

MICHAEL G. OXLEY
4TH DISTRICT, OHIO

2233 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3504
(202) 225-2676

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
CHAIRMAN

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
TELECOMMUNICATIONS
TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
VICE CHAIRMAN



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3504

April 24, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am writing regarding the upcoming universal service and access charge reform proceedings at the Commission.

The stated goals of the Telecommunications Act -- deregulation and increased competition -- were seen by Members of Congress as leading to lower prices for consumers. The Commission should not lose sight of this fact.

As you well know, the Act requires discounted rates to schools, libraries, and hospitals for telecommunications. The Act did not specify the amount of these subsidies; rather, it was meant to be an evolving concept.

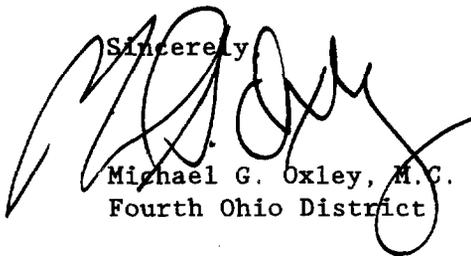
I do not believe that most Members envisioned subsidies in the billions of dollars annually -- at least, not initially. Perhaps one day "universal service" will come to mean such things as classrooms individually wired for Internet access, but it would be a case of serious overreaching for the Commission to mandate such connections in the near term.

In my view, charges to carriers should reflect the actual cost of the subsidies being underwritten currently. Deployment should be done as efficiently as possible, and funds should be collected on a pay-as-you go basis.

While providing public institutions with the best possible technology is a very admirable goal, it should not come at the cost of bygone rate reductions for consumers. Taken together, universal service and access charge reform should lead to a reduction in rates for telephone subscribers.

Please give due consideration to these thoughts, consistent with all applicable rules and regulations.

Sincerely


Michael G. Oxley, M.C.
Fourth Ohio District

MGO/bf

CC 96-45

DISTRICT OFFICES:
3121 WEST ELM PLAZA
LIMA, OH 45805
(419) 999-6455

100 EAST MAIN CROSS
FINDLAY, OH 45840
(419) 423-3210

24 WEST THIRD STREET
ROOM 314
MANSFIELD, OH 44902
(419) 522-5757

TOLL-FREE IN OHIO:
1-800-472-4154

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

April 22, 1997

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Chief of Bureau

Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

WE are faculty and staff from *Wm. B. Wade Elem.* in 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 guaranteed 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 discount 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 services for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Peggy Cuniff
Maureen Golding
Stephanie Shuman
Agatha Lopez
Jennifer Collins
Sanna Breffing
Vincent McGraw
Jenn F. Joliffe
Arhee Saha

David John
Catherine Sokal
Kim Taylor
Yatema Wynn
William D. Fisher
Rolando B. Sultz
James S. Richard
Lois Aless

**Redondo Beach
Unified
School District**

April 29, 1997



The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.W. Room 814
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED
MAY 1 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 95-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

1401 Inglewood Avenue
Redondo Beach
California 90278-3999

On behalf of the Board of Education of the Redondo Beach Unified School District, I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

Tel. 310 379-5449
Fax 310 798-8610

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance-learning opportunities to children. 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 learning takes place. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital to this process. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

Redondo Beach Unified School District, through partnerships with the private sector, through hard-working and creative teachers, students and Maintenance and Operations staff, and limited general fund monies, has connected the total district to a WAN-"BeachNet". We desperately need the support of the E-rate to turn "on the switch" from our classrooms to the world and to our teachers and learners at home, 24-hours-a-day, seven days a week. Our students are so committed they run the network. Wouldn't it be wonderful for them to know the FCC supports them!

Board of Education

- Valerie Dombrowski
- Tom Downs
- Rebecca Sargent
- Robin Shaw
- Zeke Zeidler
- Anthony Aronowitz
Student Member

Our students need deep discounts for telecommunications 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,

Beverly J. Rohrer, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Superintendent of Schools

Beverly J. Rohrer, Ed.D.

lm

william penn school district

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, GREEN AVENUE ANNEX
100 Green Avenue, Lansdowne, Pennsylvania 19050-1699



(610) 284-8000
(Fax) 284-8054

April 22, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am an assistant superintendent from William Penn School District, 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.

William Penn School District is a diverse district with extremely limited resources and poor financial base. Although we have an excellent technology plan, we lack the funding to implement it. Only our high school has a connection to the internet. Your actions can help others to become connected.

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. Your decision will have a monumental effect on the education of thousands of students in the William Penn School District. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. James O'Toole

Assistant Superintendent

Phone: 610-284-8009, Ext. 252

JOT:jcr



Santa Ana Unified School District

Al Mijares, Ph.D., Superintendent

April 21, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong,

I am writing to you in regard to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. I am a locally elected school board member from Santa Ana 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 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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert W. Balen".

Robert W. Balen
Santa Ana Unified School District

1601 East Chestnut Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92701-6322, (714) 558-5501

BOARD OF EDUCATION

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PEACH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

Peach County High School
900 CAMPUS DRIVE FORT VALLEY, GEORGIA 31030 [912] 825-8258

April 25, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20534

RECEIVED
MAY 1 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am a media specialist from the Peach County School District in Fort Valley, Georgia, and I would like to thank you for your continued dedication in ensuring that all school districts and other educational organizations will have affordable access to the **INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY**.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint 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 to the classroom where students learn. Your support and inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital to the future of education. This plan is vital for preparing our students to perform and become productive in the future workforce.

The "E-Rate" would provide tremendous discounts for our system, due to the fact that funding is very tight. This will enable Internet access to classrooms without the school district worrying about installation and maintenance costs. Most importantly, our school district will have the flexibility to determine what services are most economical and beneficial to meet the needs of our students.

The students of the Peach County School District badly need the telecommunications discount services for the 1997-98 school year. I strongly urge the FCC to support the Joint Board's discount plan for worldwide services for all schools.

Thank You.

Sincerely,

Naomi R. Simmons, Media Specialist

April 18, 1997

Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C.

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

We are the faculty and staff from William S. James Elementary School in Harford County, 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 the internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. The plan is essential for preparing the work force of tomorrow.

Our students need 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.

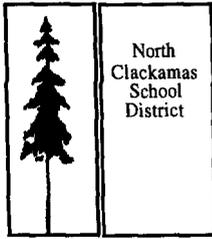
Thank you.

Sincerely,

Faculty and Staff of William S. James Elementary School

Kay Knode
Andrea A Vogel
Margaret Breake
Loren H. Dyer
Samuel J. Vesely

Jane Bell
Dena Kelly
Lick Dyer
Barbara Dentler
Donna Wright



**North Clackamas School District
Technology and Information Services**

14211 SE Johnson Rd • Milwaukie OR 97267 • 503/653-3827

Blair Loudat, Director

MAY 1 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Ness:

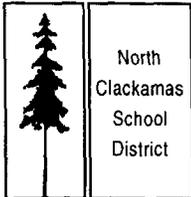
As the Director of Technology and Information Services for North Clackamas School District I deeply appreciate your interest in making access to the Internet and distance learning more affordable for schools and libraries through the Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan.

North Clackamas School District is proud that each school in our district has access to the Internet. However, due to continued funding and operating cost issues in the State of Oregon and in this school district, completion of our plan to bring the Internet to every classroom in the District is in serious jeopardy. Your full support of the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools that includes inside wiring will help us to realize our plans for the full integration of technology and world-wide resources into classroom teaching.

Thank you for your effort on behalf of student's across the country.

Sincerely,

N. Blair Loudat



Ron Naso
Superintendent

NORTH CLACKAMAS SCHOOL DISTRICT 12

4444 S.E. Lake Road · Milwaukie, Oregon 97222-4799 · (503) 653-3601

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Diane West, *Director*

April 25, 1997

MAY 1 1997

The Honorable Rachele B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

As Superintendent of Schools for North Clackamas School District, I urge you to fully support the universal service plan of the Joint Board. We are active users of the Internet in all of our schools although we do not yet have service to every classroom in the District. We are also extensively involved in distance learning delivering health occupation and other classes to classrooms in rural Oregon. Expansion of both of these efforts would be greatly advanced with discounted telecommunications costs that include classroom connections as well as lower communications line costs.

Schools across the State of Oregon are facing serious funding challenges while trying to deliver high quality educational programs. Discounted telecommunications rates will not only allow school districts to leverage resources, they will help all of us to deliver a better educational experience to our students.

Thank you for your support of affordable access to Information Superhighway resources by our nations's students.

Sincerely,

Ronald Naso
Superintendent

April 26, 1997

The Honorable Rachell B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED
MAY 1 1997
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am a teacher from Salt Lake City School District and I am very interested in assuring that my students have the advantages offered by modern technology and access to the Information Superhighway. Without access to that educational experience, they will graduate and enter the workforce unprepared for the 21st century.

Thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to this important teaching and learning technology.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will make it possible for even the poorest schools to connect to the Internet and provide distance learning. The \$2.25 billion per year will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn.

I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries, including discounts for the internal classroom connections. Our students need these services and deep discounts. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Denise Lilly-Rockett

Denise Lilly-Rockett

bbinb

April 26, 1997

The Honorable Rachell B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 1 1997

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am a teacher from Jordan School District and I am very interested in assuring that my students have the advantages offered by modern technology and access to the Information Superhighway. Without access to that educational experience, they will graduate and enter the workforce unprepared for the 21st Century.

Thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all technology and schools and libraries will have affordable access to this important teaching and learning technology.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will make it possible for even the poorest schools to connect to the Internet connection resource and provide distance learning. The \$2.25 billion per year will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn.

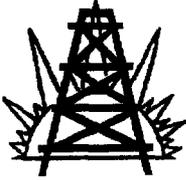
It is very difficult for my school district to provide the funds that are necessary to buy the equipment and software necessary for my students to become proficient in using computers. Everything that you can do to make it easier for schools to make our funds go further will help the children of America.

I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries, including discounts for the internal classroom connections. Our students need these services and deep discounts. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Kathryn Dillon



SUNBURST SCHOOL DISTRICT #2

P.O. BOX 710
SUNBURST, MONTANA 59482

ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL
KATHY JOHNSON, PRINCIPAL
KELLY M^cALPINE, SECRETARY
(406) 937-2816, FAX 937-4444

MICHAEL BUTTON, SUPERINTENDENT
(406) 937-7600, FAX 937-4444
CAROLYN Y. BERINGER, BUS. MGR./CLERK
(406) 937-7366, FAX 937-4444

NORTH TOOLE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL
RANDY CLINE, PRINCIPAL
LAURIE M^cDONALD, SECRETARY
(406) 937-2811, FAX 937-2828

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications, Commission
1919 M Street, NW. Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 1 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am the principal from Sunburst Schools, Sunburst, MT., 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 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 to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce for tomorrow.

We, in Sunburst, would utilize these discounts as we prepare our school with technology for the 21st century. We would be able to have more access to Fax machines and Internet for more of our classrooms. Currently, we only supply 2 Internet computers for 200 students.

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.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kathy Johnson

April 26, 1997

The Honorable Rachel B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am a teacher from Weber School District and I am very interested in assuring that my students have the advantages offered by modern technology and access to the Information Superhighway. Currently we are without access to the Internet even though we have a computer lab. In Utah we have the lowest per pupil expenditure in the nation. There is not money in the budget for a T-1 line. I could offer my students so much more with these discounts! Without access to that educational experience, they will graduate and enter the work force unprepared for the 21st Century.

Thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all technology and schools and libraries will have affordable access to this important teaching and learning technology.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will make it possible for even the poorest schools to connect to the Internet connection resource and provide distance learning. The \$2.25 billion per year will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn.

It is very difficult for my school district to provide the funds that are necessary to buy the equipment and software necessary for my students to become proficient in using computers. Everything that you can you to make it easier for schools to make our funds go further will help the children of America.

I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries, including discounts for the internal classroom connections. Our students need these services and deep discounts. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Lynette Grow
Uintah Elementary, Third Grade



Washington Colony School District

130 East Lincoln Avenue • Fresno, California 93706
209/ 233-0706 • FAX 209/ 233-9583

April 18, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

MAY 1 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. I am a locally elected school board member from Washington Colony Elementary 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,



OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Pomona Unified School District

800 South Garey Avenue, P.O. Box 2900, Pomona, California 91769 - (909) 397-4800 Ext. 3882
FAX (909) 397-4881

April 22, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED
MAY 1 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am a Superintendent from Pomona Unified School District, 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 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 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.

The proposed Telecommunications Act that would provide deep discounts for telecommunications services to education would be of great benefit to the Pomona Unified School District. These discounts would free up funding that would then be allocated towards accelerating plans to bring Internet capable network connections into every classroom throughout the school district.

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. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patrick D. Leier
Superintendent

PDL:CAC:tgr

April 26, 1997

The Honorable Rachell B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am a teacher from Jordan School District, and I am very interested in assuring that my students have the advantages offered by modern technology and access to the Information Superhighway. Without access to that educational experience, they will graduate and enter the workforce unprepared for the 21st Century.

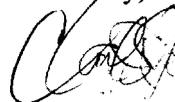
Thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to this important teaching and learning technology.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will make it possible for even the poorest schools to connect to the Internet and provide distance learning. The \$2.25 billion per year will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn.

At Midvalley Elementary, we have implemented a new reading program which is computer based. We have very excited students excelling in this program and would have many more were it not for the lack of computers in our school. We have an ample supply of Apple IIE computers...not exactly the type of computer to get on the on ramp of the Superhighway. In my classroom, I have fought to bring in a word processor for my students to use. My students ask me all the time for additional chances to see the web, send email, and learn what the Highway is all about. This is what they are interested in why not help them learn?

I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries, including discounts for the internal classroom connections. Our students need these services and deep discounts. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Chad SW Harris

April 26, 1997

The Honorable Rachel B. Chang, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED
MAY 1 1997

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chang:

I am a teacher from Uintah School District in Vernal, Utah and I am very interested in assuring that my students have the advantages offered by modern technology and access to the Information Superhighway. Currently we are without access to the Internet even though we have a computer lab. In Utah we have the lowest per pupil expenditure in the nation. There is not money in the budget for a T-1 line. I could offer my students so much more with these discounts! Without access to that educational experience, they will graduate and enter the work force unprepared for the 21st Century.

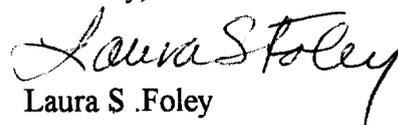
Thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all technology and schools and libraries will have affordable access to this important teaching and learning technology.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will make it possible for even the poorest schools to connect to the Internet connection resource and provide distance learning. The \$2.25 billion per year will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn.

It is very difficult for my school district to provide the funds that are necessary to buy the equipment and software necessary for my students to become proficient in using computers. This is further complicated by the fact that our county is one of only four counties in Utah that hasn't succeeded in passing a voted leeway. Everything that you can you to make it easier for schools to make our funds go further will help the children of Utah.

I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries, including discounts for the internal classroom connections. Our students need these services and deep discounts. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Laura S. Foley
Davis Elementary, First Grade

Eliot Strommen, Trustee
Ron Stoneberg, Trustee
Scott Aberg, Trustee
Teresa Jones, Trustee
Samuel Ohlson, Trustee

Jim Germann, Supt.
Dora-Jean Beil, Clerk



HINSDALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PHONE (406) 364-2314
FAX: (406) 364-2205

DISTRICT 7a-7C
P.O. Box 398 • 600 North Montana

HINSDALE, MONTANA 59241

April 24, 1997

The Honorable Rachell B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communication Commission
1919 M. Street, NW. Room 844
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 1 1997

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

As superintendent of school in Hinsdale Montana, I would like to thank you for your support of education. We are a rural school that depends greatly on our access to the internet. Currently, the local REA is proposing a \$2000 a year cost for internet access over our existing fiber optic line that would allow access for up to twelve computers at a time. Currently, we are running two copper lines into the school for our computer modems, but this limits us to two computers on-line at a time. We need financial help to open the internet for all students

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. Last year, we installed a distance learning lab that will cost \$8000 a year for line charges. These charges are hurting our small school. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all our schools and enable us to continue expanding our internet and distance learning access. We would be able to apply the discounts to our electronic access utilizing the fiber optic line.

The students in Hinsdale utilize e-mail and the internet daily. We are teaching our students how to utilize electronic communications in all classes. I urge the FCC to support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim Germann".

Jim Germann

"Home of the Raiders"

bbinb

April 26, 1997

The Honorable Rachell B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED
MAY 1 1997

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am a teacher from Granite School District and I am very interested in assuring that my students have the advantages offered by modern technology and access to the Information Superhighway. Without access to that educational experience, they will graduate and enter the workforce unprepared for the 21st Century.

Thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all technology and schools and libraries will have affordable access to this important teaching and learning technology.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will make it possible for even the poorest schools to connect to the Internet connection resource and provide distance learning. The \$2.25 billion per year will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn.

I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries, including discounts for the internal classroom connections. Our students need these services and deep discounts. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jennie Shiotani

bbinb

April 26, 1997

The Honorable Rachell B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

RECORDED

MAY 1 1997

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am a teacher from Jordan School District and I am very interested in assuring that my students have the advantages offered by modern technology and access to the Information Superhighway. Without access to that educational experience, they will graduate and enter the workforce unprepared for the 21st Century.

Thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all technology and schools and libraries will have affordable access to this important teaching and learning technology.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will make it possible for even the poorest schools to connect to the Internet connection resource and provide distance learning. The \$2.25 billion per year will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn.

It is very difficult for my school district to provide the funds that are necessary to buy the equipment and software necessary for my students to become proficient in using computers. Everything that you can do to make it easier for schools to make our funds go further will help the children of America.

I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries, including discounts for the internal classroom connections. Our students need these services and deep discounts. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Kathy Gunther

Rachelle B Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED
MAY 1 1997
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

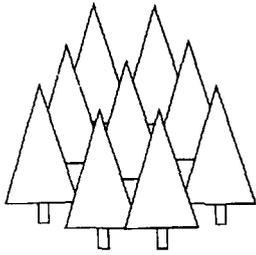
Dear Commissioner Chong:

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

I am writing regarding the upcoming vote on implementing the Telecommunications Act of 1996 for schools and libraries. It is imperative that the originally recommended "e-rate" be maintained. It is no secret that the expense of education is becoming a bigger burden for schools all over the country. The need to keep up with ever increasing technology only increases that burden. You can help children all over the country prepare for the future by supporting telecommunication discounts for schools. This also includes "e-rate" discounts on inside connections to the classrooms. Children of all economic backgrounds deserve the same access to education in technology. Your support would benefit everyone. I urge you to support the Joint Boards discount plan. Thank You.

Sincerely,

Marie Divozzo
L'Anse Creuse Public Schools
Legislative Action Committee



WHERE KNOWLEDGE GROWS

SYLVAN UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

605 Sylvan Avenue • Modesto, California 95350 • (209) 574-5000 • FAX (209) 524-2672

April 24, 1997

MAY 1 1997

MICHAEL W. SIBITZ
Superintendent

Rachelle B. Chong, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, N.W., Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC DOCKET NO. 96-45

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MARGERIE NEDER
President

CYNTHIA LINDSEY
Clerk

MARSHA B. WAGGONER
Member

GARY R. VANCE
Member

STEPHEN L. STROUD
Member

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. I am a locally elected school board member from Sylvan Union School District, Modesto, California, 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,

Margery Neder, President
Board of Trustees



GLENDORA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

500 North Loraine Avenue, Glendora, CA 91741 • (818) 963-1611 • FAX (818) 335-2196

April 22, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW. Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. I am a locally elected school board member from Glendora 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,

Doris Blum
Board Member

/sg

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mary Lundstrom, President
Everett Hughes, Vice President
Doris Blum, Clerk
Robert Neuenschwander, Member
Peggy Harding, Member

Patrick Bushman, Ph.D.
Superintendent

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997



Santee School District

'' WHERE YOUNG MINDS MEET OPEN DOORS ''

April 22, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED
MAY 1 1997
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

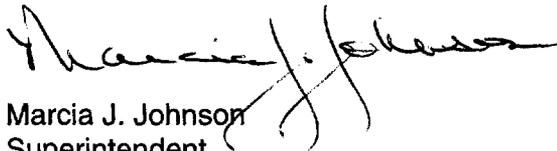
Dear Commissioner Chong:

I am writing to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all students will have affordable access to the internet and distance-learning opportunities. As Superintendent of Santee School District, a suburban district in San Diego county, I personally lend my strong support for the "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will bring telecommunications services directly to the classrooms. This program is essential for preparing our students to enter the workforce of tomorrow. Santee School District is a small district with approximately 8,400 students and our Board of Education is dedicated to a plan for wiring classrooms and purchasing computer workstations. We are committed to providing our students with the best learning environment and tools available. 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.

Sincerely,



Marcia J. Johnson
Superintendent

MJJ:as

BOARD OF EDUCATION: Cathy Abel, Dianne El-Hajj, Julie McIntosh, Sandy Pugliese, Barbara Ryan
DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT: Marcia J. Johnson

SANTEE SCHOOL DISTRICT: 9625 Cuyamaca Street, Santee, California 92071-2674 • (619) 258-2300



Grass Valley School District

Jon C. Byerrum
Superintendent

Linda Brown
Ass't. Superintendent

10840 Gilmore Way
Grass Valley, CA 95945-5409
(916) 273-4483
Fax (916) 273-0248

Bell Hill School
(916) 273-6416

Hennessy School
(916) 273-2281

Scotten School
(916) 273-6472

Lyman Gilmore Middle School
(916) 273-8479

Grass Valley Charter School
(916) 273-8723

April 22, 1997

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Ms. Chong,

I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. I am the superintendent of the Grass Valley 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,

Jon C. Byerrum
Superintendent

JCB:bb

MAY 1 1997