
I am writing in strong support of the meaningful discounts for libraries and schools as envisioned by the Federal-State Joint Board in their Recommended Rules published last November.

The Recommended Rules allow libraries and schools significant discounts for the telecommunications and critical, non-telecommunications services necessary to assure that all of our public libraries and schools are connected to the Internet and other on-line resources that are critical to live, learn and work in an increasingly information-driven world.

Congress passed the Telecommunications Act of 1996 with the clear intent of insuring that libraries and schools would be able to access the latest technology. By allowing significant discounts on telecommunications services, local wiring and Internet access, the Joint Board has accurately recognized the needs of poorer schools and libraries that cannot afford the internal wiring necessary to connect with the Internet. By allowing telecommunications companies and non-telco carriers to compete for the discounts, the Joint Board has also recognized the need for diverse technologies to serve the diverse urban and rural areas of the State.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter for our libraries and schools – and – ultimately for us all, as a better educated community benefits everyone.

Yours truly,


Barbara L. Flynn
Administrative Librarian

BLF:ct

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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

RECEIVED
APR 22 1997
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

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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,

Nancy W. Reed

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CC96-45

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

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

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

Boulton
(Name of school)

Davis County School District, Utah

Cindy Read-Smith
Kelly L. Landers
Celeste C. Watkins
Wendy Rice
Mary Ann Garner
Michelle Haglich
Cathy Anderson
Beverly Grant
Nelda Lehning
Lynn Bryson
Claine Hawkins
Cindy Khamedov

Marion Bonner
Paula P. Winter
Bob Chamberlain
Phyllis Miller
Carmelle Foy
Kamille Nelson
A. Weston
Coyla Eden
Loree Mitchell

CS96-45

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April 2, 1997

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

RECEIVED

APR 22 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20541

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Thank You,

Undersigned Faculty and Staff Members

Holt Elementary
(Name of school)

Davis County School District, Utah

Kristen Cawley

Julie Duke

Kathleen Andrews

Michelle Johnson

Doug B. Stutch

Jennifer Votava

Arabella Bent

Berna Jorgensen

Lamara Jollett

Bruce

Jan Ligley

Carolyn Marston

Ruth Thorne

John Schultz

Marilyn Hamblin

Loelle Hall

Sandra Habue

Lisa Shumway

Jackie Taylor

Syrmthe Ferrel

Krystal Mills

Cheryl Bryner

Paula Dodgerwood

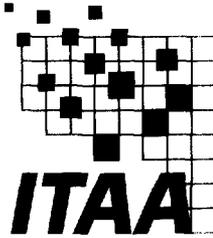
Melody Steele

Susan Colledge

All Ann Down

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COMMUNICATIONS

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APR 22 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

April 18, 1997

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

RE: Participation of Non-Carrier ISPs in the Schools and Libraries Program

Dear Chairman Hundt: *Reed*

The Commission will soon release its Universal Service Order. One of the most significant aspects of this decision will be the creation of a program to assist schools and libraries in obtaining access to the Internet. The Information Technology Association of America supports the Commission's efforts to ensure that school children have access to the vast information resources available over the Internet. We are concerned, however, by reports that the Commission is considering excluding non-carrier Internet Service Providers ("ISPs") from participation in this important program. Any effort to do so would violate the terms of the Telecommunications Act, deprive schools of the ability to choose the service that best meets their needs, and impair competition in the information services market.

The Commission should not be swayed by arguments, advanced by a number of carriers, that allowing non-carrier ISPs to participate in the schools and libraries program would violate the statutory requirement that the program be "competitively neutral". Under the Joint Board's proposal, both carriers and non-carrier ISPs would be required to contribute to the universal service fund if they generated revenue from providing telecommunications services. At the same time, neither carriers nor non-carrier ISPs would be required to make universal service payments based on revenues derived from the provision of information services or other non-telecommunications products. There is simply nothing impermissible about a program in which all entities contribute to the universal service fund based on revenues derived from the provision of telecommunications services, no entity contributes to the universal service fund based on revenues derived from non-telecommunications offerings, and all entities have an equal opportunity to obtain subsidies to provide non-telecommunications offerings.

The only way that the Commission could violate the competitive neutrality requirement would be to exclude non-carrier ISPs from participating in the proposed schools and libraries program. Such an approach effectively would provide one class of participants in the highly competitive information services market - telecommunications carriers - with the exclusive right to provide Internet services to schools and libraries. The inequity would be compounded if ISPs that are

Information Technology Association of America

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affiliated with a carrier, but which do not themselves provide telecommunications services, are allowed to participate in the program.

Excluding non-carrier ISPs from the proposed program also would have an adverse effect on eligible institutions. Such an approach would limit the ability of schools and libraries to obtain services from the entities that they determine to be the best, most cost-effective providers. These institutions also would be deprived of the lower prices that would result from competitive bidding, thereby limiting the total level of services that they could obtain within the \$2.25 billion "cap" proposed by the Joint Board.

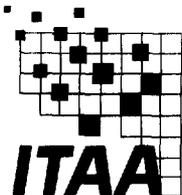
Finally preventing non-carrier ISPs from participating in the schools and libraries program would effectively foreclose competition in a significant segment of the information services market. This, in turn, could adversely affect competition in the over-all market for information services.

For these reasons, ITAA urges the Commission to implement the Joint Board's Recommendation to allow carriers and non-carrier ISPs to participate equally in the schools and libraries program.

Sincerely,



Harris N. Miller
President



RESA-6



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CC 96-45

REGIONAL EDUCATION SERVICE AGENCY VI

Serving the Northern Panhandle

30 G.C. & P. Road
Wheeling, WV 26003

(304) 243-0440
Fax: (304) 243-0443

April 15, 1997

RECEIVED

APR 22 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20541

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

Dear Chairman Hundt:

Although West Virginia has fewer financial resources than most other states, the State Board of Education, the West Virginia Legislature, county boards of education, regional educational service agencies, and schools have made extraordinary efforts to keep our school abreast with the rest of the nation in educational technology. However, in order for us to continue to improve opportunities for our children, it is imperative that the Federal Communications Commission approve the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan for universal service for schools.

It is particularly important that schools and school districts receive the proposed deep discounts for internal classroom wiring and connections. Without proper internal wiring, the needed services will not get to the classroom where they will be most effective. It is also important that no state mechanisms for evaluation of telecommunication plans be included in the final guidelines, since this will undermine schools' opportunities to develop plans which will best meet the unique needs of individual schools.

Your consideration of this request will be greatly appreciated. Students and teachers of West Virginia's Northern Panhandle are looking forward to quickly taking advantage of the quality educational experiences which will be made possible through the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the FCC regulations.

Sincerely,

Stanley C. Stewart
Executive Director

SCS/lcc

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FREDERICK ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL SUPPORT EMPLOYEES

1 Worman's Mill Court, Suite 15
Frederick, MD 21701

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Telephone (301) 620-9217

JIM WRIGHT
President

JOHN GATES
MSTA UniServ Director

April 16, 1997

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APR 22 1997

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

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt,

We are The Frederick Association of School Support Employees of Frederick Maryland. We are writing in support of the Universal Service discounts for schools and libraries that have been recommended by the Joint Board.

We 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 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.

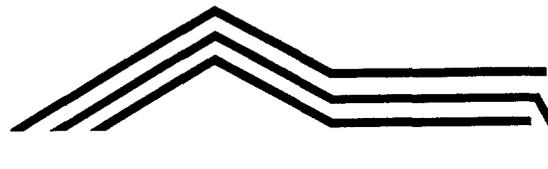
Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services this year. We urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely,

Jim Wright
President

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Mason-Lake Intermediate School District

An Educational Service District

April 15, 1997

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

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FCC

RE: CC Docket NO. 96045

Dear Commissioner Quello:

As Superintendent of the Mason-Lake Intermediate School District and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee all school districts will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year in E-Rate discounts will address the needs of all our schools and 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.

We took the leadership along with West Shore Community College in forming an educational partnership encompassing all the educational agencies in a three county area. The partnership facilitates cost effective educational programming and provides affordable access to technology. However, we have been unable financially to make the kinds of connectivity throughout the partnership area that would bring this kind of technology and its educational opportunities to all districts' students. Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications services. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools. This plan will greatly enhance our ability to bridge this vital gap in providing service to all students.

Thank you,

Scott J. Russell
Superintendent of Schools

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Copy to: The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

CC: 96-45



HOLTON-ARMS SCHOOL

April 15, 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, NW
Room 814
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Mr. Hundt:

I am Diana Coulton Beebe, Head of The Holton-Arms School in Bethesda, Maryland, and I would like to thank you for your dedication to ensuring that all schools and libraries 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 the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connects for discounts is vital, as is your inclusion of Internet Service Provider costs. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Students at Holton-Arms are set to use the Internet in classrooms, labs and our school libraries. They need 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 all over this country.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Diana Coulton Beebe
Head of School

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Tracie T. McIntyre
19 Hanging Moss Road
Savannah, Georgia 31410

APR 22 1997

April 16, 1997

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

RE: Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

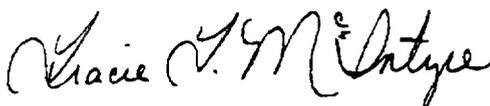
I am a parent from *Blessed Sacrament* school diocese and would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will guarantee that all 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 into the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital to this process. This plan is also essential in preparing our students for Workforce 2000.

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 services to schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Tracie T. McIntyre
Parent

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001: 96-45



**Southern
prairie**

Area Education Agency 15

2814 N Court St. • Ottumwa, Iowa 52501-1194 • (515) 682-8591

FAX Transmittal

To: The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman

Date: 4/15/97

FAX # 202-418-2801

From: Leon Maxson

Director, Division of Media Services

Re: _____

We are sending 2 pages (including this cover).
If you do not receive all of the pages indicated, please call (515) 682-8591.
Thank you.

Confidentiality Notice: This fax contains confidential, legally privileged information that belongs to the sender; the information is intended exclusively for the use of the person or entity named above. If you are not the intended recipient, you may not disclose, copy, or distribute this fax or take any action in reliance on the contents. If you have received this fax in error, please immediately notify the sender.

Harold Westra
Chief Administrator
Area Education Agency

Leon Maxson
Director
Media Services

Larry Keele
Director
Special Education

Sue Palmer
Director
Educational Services

CC: 96-45



Southern Prairie

Area Education Agency 15

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2814 North Court Street
Ottumwa, Iowa 52501-1194

(515) 682-8591

800-622-0027

FAX (515) 682-9083

WEB site: <http://www.aea15.k12.ia.us>

Serving school districts in the counties of Appanoose, Davis, Jefferson, Keokuk, Lucas, Mahaska, Monroe, Van Buren, Wapello and Wayne

Dr. Harold Westra
Chief Administrator

Mr. Leon Maxson
Director
Media Center

Dr. Larry Keele
Director
Special Education

Dr. Sue Palmer
Director
Educational Services

To: The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
From: Leon Maxson
Director, Division of Media Services
Date: April 15, 1997
Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

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APR 22 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Education

I am a Director of Media with emphasis on technology. We have had a hard time in convincing our legislators in Iowa the importance of internet access for professional educators and students, especially remote dial up. At this time, there are many inequities in internet access depending on if you are rural or a large city. The cost is prohibitive. We need to leave the decision in the hands of local districts to determine their needs and whom the service provider is depending on their educational mission and needs.

We support the Telecommunication Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision which will guarantee that all school districts will have an equal opportunity as well as an equitable one. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital.

Our agency is an internet service provider for both direct connect and remote dial up access for professional staff. However, our knowledgeable legislators have seen fit to eliminate the remote dial up access for both professional staff and students at the request of the telephone companies. Our service is free to the educational community (professional staff and students) and the telecos feel we are taking money out of their pockets. If we can't provide the service free, we need deep discounts for telecommunication's service for our local school districts.

Mission Statement:
To Enhance Excellence and Equality in the Educational Opportunities Available to all Children through Leadership, Cooperation and Efficient and Effective Services to Approved Schools.

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CC: 96-45

Sheboygan Area School District

Office of the Superintendent
830 Virginia Avenue
Sheboygan, Wisconsin 53081-4427
(414)459-3511
Fax:(414)459-6487

William R. Hittman
Superintendent of Schools

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

RECEIVED

APR 22 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

April 15, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
FCC
1919 M Street, NW, Rm 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket #96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am the Superintendent for Sheboygan Area School District, in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, a district of 10,000+ students.

I am writing in support of the Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision which would help guarantee very reasonable rates for telecommunications hook-ups to the Internet. Our state, as in others, has set limits on the revenues which we can expend for the operation of our schools. We are desperately looking for areas in which we can conserve monies to maintain our high quality educational services. Your support and inclusion of the Internal classroom connections for discussions is vital.

We thank you for your concern about quality education and the ability for school districts to provide same.

Respectfully,

William R. Hittman
Superintendent

WRH/law

cc: John Scott
Jeanne Bitkers



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CC: 96-45

=== COVER PAGE ===

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TO: _____

FAX: 12024182801

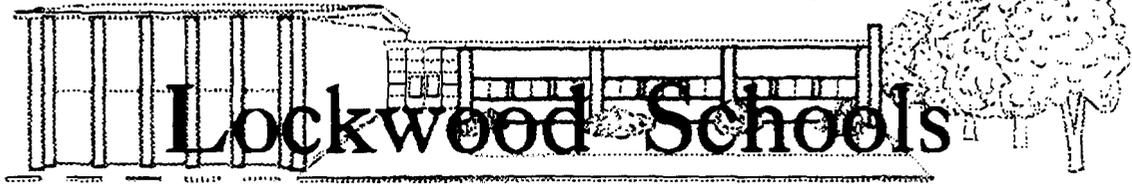
FROM: LOCKWOOD SCHOOL

FAX: 14062592502

TEL: 14062526022

COMMENT:

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School District #26 — Yellowstone County 1932 U.S. Hwy. 87 Route 2 Billings, MT 59101

DANIEL N. HAUGEN
Superintendent
406-252-6022

CAM CRONK
Junior High Principal
406-259-0154

DAVE DeBOER
Intermediate Principal
406-248-3239

MICHAEL BOWMAN
Primary School Principal
406-252-2776

SYLVIA SHELHAMER
Business Mgr. - Clerk
FAX #406-259-2502

April 15, 1997

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814
Washington, D.C. 20555

RECEIVED
APR 22 1997
Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

As superintendent of Lockwood School District #26 in Billings, Montana I want to first thank you for the diligent effort you have been making toward providing equal access to telecommunications and Internet access in all public schools.

I encourage you to continue to support the proposed 2.25 billion dollar E-rate™ Telecommunications Discount Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dan Haugen".

Dan Haugen, Superintendent
Lockwood Schools

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Cr: 96-45

Date: April 15, 1997

To: The Honorable
Reed Hunt

Fax: 202-418-2801

From: Dr. Rita Cook

Fax: 913-825-9195

Pages: 2

A FAX MESSAGE
FROM . . .

Rita Cook

Four horizontal lines for additional information or notes.

Smoky Hill Education Service Center
 1648 W. Magnolia
 Salina, KS 67401
 913-825-9185 Phone
 913-825-9195 Fax



00:96-45



Central Kansas Education Service Center

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Dr. Rita C. Cook, Director
1648 W. Magnolia
Salina, Kansas 67401
(913) 825-9185

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APR 22 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

April 15, 1997

Dear Commissioner:

I am the Executive Director of an Education Service Center in central Kansas that serves fourteen school districts and I am writing to thank you for your support for the Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision that guarantees school districts and consortia have access to technology for long-distance learning.

The funding provided through the Telecommunications Act will allow students to network with others, to access the information highway, and to expand their knowledge opportunities beyond the classroom to the world. Our students will not have this kind of access without deep discounts for telecommunication services this year.

Unfortunately, schools in Kansas are faced with rising operational costs and decreasing amounts of revenue. Many of our schools have limited technology and student access to distance learning and/or networking is slim. We appreciate your efforts in behalf of the students of Kansas and urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Sincerely,

Rita C. Cook

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PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FOR