

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

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

MAY 6 1997

APR 21 2 43 PM '97

JAMES QUAY

SUNSHINE PERIOD

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner James Quello:

Being a Maintenance Supervisor for the Iroquois School District for the past 20 years, I know all too well how schools use money from their general fund budgets to pay for the \$500.00 per month T1 lines and wiring for the classrooms in order to teach our students about telecommunications. I also know how financially depressed our school district is from our local business, General Electric. General Electric continues to ask for a tax reassessment and having it lowered, paying less and less tax each year. But on the other hand, General Electric expects well trained or fully trained employees, right out of school, to run their NC machines and other computerized systems.

I have also worked with our local phone company and have found a lot of resistance in helping or doing telecommunications in the schools. Just where **Will** people learn about all the new advantages and operations dealing with telecommunications?

On the street like our kids used to with sex?

We have a system to learn from, but it is being tied up and priced out of the reach for our students. I hope you will keep all students in full view when you vote on the E-Rate

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.

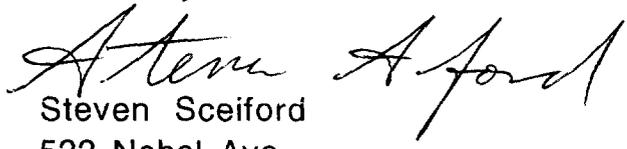
MAY 6 1997

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 and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Steven Sceiford
522 Nobel Ave
Erie, PA. 16511
814-898-2095

SUNSHINE PERIOD

April 14, 1997

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

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

SUNSHINE PERIOD MAY 6 1997

1997

JAMES QUAY

APR 18 10 15 AM '97

REC'D

Dear Commissioner Quello:

As a member of the Delta-Schoolcraft Intermediate School District Board of Education, I urge you to fully support the recommendation of the Joint Board in its implementation plan for discounts for schools in telecommunications. In our area (in the Upper Peninsula) we rely heavily on our newly installed long distance learning network to help our students and staff "keep up with the rest of the world." This discount plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow, especially in economically depressed areas such as our

Thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all students will have affordable access to telecommunications services.

Sincerely,

return address: Susan R. King
Rt. 2 Box 2899
Manistique, MI 49854
(906) 341-5837

Delta-Schoolcraft Intermediate School District
2525 Third Ave South
Escanaba, MI 49829
(906) 786-9300

Leo J. Muir Elementary School

96-45

2275 S. Davis Blvd.
Bountiful, Utah 84010

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

(801) 299-2010

Ofelia G. Wade, Principal

SUNSHINE PERIOD

April 2, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW, Room 802
Washington, D.C., 20054

MAY 6 1997

APR 21 3 15 PM '97

REC'D

Dear Commissioner Quello,

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

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

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

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

Thank You,

Undersigned Faculty and Staff Members

Leo J. Muir Elementary
(Name of school)

Davis County School District, Utah

Marion Langston

Eugene Tanner

Gay Hulse

Lynn Swenson

Anne DeFurange

Archie M. Esting

Madeline B. Heap

Maria Murdock

Lyn Windsor-Garrett

Nigella Edwards

Nick Page

Marcy Bradshaw

Deborah

Kathleen Perry

Janet Egger

Corie Banks

Kim

Valery Burnett

Suzi Shode

Kaye Bonnell

Glenn S. Wade

Lawn Larsen

Deanna Stoney

J. Ann Osborn



Antelope Elementary School

1810 South Main St.
Clearfield, Utah 84015
Telephone: 801-774-7484

96-45
DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Ross G. Quist
Principal

SUNSHINE PERIOD

April 2, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW, Room 802
Washington, D.C., 20054

MAY 6 1997

APR 21 3 14 PM '97

RECEIVED

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Thank You,

Undersigned Faculty and Staff Members

MAY 6 1997

Antelope Elem.
(Name of school)

Davis County School District, Utah

Dorothy Moore
Jenni Howard
Pat Carson
Lonnita Walker
Valerie Patton
Lynda Karggard
Sharna Miller
Diane Shagan
Karen Donahue
Kathy Thorne
Audi O'Brien
Lisa Richards
Mary Ann Humphrey
Jill Fleming
John Cook

Trudy Henderson
Lisa David
Monica Armitage
Robin Butler
Julie Hammer
Gonna Sherman
Wendy Armstrong
Vicki Mortensen
Yonna Gardner
Nellie Smith
Lucinda Mac Queen
Lorraine Rice
Judy Moffett
Susan Sparks

96-45

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Hill Field Elementary School

389 South 1000 East • Clearfield, Utah 84015

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Telephone
(801) 774-7408
Fax
774-1714

Andy A. Nixon
Principal

April 2, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW, Room 802
Washington, D.C., 20054

APR 21 2 53 PM '97

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Thank You,

E. Janner

Undersigned Faculty and Staff Members

Hill Field Elementary

(Name of school)

Davis County School District, Utah

Dianne Call

Susan Hood

Karen Strickland

Chae Shueker

Carol Sandberg

Patricia Knack

Kristy Zumbo

Bonnie Kent

Michelle Wardell

RJ Madson

Stephanie Walker

Winnie Kelpack

Ann Frisman

Kathleen Wiley

Erilyn Papp

Jacklyn O'Probert

Gary Christensen

Kathy Sutherland

Julia M. H. M.

Stacy Callison

Dy Bulsen

Kris Mitchell

Jyn Jansen

Elise Apolloni

Jamie B. Dean

Adell Anderson

Maggie Jones

Jisa Vedoyos

Kelli [unclear]

Stara Moore

Barbara Surber

Jennifer Evans

Kathleen Dickson

96-45

SUNSHINE PERIOD

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

APR 11 2 59 PM '97

April 2, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW, Room 802
Washington, D.C., 20054

Dear Commissioner Quello,

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Thank You,

Undersigned Faculty and Staff Members

Northridge High
(Name of school)

Davis County School District, Utah

Patricia Kewley
Rebekah Ollie
Rosemary Steele
Kandee J Edwards
Kason Andersen
Dwight Senter
Kenda Greenman
Sharalyn Maughan
Steph Ashurup
Sherif Sussay
Nancy M. White
Steve Beely
Amedio

Debbie Johnson
Joni Jones
Linda Gray
S. Michael Jones
Julie Boren
Christy Barnard
Wendy Dimick
Ruth Ann Yehre
Kim Call
Shelley St. Moore
Judy Scott
Dorothy J. Dean
Janice Bateman



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HEART OF GEORGIA
REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY

P.O. BOX 368 · 101 HARRELL AVENUE · EASTMAN, GA 31023 · (912) 374-2240 · FAX: (912) 374-1524

JUNE D. BRADFIELD, Ed.S., Executive Director

April 24, 1997

MAY 6 1997

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

SUNSHINE PERIOD

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am Executive Director for the Heart of Georgia Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA) which includes the following counties in Georgia: Bleckley, Dodge, Laurens, Montgomery, Pulaski, Telfair, Treutlen, Wheeler, and Wilcox. 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. We desperately need it.

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. I am enclosing a copy of a letter that I sent to the Georgia Public Service Commissioner that will explain our area and concerns.

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,

June D. Bradfield

JDB:sc

Enclosure



HEART OF GEORGIA REGIONAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCY

P.O. BOX 368 · 101 HARRELL AVENUE · EASTMAN, GA 31023 · (912) 374-2240 · FAX: (912) 374-1524

JUNE D. BRADFIELD, Ed.S., Executive Director

April 9, 1997

Mr. Timothy S. Hopkins
Director, Utility Finance
Public Service Commission
244 Washington Street S.W.
Atlanta, GA 30334-5701

Dear Mr. Hopkins and Public Service Commissioners:

Ever since hearing in December of 1996 about the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and its implications for schools and libraries, we at the Heart of Georgia Regional Educational Service Agency have been excited about its implications for our school systems in south Georgia. With a unanimous vote, the Heart of Georgia RESA Board of Control composed of the ten school system superintendents and five lay persons gave me as director the directive to pursue this matter as the official representative of a consortium comprised of all ten school systems. Therefore, I appreciate the opportunity to give comments.

Our RESA area would most certainly be qualified to be recipients of discounts that are based on the criteria of student eligibility for free or reduced price lunches and a rural geographic location. The Telecommunications Act can play an instrumental role in leveling the playing field when the inequalities of educational opportunities are addressed. Although many schools in Georgia have ready access for all or the majority of their students, it is the rule for our systems to have no access for anyone. A few of the systems have access for one station in the media center.

Below is the response to your questionnaire.

List all telecommunications services currently being received and the tariff if you know the title (include the name of the provider).

Internet access is available in Dodge, Telfair, Bleckley, Pulaski, and Wilcox counties through a grant through the Ocmulgee Regional Library. Other systems have no access without long distance charges. One system has access through a private company. Access is usually limited to the media center in the schools. With so many wishing to use the service, however, the free line is most often busy and thus inaccessible. MCI recently

offered a pay line that is available in some areas. RESA employees, for instance, pay personally for this expense; however, not all of our employees live in areas where there is access without paying a long distance fee. Ocmulgee Regional Library has been most helpful in providing services in our area.

List any telecommunications services for which you are currently receiving a discount and the provider rendering that service.

The state of Georgia has provided GSAMS equipment installation and first year operational fees for Bleckley, Dodge, Dublin, Laurens, Montgomery, Pulaski, Telfair, Treutlen, Wheeler, and Wilcox school systems. Costs after the first year run \$1200 per month per site. Our systems often cannot afford this expense and have let their GSAMS system lie idle even though their students could benefit from the opportunities available through distance learning. Low student numbers for advanced classes and the lack of experiential activities created by a rural environment create a need for this type of technology.

List any services you recommend for discount (include a brief description of the service).

GSAMS--This two-way interactive technology for distance learning would provide educational experiences for students in our service area as well as make staff development for teachers and administrators accessible without necessitating travel expenditures of time and money. Installation equipment has been provided by the state; however, the yearly operation fees are extremely high.

Internet access--our rural students are just as deserving of having the information age accessible at the tip of their fingers as their urban counterparts. When the Georgia School Superintendents' list is pulled up on the Internet, only two of our superintendents have an e-mail address. Although education is big business, the administrators down to the students being trained to be tomorrow's leaders are all at a turn-of-the-twentieth-century status instead of being visionaries for the twenty-first century.

Fiber optics solutions are needed for networking class to class, class to media center, class to school office, school office to central office, all to the local library, all to the regional educational service agency. Computers have been purchased through lottery proceeds, yet there is little if any connectivity. No school in our service area has fiber optic connections to the work stations. There are scattered 10-base t solutions and several thin Ethernet solutions.

We would also like to have accessible any other technology that would give our students the opportunities available throughout the United States to make them productive world class citizens.

Provide the expected volumes and frequency of both any discounted services and/or any recommended discounted services from above.

Untapped are 23,000 students in 48 schools of 10 school systems. This wealth of potential is just the tip of the iceberg. For as students become successful users of the technology available on today's market, their productivity will influence their parents and families to also become consumers of technological services. The market potential for service providers to recoup their expenses has yet to be tapped. The "perceived necessity" for the public to have access is just beginning to emerge.

State your current local service provider for telecommunications services.

The providers in our area include Alltel, Bell South, Glenwood Telephone, ComSouth, and Plant Telephone.

State your current provider for toll services.

ATT, MCI, Sprint, CTI, Alltel, Glenwood Telephone--all are available with equal access.

State your provider for any other telecommunications services currently being received.

ATT, Bradmark, CTI, MCI, or any other company that is requested.

Any other comments or issues you care to raise on this subject.

We are also concerned about the interstate as well as the intrastate aspects of this program. We in rural south Georgia do not have access to the larger providers that serve interstate. Neither do we receive the cooperation or financial aid that is provided by these larger service providers. For example, Alltel told one of our systems to "take what they (Alltel) already had or nothing" and refused to work with them on a grant. Yet note the extensive discounts and other services provided by Pacific Bell in California. (See attached e-mail from Oscar Perry.)

RESA has a responsibility to provide technological training for the staff of our school systems; however, this is an impossibility when there is not adequate access for training purposes, and even if there were, there is usually no place in the local school setting to enable the training to be utilized to its fullest.

Any input you would like to make relative to procedures for the implementation of making application or for the provision of these discounts.

All that we have been able to discover about the procedures indicate that the awarding of funds will be on a first-come first-serve basis. It behooves the Georgia Public Service Commission to have the way open for all those students in Georgia, no matter where they

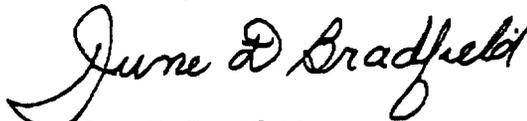
live or their economic status, to have equal educational opportunities with the rest of the nation. Although the concerns of the Public Service Commission are many, this matter needs to take top priority so that applications from Georgia can be submitted as early as those from any other state.

The guidelines need to be written in terms that are understandable by lay persons, since those systems making applications are the ones most deserving of the funding yet the most lacking in technical knowledge and expertise. They often do not know what they need to ask for.

As soon as guidelines become available, they should be sent to every school system, regional educational service agency, and library in the state. Since the FCC decision is scheduled for May 8 with funding to commence in September, immediate notification is necessary. Again small rural school systems are at a disadvantage since most have few twelve-month employees to work on this project from June through mid-August.

Again, we appreciate the opportunity to give comments. We will continue to carry out the directive from our board of control to stay aware of the status of this program and to make application at the earliest possible date.

Sincerely,



June D. Bradfield
Executive Director

Franklin/Morris Associates



Haswell M. Franklin, CLU, RHU
David M. Morris, JD, CLU

Suite 1900
7 East Redwood Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
410-539-2320 Washington 301-470-7367

John D. Tolson, CLU, RHU
Richard B. Silberstein, CLU, ChFC, RHU
Haswell M. Franklin, Jr., LUTCF, CLU
James M.S. Franklin

Life and Health Insurance
Business and Employee Benefit Programs
Executive Compensation Plans
Personal Financial Analysis

William D. Franklin, CFP
Gale Woods, LUTCF, RHU
Henry C.B. Franklin

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

April 21, 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

APR 22

4 20 PM '97

MAY 6 1997

Mr. James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Room 802
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket Number 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

My name is David Morris and I am writing as a Trustee of Roland Park Country School in Baltimore, Maryland. I would like to thank you for your commitment in assuring that all schools and libraries have affordable access to the growing information "super highway" of the Internet.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorer schools will have opportunity to connect to the Internet and provide long distance learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion per year will address the needs of our schools and the plan will bring services directly to the classroom where the students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital, as is your inclusion of the Internet service provider cost. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow and it is consistent with our need to invest in our young people as a country and society.

At Roland Park Country School, using the Internet is integrated in all aspects of the school's curriculum from elementary to high school. This tool enables our students--located in the city of Baltimore--to use the Internet to do research on cutting edge developments from genetics for science papers to museums of Paris for history papers. They can share their opinions on current events with the White House and share their daily experiences with students across the world. This invaluable tool is expanded and enhances the student learning experiences and

Associated Companies

Franklin/Morris Consulting Services, Inc. • Mason and Carter, Inc. • University Insurance Associates
Bar Associations Insurance Agency, Inc.

Mr. James Quello, Commissioner

Page 2

April 21, 1997

enables them to obtain firsthand exposure to the global community. Our students do need the deep discount for telecommunication services this year. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Boards discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



David M. Morris, JD, CLU

DMM/rc



April 30, 1997

MAY 6 10 40 AM '97

James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 802
Washington, D.C. 20554

JAMES M. QU...
MAY 6 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Dear Commissioner:

We, a coalition of Alaska's educational leaders, are writing to urge your approval of the recommendations of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service. Those recommendations will come before you on May 8.

Affordable access to advanced telecommunications is an essential element of equal educational opportunity in Alaska. Affordable access to advanced technologies can mean that, for the first time, a student in a remote village will have access to the same abundance of learning resources and opportunities to interact with people from different cultures and experiences that is available to any other child in the United States.

The Joint Board's recommendations can lead to an economic, as well as an educational breakthrough for Alaskans, allowing our students to acquire the skills to compete in a global workforce and to grow into consumers of new technology into the 21st century.

Powerful forces may tell you that the discounts provided for education in the Joint Board's recommendations are not needed. Others may say that school districts wouldn't know what to do with advanced telecommunications if they were available. Neither assertion is true. Alaskan school districts stand ready to put the technology to use to improve student learning if and when schools are able to access it through the discounts recommended by the Joint Board, including connections to classrooms and Internet connectivity.

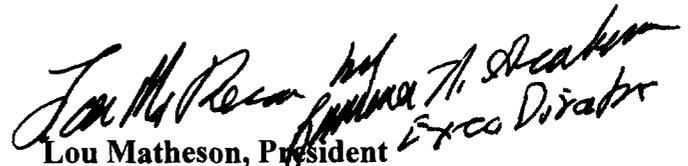
America has refused to accept any less a standard for its children than equal educational opportunity--without regard to the accident of birth or geography.

Your vote for the Joint Board's recommendations will honor and advance this standard for the students in our charge.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of the unique needs of Alaska's children.

Sincerely,

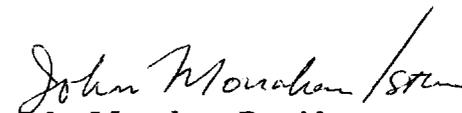

Stowell Johnstone, Chairman
 Alaska State Board of Education
 801 W. 10th St., Suite 200
 Juneau, AK 99801-1894


Lou Matheson, President
 Alaska Association of Secondary
 School Principals
 1720 Otter Street
 Anchorage, AK 99504


John Cyr, President
 National Education Association-Alaska
 114 Second St.
 Juneau, AK 99801


Fredi Buffmire
 Alaska Association of Elementary
 School Principals
 426 Rogers Rd.
 Kenai, AK 99611


Richard Mauer, President
 Association of Alaska School Boards
 316 W. 11th St.
 Juneau, AK 99801-1510


John Monahan, President
 Alaska Association of School
 Administrators
 326 4th St., #404
 Juneau, AK 99801

cc: The Honorable Fran Ulmer
 Lieutenant Governor, State of Alaska

96-45



Sunset Junior High School

1610 NORTH 250 WEST
SUNSET, UTAH 84015
PHONE 801-774-7440
FAX 801-774-7446

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LARRY E. BREWER
PRINCIPAL
DOUGLAS C. CANNON
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
ROBERT ITO
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL
LLOYD H. KJAR
COUNSELOR
LORETTA NIELSON
COUNSELOR

SUNSHINE PERIOD

RECEIVED

April 2, 1997

MAY 6 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW, Room 802
Washington, D.C., 20054

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

JAMES H. QUAY

APR 24 10 24 AM '97

RECEIVED

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Thank You,

Undersigned Faculty and Staff Members

Sunset Jr. High
(Name of school)

Davis County School District, Utah

N. Greg Bloomfield
Doug Cannon
Jetta Nilson

Aimee Mathews
Sherry J. Nelson
K. Chow
R.K. Ho

John
LeBrewer
R. Underwood
Lloyd H. Kyri
Melanie Sill
Lisa Briel
Claire Long
Dana Gordon
Gay Hicks
Annette Amstad

96-45

DOCKET FILE COPY OR **SUNSHINE PERIOD**

Joseph Cook Elementary School

1175 West 1350 South
Syracuse, Utah 84075



Laurel Bain
Principal

774-7402

April 2, 1997

MAY 6 1997

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JAMES

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The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M St. NW, Room 802
Washington, D.C., 20054

Dear Commissioner Quello,

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

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

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

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

Thank You,

Undersigned Faculty and Staff Members

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(Name of school)

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