

holy trinity episcopal day school

13106 ANNAPOLIS ROAD • BOWIE, MARYLAND 20720 • PHONE (301) 262-5355

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

MAY 6 1997

April 18, 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

The Honorable James Quello, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Room 802
Washington, DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am Lois M. Nichols, Director of Technology at Holy Trinity Day School in Bowie, Maryland, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

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

Our school needs inexpensive access to the internet so that we may prepare our students for the future in an information rich society. They must have access to this information and be taught how to manage and use it correctly. 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 sand libraries.

Thank you.

Lois M. Nichols, Ph.D.
Director of Technology

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SUNSHINE PERIOD

MAY 6 1997

April 18, 1997

The Honorable James Quello
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW Room 832
Washington DC 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am the superintendent of a rural school district in North Dakota with a total student population of approximately 620 students K-12. 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 work force of tomorrow.

The Harvey School District would use "e-rate" discounts in a variety of ways. Our first priority is to set up a fully multi-media, Internet connected lab at our elementary school with computers, at least one, in each classroom. E-rate discounts would allow us to use resources to purchase equipment such as routers and computers, purchase appropriate software and provide training for our staff to make effective use of the equipment and technology to make teaching and learning more effective. We would also use resources to convert our traditional libraries into fully functioning and "connected" media centers making information fully accessible to our 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 and libraries.

Sincerely,

Robert V. Marthaller, Superintendent
Harvey School District #38

96-45

DOCKET FILE # 100
SUNSHINE PERIOD COPY ORIGINAL

RECEIVED
MAY 6 1997



April 17, 1997

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

Dear Commissioner Quello:

As Superintendent of the School District of Newberry County, I commend you for your perseverance in making technology accessible in all school districts and educational agencies. The discount you are supporting would help our school district as we follow our District Strategic Plan for the Year 2000. In our Learner Standard 10, our goal is to provide the opportunity for students to use computers and other technology extensively throughout the school curriculum. Passing the Telecommunications Act will allow us the opportunity to connect to the Internet more swiftly without overburdening our technology budget.

At present, the State of South Carolina is setting aside \$10 million to support school technology. Of that, nearly \$15 million is directly going to provide telecommunications access to schools. In our district alone, nearly \$60 thousand of local funds will be spent making these connections. If a 60% discount were realized, the savings to the state would be \$9 million, and at our district level we could reduce our local operating budget by \$36 thousand. These reductions could be used to provide tax relief or they could be used in other areas of education that so desperately need funding.

I urge the FCC and the Joint Board to fully support the discount plan which will better prepare our students as they enter the work force or continue their educational endeavors.

Sincerely,

TEC Dowling
District Superintendent

TECD:jwc



WOODLAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1620 LIVINGSTON STREET • MANDEVILLE, LA 70448

MARIAN C. ARROWSMITH, PRINCIPAL
JEAN KRIEGER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL



DOCKET FILE COPY
MAY 5 1997

April 8, 1997

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

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

REC'D
APR 21 2 43 PM '97

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

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

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

Thank you.

Sincerely,

96-45

NASBE

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE BOARDS OF EDUCATION

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RECEIVED April 10, 1997

APR 21 2 44 PM '97

JAMES

Mr. James Quello
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

MAY 6 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Dear Commissioner Quello:

President
Thomas Davis
Missouri

Past President
Patricia Hayes
Colorado

President-Elect
Lyle Neumann
Illinois

Secretary-Treasurer
Barbara Roberts Mason
Michigan

Northeastern Area Directors
Beverly Greenberg
Connecticut

James C. Dawson
New York

Southern Area Directors
Ethel Hall
Alabama

Adrienne Ottaviani
Maryland

Central Area Directors
Betty Preston
Missouri

Norma Cook
Indiana

Midwest Area Directors
Kevin Gilmore
Kansas

Emmalou Rodriguez
New Mexico

Pacific Area Directors
William Byron Darden
Arizona

Judith Stiegler
Oregon

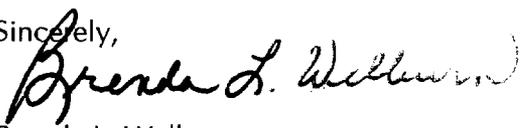
The National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) is a private nonprofit association representing state and territorial boards of education. Our principal objectives are to strengthen state leadership in education policy-making, promote excellence in the education of all students, advocate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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,


Brenda L. Welburn
Executive Director

1012 Cameron Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

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


Brenda Lilienthal Welburn
Executive Director

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

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

Marie L. Pisano
Board Secretary-Business Manager

Joseph A. Martin, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools

April 17, 1997

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

RE: CC Docket No 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello :

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

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

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

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

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Miss Marie L. Pisano
Board Secretary

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL
SUNSHINE PERIOD

MAY 6 1997

APR 21 2 44 PM '97
RECEIVED

WILLIAMS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

P. O. Box 7
Eleventh Street
Williams, California

Patricia Hopkins
Secondary
Principal
916 473-5369

Frank Cranley
Superintendent
916 473-2550

Francine Tyree
Elementary
Principal
916 473-2885

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95987

MAY 6 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

April 9, 1997

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

Fax #202-418-2822

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

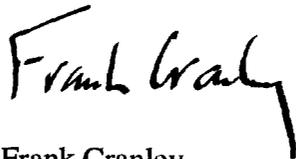
I am a superintendent from Williams Unified School District. Your recent efforts to pass the Telecommunications Act is ensuring that all school districts have affordable access to the Internet.

The Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board decision guarantees that all school districts will have the opportunity to the Internet. This will provide many distance-learning opportunities. The support will address the school classroom needs that will bring services to students and their classroom. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts will greatly assist the efforts of the school district to prepare the workforce of tomorrow.

Our students, the workforce of our future, deserve these discounts for telecommunications. I urge the FCC to fully support of the joint Board's discount plan for universal service schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Frank Cranley
Superintendent

2:FC:ICCD#96-45

RECEIVED
APR 21 2 45 PM '97
JAMES QUAY



WOODLAKE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1620 LIVINGSTON STREET • MANDEVILLE, LA 70448

MARIAN C. ARROWSMITH, PRINCIPAL
JEAN KRIEGER, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

DOCKET FILE COPY OR



April 8, 1997

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

MAY 6 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Re: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

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

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

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

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ann Chasse

PRESIDENT
MARILYN WARD

Orlando Police Department
100 S. Hughey Ave.
Orlando, FL 32801

407.246.2446
Fax: 407.246.2549
Voice Mailbox: 888.APCO-9-1-1 Ext.406



96-45

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
JAMES R. RAND

APCO International Headquarters
2040 S. Ridgewood Ave.
South Daytona, FL 32119-8437

904.322.2500 or 888.APCO-9-1-1 Ext. 222
Fax: 904.322.2501
email: randr@apcointl.com

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April 15, 1997

MAY 6 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

On behalf of the members of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials-International, Inc. and all of the organizations which we represent, I would like to thank you for your recent commitment to allocate spectrum to be used by the Public Safety community.

Sincerely,

Marilyn B. Ward
President

cc: Commissioner James H. Quello
Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner Susan Ness

APR 21 2 47 PM '97
JAMES R. RAND
RECEIVED

96-45



GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Groton, Connecticut

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Administration Offices

1300 Flanders Road • P.O. Box K, Groton, Connecticut 06340 • (860)572-2100 • FAX (860)572-2107

April 16, 1997

RECEIVED
MAY 6 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

JAMES

Apr 21 2 47 PM '97

RECEIVED

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

Dear Mr. Quello:

I am a superintendent of schools in a district that is making a genuine effort to make technology an integral part of teaching and learning. Every classroom is cabled to transmit voice, data and video. Students and teachers have direct access to the Internet from their classrooms, and we administered our State's only educational access channel. I am writing because we need your help to continue this effort in a cost-effective manner.

Please support the Telecommunications Act and the Federal-State Joint Board discount plan for schools. Our school board has given our technology initiative a high priority - but the cost of telecommunications is considerable, and in some cases prohibitive, to school districts. This discount plan will help public schools throughout the country to deliver a contemporary education to our children. If there is any arena where deep discounts are warranted by federal action, it is in the education of children. Please help us to keep this promise.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

George M. Reilly, Ed.D.
Superintends of Schools

C: Board of Education

CHIPPEWA VALLEY SCHOOLS

96-45

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RECEIVED
MAY 6 1997

MOHAWK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
48101 Romeo Plank Road
Macomb, Michigan 48044
Kenneth Madeleine - Principal
(810) 228-5660 - Office
(810) 412-8839 - Fax

April 14, 1997

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

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Dear Mr. Quello;

I am an elementary principal from the Chippewa Valley Public School District in a suburb of Detroit, Michigan, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunication 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 our students learn. Your inclusion of internal classroom connections for discounts is vital. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow for our nation.

Our students and schools 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.

Respectfully,

Kenneth Madeleine

Kenneth Madeleine
Principal

RECEIVED
APR 21 2 40 PM '97
JAMES QUAY

Victoria Stevenson Technology Coordinator

Carter County Schools
305 Academy Street
Elizabethton, TN 37643

Voice: 423-547-4063
Fax: 423-547-4040
e-mail: stevensonv@ten-nash.ten.k12.tn.us

April 17, 1997

The Honorable James Quello

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

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am a Technology Coordinator from Carter County Schools in Tennessee 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.

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,



Victoria Stevenson
Technology Coordinator
Carter County Schools

MAY 6 1997

RECEIVED
MAY 21 2 52 PM '97

SUNSHINE PERIOD

Independent School District No. 299

511 West Main Street
Caledonia, Minnesota 55921-1194
(507) 724-3316
FAX: (507) 724-3319

April 16, 1997

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

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

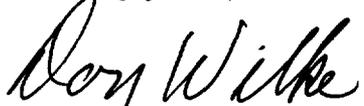
I am Superintendent of the Caledonia School District, Caledonia, Minnesota and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

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.

Caledonia School District has made a major financial commitment to wire our two school buildings but would greatly benefit by receiving assistance with discounts for services. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,


Don Wilke, Superintendent

DW/dal

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL
MAY 6 1997
SUNSHINE PERIOD

APR 21 2 53 PM '97
JAMES



FREDERICK ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL SUPPORT EMPLOYEES

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

Telephone (301) 620-9217

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

SUNSHINE PERIOD

MAY 6 1997

JIM WRIGHT
President

JOHN GATES
MSTA UniServ Director

April 16, 1997

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

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello,

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

We would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all schools and libraries will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

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

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

Sincerely,

Jim Wright
President

JAMES
Apr 21 2 53 PM '97
MSTA



San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools

601 North E Street • San Bernardino, CA 92410-3093 • (909) 387-4386 • FAX [909] 387=8950 or 387=4481

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Barry Pulliam, Ed.D., Superintendent • (909) 387-4386
Administrative Services Division • (909) 387-3205
Business Services • (909) 387-4359
Curriculum/Instruction Division • (909) 387-3121
Information Systems • (909) 387-4466
Student Services Division • (909) 387-4417

96-45

April 17, 1997

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

Dear Commissioner Quello,

On behalf of the San Bernardino Public Schools team, I am writing you to thank you and offer our full support of your efforts in ensuring all schools have affordable access to the Information Superhighway via the proposed "E-Rate" Telecommunications Discount.

As you know, San Bernardino County is the largest geographical county in the country. With this size challenge, the issue of access for our students is a significant one. Out of our approximately 13,249 classrooms, 10% have Internet access. Obviously, the major reason for this current low access rate is the lack of funding. Our county alone would benefit by a projected \$60 Million share of discounts realized from the "E-Rate" proposal. These discounts would allow for re-distribution of operational budgets to provide for critical technology infrastructure and equipment. On average, 50% of the students in our county participate in the National School Lunch Program (NLSP) and would benefit from the FCC proposal. If we as a nation truly desire to continue with the philosophy of equal access to education for all, it sure should follow that there must be provisions for equal technology access for all.

On the attached signature page, you will find that we as a county are in full support of your proposal. All district superintendents in the county have signed showing their support and encouragement of the proposal. I am sending you this under my signature, but please remember that I am only a facilitator of the wishes and requests of the districts in our county which serve a 340,000 K-12 student population.

Representing a Unified Strong Voice Of Support,

Barry Pulliam
Superintendent, San Bernardino County Schools

BP:TK:cs

MAY 6 1997
SUNSHINE PERIOD
APR 21 2 53 PM '97
JAMES QU...
PER...

Macomb Intermediate School District
44001 Garfield Road • Clinton Township, MI • 48038-1100 • 810/228-3300



April 14, 1997

The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communication Commission
1818 Street, N.W., Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED
MAY 6 1997
SUNSHINE PERIOD

APR 21 2 53 PM '97
JAMES

Dear Commissioner Quello:

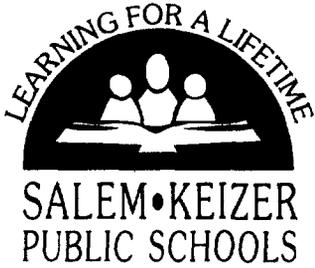
Macomb Intermediate School District provides a wide range of services to the 21 local school districts and the 120,000 students that we serve in our region. Technology integration and access to advanced telecommunication resources are one of our most highly requested responsibilities. We have watched the amazing growth in the use of technology in our schools for over 20 years. We, along with our local school districts, have worked very hard to provide the best learning environment for the students of Macomb County. With the advent of the Internet, distance learning and other advanced telecommunication resources we are seeing a new era in the type and volume of information that can be made available to all our students.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 has set up the means by which public schools can have affordable access to these important resources. The recommendations of the Joint Federal-State Board have spelled out the process by which these valuable resources can be brought into every school in the nation. As an organization we support these recommendations, and believe that access to affordable advanced telecommunication services will be one of the prerequisites for all learning in the future.

Our schools have for years been working to integrate technology into the classroom. They developed technology plans and begun wiring their districts for voice video and data traffic. They have worked with us to train their teachers in the use of technology with students. We have partnered with other counties and telecommunications service providers to bring costs down. But, we still need your help. Access to advanced telecommunication services will be an ongoing cost, and it must be affordable to all districts regardless of their economic status. This resource is too important to only be available to a segment of our population. We strongly urge the Federal Communications Commission to support the Joint Board's recommendations for universal service in the public schools.

Sincerely,

Michael R. DeVault
Superintendent



DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

HOMER H. KEARNS, Superintendent
1309 Ferry Street SE • PO Box 12024 • Salem, Oregon 97309-0024

(503) 399-3001 • FAX: (503) 399-5579

April 23, 1997

The Honorable James Quello
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Room 802
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am the Superintendent of Salem-Keizer Public Schools in Salem, Oregon. I want to thank you for your support of funds for school access to the Internet.

One of our district's eight student learning goals is to exhibit technological literacy, and the Telecommunications Act and Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools in our district will be able to enjoy the Internet's features, including distance learning.

We are currently in the process of wiring all of our schools, from elementary to high school classrooms. The approximately \$2 billion a year in the plan will help us to wire more computers in more schools faster, allowing more opportunities for our students to be educated as the workforce of tomorrow.

As the Internet becomes more and more a part of everyday use, it will be more important than ever to incorporate the technology in all classes. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries.

Sincerely,

Homer H. Kearns
Superintendent

MAY 6 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD

APR 21 2 53 PM '97

RECEIVED

RESA-6



96-45
DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL
REGIONAL EDUCATION SERVICE AGENCY VI
Serving the Northern Panhandle

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

SUNSHINE PERIOD
Tel: (304) 243-0440
Fax: (304) 243-0443

April 15, 1997

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

MAY 6 1997

APR 21 2 53 PM '97

REC'D

Dear Commissioner Quello:

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Stanley C. Stewart
Executive Director

SCS/lcc

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

darien public schools • administrative offices

p.o. box 1167 • darien, connecticut 06820-1167 • tel. 203-656-7400 • fax 203-656-3052

April 18, 1997

SUNSHINE PERIOD MAY 6 1997

REC'D
APR 21 2 42 PM '97

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

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner/Chairman Quello:

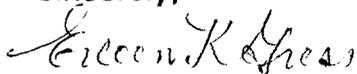
I am superintendent of the Darien Public Schools in Connecticut, and I would like to thank you for your dedication in ensuring that all school districts and education consortia will have affordable access to the Information Superhighway.

The Telecommunications Act and Federal-State Joint Board decision will ensure that our district will have the opportunity to connect to the Internet, thus providing enhanced learning opportunities. The \$2.25 billion a year will address the needs of the nation's schools, enabling services to be extended directly to the classroom where students learn. This plan is essential for preparing the workforce of tomorrow.

The inclusion of discounts for Internet services is vital. Our district is in the process of integrating specific telecommunications programs into our curriculum, including the federally-funded Globe Project in Grade 5 and the Jason Project in Grade 7. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Eileen K. Gress
Superintendent of Schools

EKG:nv



Plum Borough School District
200 SCHOOL ROAD, PLUM, PENNSYLVANIA 15239
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

DR. FRANK C. PRAZENICA, JR.
Assistant Superintendent

DR. GEORGE E. COOKE
Superintendent
795-0100
Fax: 795-9115

EDWIN T. NEFF
Director of Personnel

LORETTA P. McCLINTOCK
Director of Reading Services

MARIE MITALY
School Psychologist

SUNSHINE PERIOD

MAY 6 1997

April 17, 1997

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

FE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

On May 8, 1997, when you vote on the FCC Federal State Joint Boards recommendation to provide significant discounts for all telecommunications services including connections within each classroom, you will have the opportunity to guarantee that all students have an equal opportunity to benefit from our nations technological advancements. This will prove to be a major step in the efforts to prepare students for their future in which 60% of the jobs will require computer skills.

As a school superintendent, I can assure you that the proposed discounts would provide a major thrust to our efforts to integrate technology into the curriculum. We are committed to providing our students with the computer skills that business demand and that our workforce will need to maintain our competitiveness in a global economy.

I encourage you to support the plan to provide discounts to schools for all telecommunications services including internal connections. This action will open the door of opportunity for every student in our country and help to prepare our workforce of the future.

Sincerely,

George E. Cooke, Ed. D.
Superintendent

RECORDED
APR 21 2 42 PM '97
JAMES H. ...



CENTRAL UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT

Joan F. Gusinow, Ph.D
Superintendent
P.O. Box 1339
NAS LEMOORE, CALIFORNIA 93245-1339

15783 Eighteenth Avenue
LEMOORE, CALIFORNIA 93245
Telephone (209) 924-3405
Fax (209) 924-1153

BOARD MEMBERS

Jeffrey Gilcrease
Ceil Howe, Jr.
Larry Jones
Paul Newton
Olivia Reynoso
Mark Seymon

DOCKETED BY ORIGINAL

MAY 6 1997

April 11, 1997

The Honorable James Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW, Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

SUNSHINE PERIOD

APR 21 2 56 PM '97

RE: CC Docket No.96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am a superintendent from Central Union 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 Central Union School District would use the discounts to offset the costs of our T1 lines.

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,

Joan F. Gusinow, Ph.D.
Superintendent

JFG:caa

MILAN AREA SCHOOLS ORIGINAL
MEET THE CHALLENGE RECEIVED

DENNIS M. McCOMB
Superintendent of Schools

April 14, 1997

APR 21 2 59 PM '97

JAMES

ENCLOSURE
MAY 6 1997
The Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communication Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

SUNSHINE PERIOD

RE: CC Docket No 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

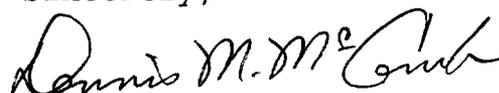
On behalf of the Milan Area Schools board, administration, staff, students and community I would like to thank you for working diligently to ensure that school districts will have access to the Information Superhighway at an affordable rate.

Our district is in the final stages of a construction project where a significant investment was made to wire our buildings for technology and to purchase a large number of computers. We want to provide our students with every educational opportunity possible through the use of technology and the Information Superhighway. Due to this investment we now have the hardware we need to accomplish our goal. But, we need to have a way to reach beyond our school walls to access the world. With a very tight operational budget we also need to have access at a reasonable cost.

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. This plan is an essential component for the preparation of our youth for the jobs of tomorrow.

The need for deep discounts for telecommunication services is critical. I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan. Our students will be very appreciative.

Sincerely,



Dennis M. McComb
Superintendent

DMM:gd



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DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS:
Neva Hutchinson, Chairperson • Elroy, Vice Chairperson
David B. Bauer • Jeanean West Craig • Sharon Gray • Dan Saucy • Craig A. Smith
1309 Ferry Street SE • PO Box 12024 • Salem, Oregon 97309-0024
(503) 399-3001 • FAX: 399-5579

Homer Kearns, Superintendent

April 23, 1997

The Honorable James Quello
Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW, Room 802
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: CC Docket No. 96-~~26~~45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

I am the school board chair for Salem-Keizer Public Schools in Salem, Oregon. I want to thank you for your support of funds for Internet access in schools.

The Telecommunications Act and Federal-State Joint Board discount plan will guarantee that even the poorest schools in our district will be able to enjoy the Internet's features, including distance learning. The over \$2 billion a year in the plan bring this technology directly into the classroom.

With the deep discounts your plan supports, we will be able to wire more computers in more schools faster, allowing for more opportunities for our students to be educated as the workforce of tomorrow.

Our district's mission says in part that each of our students will have "the essential knowledge, skills and attitudes" to be "a contributing citizen and productive worker in a changing and increasingly diverse world." I urge the FCC to fully support the Joint Board's discount plan for universal service for schools and libraries to help us with our mission and make Internet access a reality for today's students.

Sincerely,

Neva Hutchinson, Chairperson
Salem-Keizer Public Schools

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MAY 6 1997

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JAMES H. QUULLO

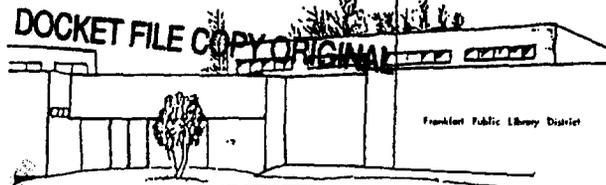
Frankfort Public Library District

SUNSHINE PERIOD

TRUSTEES

Vicki Baker - President
Joan Romanus - Vice President
Michelle Caputo - Treasurer
Jeanne Lombaer - Secretary
Jeanne DeRaimo
Kay MacNeil
Carolyn B. Thompson
Lorraine M. Novak - Administrative Librarian

April 16, 1997



21119 S. Pfeiffer Road
Frankfort, IL 60423-9302
Phone: (815) 469-2423
Fax: (815) 469-9307

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RECEIVED
MAY 6 1997

Honorable James Quello, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street NW - Room 844
Washington, DC 20544

Dear Mr. Quello:

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

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

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

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

Thank you for your attention to this important matter for our libraries and schools -- and -- ultimately for us all, as a better educated community benefits everyone. Please do not hesitate to call if we can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,


Lorraine M. Novak
Administrative Librarian



DOVER AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT SUNSHINE PERIOD

ADMINISTRATION/BUSINESS OFFICE • SCHOOL LANE • DOVER • PENNSYLVANIA 17315
(717) 292-3671 FAX (717) 292-9659



L. ROBERT HALLMAN
Assistant Superintendent

DR. GEORGE W. SEVERNS, JR.
Superintendent

DENISE L. RUSSELL
Business Manager

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

MAY 6 1997

April 18, 1997

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

RE: CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Commissioner Quello:

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

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

As our student enrollment expands in our community, we are faced with the difficult task of meeting tomorrow's needs with today's cash. We are a rural bedroom community, that borders a very industrial area. Our local support is residence property taxes. We have developed a financial/strategic plan that incorporates technology for uses such as distance learning, developing kiosks for use by residents, year round use of facilities exploration, and a commitment to lifelong learning.

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,

Denise L. Russell
Business Manager

JANE
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