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**Kimberly Parker**  
Federal Communications Commission  
2100 M Street, N.W., Room 8609  
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The Honorable Reed E. Hundt  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814-0101  
Washington, D.C. 20554

The Honorable Susan Ness  
Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 832-0104  
Washington, D.C. 20554

The Honorable Rachelle B. Chong  
Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 844-0105  
Washington, D.C. 20554

The Honorable Sharon L. Nelson Chairman  
Washington Utilities & Transportation Commission  
Chandler Plaza Building  
1300 South Evergreen Park Drive, S.W.  
Olympia, WA 98504-7250

The Honorable Laska Schoenfelder  
Commissioner  
South Dakota Public Utilities  
Commission  
State Capitol  
500 East Capitol Street  
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5070

The Honorable Julia Johnson  
Commissioner  
Florida Public Service Commission  
Capital Circle Office Center  
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The Honorable Kenneth McClure  
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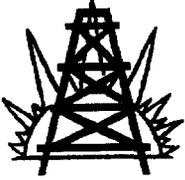
Deonne Bruning  
Nebraska Public Service Commission  
300 The Atrium  
1200 N Street,  
P.O. Box 94927  
Lincoln, NE 68509-4927

**Barry Payne**  
**Indiana Office of the Consumer Counsel**  
**100 North Senate Avenue, Room N501**  
**Indianapolis, IN 46204-2208**

**Richard Smith**  
**Federal Communications Commission**  
**2100 M Street, N.W., Room 8605**  
**Washington, D.C. 20554**

**Lori Wright**  
**Federal Communications Commission**  
**2100 M Street, N.W., Room 8603**  
**Washington, D.C. 20554**

**Sheryl Todd (disk& 1copy)**  
**Common Carrier Bureau**  
**Federal Communications Commission**  
**2100 M Street, N.W., Room 8611**  
**Washington, D.C. 20554**



# SUNBURST SCHOOL DISTRICT #2

P.O. BOX 710  
SUNBURST, MONTANA 59482

ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL  
KATHY JOHNSON, PRINCIPAL  
KELLY M'ALPINE, 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'DONALD, SECRETARY  
(406) 937-2811, FAX 937-2828

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

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

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

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED  
RECEIVED

APR 30 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

CC 96-45

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 23, 1997

Jennifer Jones  
8220 San Francisco Ave.  
Atascadero, CA 93422

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

RECEIVED

APR 30 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt:

I 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.

There is no doubt that advanced telecommunications services are important to improving learning, sparking the imagination and leveling the playing field for all of our nation's people. 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 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Last November, the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service sent to the Federal Communications Commission (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.

I 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.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Jones

# millard

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Curriculum Offices • 5606 So. 147th St. • Omaha, NE 68137-2604 • (402) 895-8301 • (Fax) 895-8448

April 21, 1997

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

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt,

I am the Director of Secondary Education for Millard Public Schools in Omaha, Nebraska, 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.

As you know, the Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board 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 the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital, especially in light of all the "cuts" occurring here in Nebraska.

The "discounts" would assist us greatly in the following areas:

1. **Distance Learning.** In a sparsely populated state like Nebraska, distance learning connections are essential options for increasing the curriculum available to students. If the cost is too great, this cannot happen.
2. **Network Bandwidth.** Our current data network uses a fairly low speed technology because it is less expensive. This, in turn, limits what we can do with management software and communications technology. We want to upgrade our system when it is affordable.
3. **Media Services.** One specific illustration of bandwidth limitation is the information sources now available through our media centers. We know of some other good online options, but our system is too slow to use them. We think the situation of what we need, but cannot afford, is a similar issue for most school systems.
4. **Efficiency.** Technology is making more current information available when needed for those who have access. This allows decision-makers to be more productive and to make truly informed decisions. We support the President's goal of fixing the access problem. Anything that makes entry more affordable is a step in the right direction.
5. **Student Learning.** Networks are changing how everyone has access to information and expanding what is available. It will not be acceptable if some students have this advantage and others do not. Students need access for their learning while in school and thinking about possible careers.

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,

  
Stephen L. Kleinsmith, Ed.D.  
Director of Secondary Education

c: Dr. Keith Lutz, Superintendent

RECEIVED  
APR 30 1997  
Federal Communications Commission  
Division of Secondary Education

**MOSHANNON VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
RR 1 BOX 314  
HOUTZDALE, PENNSYLVANIA 16651

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

James J. Lebda, Ed. D.  
Superintendent of Schools

Scott E. King  
Assistant Superintendent

Cheryl L. Pataky  
High School Principal

Thomas C. Snyder  
Elementary Principal

RECEIVED

APR 30 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Date of receipt

April 25, 1997

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

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

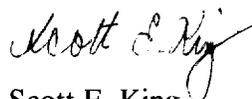
Dear Chairman Hundt:

I am the Assistant Superintendent of the Moshannon Valley School District which is a small and rural district in central Pennsylvania. Working in the fiscal area, I can state that costs have been exceeding revenues which has forced us into the position of raising property taxes the last several years.

New developments in the area of technology are essential for preparing our students for the world of work but because of our budget situation must be carefully weighed against required expenditures. The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision will help provide the opportunity for school districts to connect to the Internet and enhance distance learning. Students will benefit in the classroom but the inclusion of internal connections for discounts is vital for a district such as ours that is so concerned about controlling costs.

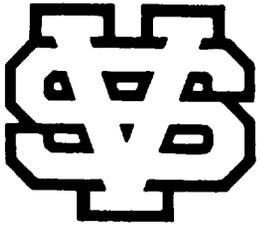
We would like our students to be able to begin using the Internet in the 1997-98 school year but need the telecommunications discounts to make this economically feasible. Please support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools. Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

  
Scott E. King

CC 96-45

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED



# STEEL VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

District Administrative Offices

April 22, 1997

RECEIVED

APR 30 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C.

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

Dear Commissioner Hundt:

By way of introduction, my name is John Tichon and I am the Director of Secondary Education for Steel Valley School District in Munhall, Pennsylvania. On behalf of our administrators, staff and students, I would like to thank you for all the time and effort you have spent in ensuring that *all* schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway by way of the Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan.

The Internet is a remarkable learning tool; however, our district has suffered extreme revenue losses due to the closing of United States Steel's Homestead Plant and other subsequent closings of area industry/business, thus making it very difficult for us to pay the toll to the Superhighway. The Internet, and our district's current involvement in a School-to-Work collaborative, are excellent means to better prepare our students for the workforce of tomorrow. Discounts received for telecommunications services would be a tremendous help in being able to provide our students with the opportunities they need to become life-long learners and productive citizens.

I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries which would mean so much to poorer districts such as ours.

Sincerely,

  
John J. Tichon



# Grass Valley School District

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Jon C. Byerrum  
Superintendent

Linda Brown  
Asst. 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

RECEIVED

APR 30 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary

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

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Mr. Hundt,

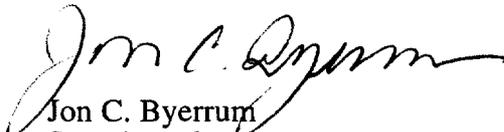
I am writing to you in regards to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. I am the superintendent of the Grass Valley School District, and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

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

CC96-45

G. Herbert Wadley, Ed. D.  
Superintendent



EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

1376 Piedmont Road  
San Jose, CA 95132-2498

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Fax: (408) 259-3869

April 23, 1997

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APR 30 1997

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

Fed. Comm. Comm. Room  
Washington, DC

Dear Chairman Hundt:

This letter is in reference to the federal "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program. As Superintendent of the Berryessa Union School District in the Santa Clara Valley, I would like to express my district's support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

All schools should have the same access to the Internet and the ability to provide distance-learning opportunities for their students whether they be low wealth districts or districts more socially and economically well off. The Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that all schools will have this opportunity. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of schools across the country. More importantly, the plan will bring telecommunication services directly to the classrooms where it can have the greatest impact on students. The size of the Universal Service Fund should not be reduced nor the elimination of the inclusion discounts for internal classroom connections. This program is essential for the future role of students in the work force while developing positive attitudes toward education.

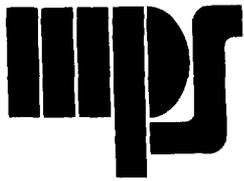
The "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount Program is desperately overdue and our students need these discounts for services this year. I urge you and other FCC commissioners to fully support the recommendations of the Joint Board and approve the proposed final regulations regarding the discount plan for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

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

  
G. Herbert Wadley, Ed. D.  
Superintendent

cc: Board of Trustees



MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Central Services Building  
5225 West Vliet Street  
P O Box 2181  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201-2181  
Phone: 414-475-8731  
Fax: 414-475-8270

April 21, 1997

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

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

RECEIVED

APR 30 1997

Dear Commissioner Hundt:

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

On behalf of the Milwaukee Public School district, I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools 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.

The 'E-rate' initiative is a critical element to the successful implementation of Milwaukee Public Schools' *Technology Strategic Plan*. We are convinced that the future of our community is linked directly to how successfully we build the Information Superhighway into teaching and learning experiences in Milwaukee.

We have a plan that is developing a broad-base of support. This plan will link each of our 6000 classrooms to the world via voice, data and interactive video communication. Training and curriculum reform to take full advantage of these enhanced capabilities are underway.

Milwaukee Public Schools is a large, urban district with high concentrations of poverty. We are also operating under state spending caps which limit our opportunities to pool resources needed to link our classrooms to the Information Superhighway. The E-rate will become an important element in addressing future communication requirements. \$2.25 billion will have a great impact and constitute a great beginning.

We are also interested in assuring that the funding reach urban districts like Milwaukee without having the impact diffused. The rules must be constructed to support the intent of the legislation. Your task is daunting, but you can be confident that Milwaukee is prepared to move forward. We will be successful, because the E-rate will create expanded opportunities for Milwaukee's students and teachers.

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 yours,

Doug Haselow  
Chief Lobbyist

DH/dz



**LINCOLN TRAIL LIBRARIES SYSTEM**

*Supporting library cooperation in East Central Illinois*

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 23, 1997

RECEIVED

APR 30 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street NW-Room 844  
Washington, DC 20544

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

Dear Chairman Hundt:

Attached is a copy of a resolution passed by the Board of Directors of the Lincoln Trail Libraries System at its meeting of April 21, 1997 in support of the implementation of meaningful discounted telecommunications rates for public libraries and schools. The proposed discounted rate structure will be a critical factor in assuring full access for our citizens to the Internet and other sources of electronic information, as envisioned by Congress in the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and in the Recommended Rules of the Federal-State Joint Board.

Lincoln Trail Libraries System is a multitype library consortium serving 118 member academic, public, school, and special libraries and 424,000 citizens in a 5,900 square mile, 9-county area in East Central Illinois. We coordinate a wide range of cooperative activities designed to facilitate interlibrary resource sharing among libraries in our region. Our member libraries include many small rural libraries serving communities as small as 850 residents. An obstacle to universal access to all citizens is the fact that high-speed telecommunications connections to the Internet are more expensive for the most remote libraries with the least ability to afford them. The discounts under consideration will help to make universal access to information a reality for all.

Thank you for your efforts in working to achieve universal access to the world of electronic information for our citizens and our students. Our citizens and society at large will benefit from the widest possible access to information.

Sincerely,

LINCOLN TRAIL LIBRARIES SYSTEM

Jan Ison  
Executive Director

J1/mw  
Enclosure

# Resolution of the Board of Directors of Lincoln Trail Libraries System

**WHEREAS**, in passing the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Congress expressed the intent that libraries and schools should be afforded meaningful discounts for access to the Internet and other online information resources, and

**WHEREAS**, under the identifying title, CC Docket #96-45 - Universal Service to Libraries and Schools, the Federal Communications Commission has issued Federal-State Joint Board Proposed Rules regarding affordable telecommunications rates for libraries and schools, and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed rules allow for favorable rates, consisting of 20%-90% discounts to schools and public libraries for high speed telecommunications services and critical non-telecommunications services necessary to assure affordable access to information for our citizens and students, and

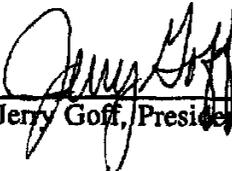
**WHEREAS**, access to affordable telecommunications rates is a critical component to enable schools and public libraries, especially in the rural areas of East Central Illinois, to provide universal access to this wide range of information,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** on April 21, 1997 that the Board of Directors and Staff of Lincoln Trail Libraries System strongly support the recommended discounts on telecommunications rates for schools and libraries as embodied in the Telecommunications Act of 1996, and hereby urge the Federal Communications Commission and the Illinois Commerce Commission to adopt rules implementing such discounts.



SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

LINCOLN TRAIL LIBRARIES SYSTEM

  
Jerry Goff, President

  
Jan Ison, Executive Director

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jerry Goff, President  
Urbana, IL

Allen Lanham, Vice President  
Charleston, IL

Dale Hoover, Treasurer  
Danville, IL

Cathy Nolan, Secretary  
Cisco, IL

John Adams  
Chebanse, IL

Judy Balsamello  
Westville, IL

Rusty Freeland  
Champaign, IL

Dave Johnson  
Gibson City, IL



## Burlingame School District

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

2303 Trousdale Drive  
Burlingame, CA 94010  
Telephone [415] 259-3800  
Fax [415] 259-3820

April 23, 1997

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

RECEIVED

APR 30 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

**Board of Trustees**

Mrs. Jean Fiske  
Mr. Steven Glick  
Mrs. Laurie Hoffman  
Mrs. Mary Peros  
Mrs. Lisa Rosenthal

MR. ROBERT E. BEUTHEL  
SUPERINTENDENT

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 the Burlingame 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,

M.1 97.8



# FREEDOM AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

P.O. Box 1008 • Freedom, WI 54131

Gary Scheuerell	District Administrator	414/788-7944
David Moscinski	Asst. Superintendent/Director of Special Services	414/788-7848
Lois Cuff	Elementary School Principal	414/788-7950
Glenn Bowers	Middle School Principal/Curriculum Coordinator	414/788-7945
Richard Lovett	High School Principal	414/788-7940
Thomas Nygaard	Asst. High School Principal/Activities Director	414/788-7940
District FAX		414/788-7949

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED RECEIVED

APR 30 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Chief of Staff

April 21, 1997

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

cc: Document No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt;

This letter is in support of the Joint Board recommendations for providing discounted telecommunications services to our school district. Our school presently has a 56K line for Internet access. This access is available in every classroom, instructional lab, and office throughout our middle-high school. Staff have been trained on acceptable use and research skills. We are truly seeing a shift in instructional strategies. We have plans to join two distance learning consortium networks yet the line charges are proving to be a significant challenge to our limited instructional budget. Your decision to provide affordable access through and E-rate avoid competitive grant processes and makes access more equitable. Our networks will be designed to serve students-at-risk through the gifted-and-talent youth.

Thank you for your commission's consideration in developing rules for implementation. This access opportunity will be invaluable.

Sincerely,

Richard Lovett  
Principal

cc: Senator Feingold  
Senator Kohl  
Representative Jay Johnston  
District Administrator

*Where Visions of Tomorrow Are Seen Today*

**DELANO UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT**

1405 - 12th Avenue, Delano, California 93215 (805) 721-5000 Fax (805) 725-2446

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 21, 1997

RECEIVED

APR 30 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

The Honorable 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 Delano Union Elementary School District, and I would like to express my strong support for this program and the proposed regulations governing its implementation.

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. Also, I urge you to include Frame Relay Connections as part of this discount program. This is an essential technology that was omitted from the original proposal.

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,

  
Frank Herrera  
President, Board of Trustees

CC 96-45

# NORTHERN BEDFORD COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

HC 1 BOX 200  
LOYSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 16659-9703

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT

PHONE: (814) 766-2221  
FAX: (814) 766-3772

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APR 30 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Division of Enforcement

April 24, 1997

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

Dear Commissioner Hundt

As Superintendent of the Northern Bedford County School District in Loysburg, Pennsylvania, I would like to thank you for your support for the pending Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan that would provide discounted services to schools like ours. Our district lies in a rural area of the state where connection to the Internet is especially difficult to secure and is more expensive than in most other areas. We continue to make every reasonable effort to provide similar learning opportunities and advantages to our students as are provided to students in more densely populated and wealthier areas and need help in that endeavor.

All three of our schools are located on a single campus with a technology plan scheduling the complete networking of every classroom and instructional area. Discounted cost in any form will help us realize that goal much earlier than originally planned.

The potential discounts which the Act would provide will help assure that our students leave Northern Bedford for further education and employment with advantages similar to students in other parts of the state and nation. Accordingly, I encourage you to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely



David B. Smith, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

jf

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

CC 96-45

P.O. Box 126  
Silver Peak, Nevada 89047  
April 22, 1997

RECEIVED

APR 30 1997

Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20541

The Honorable Reed Hundt, Chairman  
Federal Communication Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, D. C. 20554

Dear Mr. Hundt,

As a parent of children who like to watch television I am very concerned about the objectivity of the current age-based rating system. The current system is misleading because it can give a parent a false sense of security regarding what their children are watching. I don't want my children exposed to the immoral sexual themes, profanity, indecency, and homosexual messages displayed in TV-PG rated television. Furthermore, I would like to see the Family Hour restored to television during the prime television-watching period. If we had a content-based rating system it would allow a parent to be more discerning when choosing what their children can watch.

Thank you for your consideration.

One concerned parent,

*Deborah Rohlman*  
Deborah Rohlman

CC 96-45

**NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL EDUCATION SERVICE AGENCY**

1000 VIRGINIA AVENUE, FAIRMONT, WEST VIRGINIA 26554-3690

Telephone 304-367-1431

Within RESA VII 1-800-427-3600

FAX 304-366-4897

*Serving Twelve West Virginia Counties:*

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RESA VII

RONALD E. DELLINGER

Executive Director

April 23, 1997

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED  
RECEIVED

APR 30 1997

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

Dear Chairman Hundt:

West Virginia schools have made tremendous strides in the area of telecommunications and technology integration through the efforts of the West Virginia Legislature, the State Board of Education, regional education service agencies, county schools and school districts, businesses and the community. As a result of these initiatives, our schools are preparing to enter the next millennium equipped to provide our students with the skills for success in a global economy based on the information and technology. It is imperative that the Federal Communication Commission approve the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan for universal service for schools in order for the students of West Virginia to succeed in reaching our goals.

Two areas of the proposed regulations are of primary importance. The first, the approved discounts for schools should be broad-based and extend to internal classroom wiring and connections. Telecommunications needs cannot not be adequately addressed by merely bringing access "to the door" of the schoolhouse. Without properly wired and equipped classrooms, telecommunications access will be limited and inequitable. Secondly, although aggregate applications providing for consortia of state, regional and local entities would reduce the number of applications and reduce the amount of paperwork, it is important that the final guidelines allow for individual schools and districts to evaluate and certify the communications plans which will best meet their unique needs.

As a recipient of a Department of Commerce TIIAP grant, the proposed discounts will allow the schools served by our agency to take full advantage of the teleconferencing and distance learning opportunities provided by the infrastructure being implemented within the region.

Thank you for your consideration of these requests. The students of north central West Virginia will be the winners as a result of the approval of these regulations.

Sincerely,

Lynn Bennett

Coordinator of Media Technology Services

CC 96-45



# WEST COVINA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

1717 West Merced Avenue

West Covina, California 91790

Telephone (818) 939-4600

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 18, 1997

RECEIVED

APR 30 1997

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

Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Hundt:

As Superintendent for the West Covina School District, I would like to thank the Commissioners at the FCC for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have access to affordable ramps onto 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 provide services directly to the classroom where students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital to the success of students and their ability to compete in the workplace. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

The workforce of tomorrow will require creative and critical thinking skills as well as the ability to obtain and use information from various sources. Networked computers in the classroom and access to the Information Superhighway will allow students in the West Covina Unified School District and school districts throughout the Nation to develop and utilize these skills. The West Covina Unified School District Technology Plan and those of the District's schools are forward-reaching documents that have significant components that do not currently have a designated funding source. These infrastructure components include telecommunications lines, telecommunications equipment, servers, routers and, very important, that final connection to the classroom and to the students.

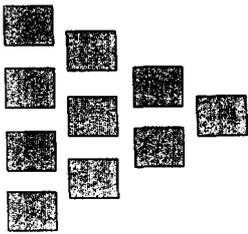
The students of the West Covina Unified School District need these discounts this year. I encourage you and the Commissioners of the FCC to wholly support the Federal-State Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Steven L. Fish, Ed.D  
Superintendent

CC 96-45



# **GODWIN** HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

High School • 50 - 35th Street, S.W., Wyoming, Michigan 49548 • (616) 245-0411  
Fax: (616) 245-0200

April 21, 1997

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED  
RECEIVED

APR 30 1997

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

Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Hundt:

I am the principal of Godwin Heights High School in Wyoming, Michigan and I would like to thank you for your help in making sure that the students will have access to the Information Super Highway. Your work in keeping this affordable to schools is appreciated.

It is essential that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide distance learning opportunities. The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will help guarantee quality, affordable service for all students as they prepare for tomorrow's work force. The \$2.25 billion a year will help all of our schools in their initiatives but rest assured the vital link in the program is the inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts.

Our district wide plan includes:

- \*The installation of WAN and LAN to bring technology to the classroom where learning takes place.
- \*To bring the Internet to each classroom in the district. We believe this to become incredibly important resource for student learning.
- \*To install a distance learning classroom.

The district fully supports the use of technology, but needs discounts in services to make its plan affordable. We need the discounts for telecommunications services this year. I ask the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely,  
  
Michael Matlosz  
Principal



LEE E. RIECK  
Superintendent  
(412) 325-7600

ROSEANN B. NYIRI  
Director of Pupil and Personnel Services  
(412) 325-7601 or (412) 325-7603

JACK SAMUELS  
Director of Instructional Services  
(412) 325-7606

JANE TACHOIR  
Director of Secondary Program Services  
(412) 325-7605

WILLIAM J. KRUCK  
Director of Business Services  
(412) 325-7608

## Franklin Regional School District

3210 School Road  
Murrysville, Pennsylvania 15668

JUDITH C. BRAGGINS  
Administrative Assistant for  
Special Education Services  
(412) 325-7601

PATRICIA A. ANZUR  
Supervisor of Child Accounting/  
Transportation Services  
(412) 325-7607

WILLIAM J. GALLAGHER  
Supervisor of Accounting/  
Purchasing Services  
(412) 325-7608

April 24, 1997

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

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APR 30 1997

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

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Reed Hundt, Chairman:

I am a Director of Instructional Services at the Franklin Regional School District. I am writing to thank you for your support with the Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan.,

This plan will ensure that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of all schools. These plans will ensure that even the poorest schools will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet. Also, they are able to bring services directly to the classroom where students learn, and provide distance-learning opportunities.

Your inclusions of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow. We will continue to use the money to implement our technology plan to supplement our local funds for staff development. Our students are in need of substantial discounts this year.

I fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries, and I urge the FCC to do so.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jack Samuels  
Director of Instructional Services



LEE E. RIECK

Superintendent  
(412) 325-7600

ROSEANN B. NYIRI

Director of Pupil and Personnel Services  
(412) 325-7601 or (412) 325-7603

JACK SAMUELS

Director of Instructional Services  
(412) 325-7606

JANE TACHOIR

Director of Secondary Program Services  
(412) 325-7605

WILLIAM J. KRUCK

Director of Business Services  
(412) 325-7608

## Franklin Regional School District

3210 School Road  
Murrysville, Pennsylvania 15668

April 24, 1997

JUDITH C. BRAGGINS

Administrative Assistant for  
Special Education Services  
(412) 325-7601

PATRICIA A. ANZUR

Supervisor of Child Accounting/  
Transportation Services  
(412) 325-7607

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Supervisor of Accounting/  
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(412) 325-7608

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Commissioner  
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Washington, DC 20554

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I fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries, and I urge the FCC to do so.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Frank J. Muto

Supervisor of Technology Services

EXHIBIT OR LATE FILED

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APR 30 1997

Franklin Regional School District

DELANO UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

1405 - 12th Avenue, Delano, California 93215 (805) 721-5000 Fax (805) 725-2446

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

April 21, 1997

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APR 30 1997

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

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Chairman

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Hundt:

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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. Also, I urge you to include Frame Relay Connections as part of this discount program. This is an essential technology that was omitted from the original proposal.

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,



Dr. Milton Woolsey  
District Superintendent