

Today... and ...



Office of the Superintendent

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in the **Future**

August 13, 2015

Chairman Tom Wheeler
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC, 20554

In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors,
CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

On behalf of the Fort Smith Public School District, I write to express our strong support for the nomination of AASA Executive Director Daniel A. Domenech to the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Board of Directors. We were pleased to support Dr. Domenech in his previous nominations in 2012 and 2013, and we look forward to his continued leadership with USAC. We welcome the opportunity to submit this letter of support.

I have had the privilege of working with Dr. Domenech for a number of years as he has served as Executive Director of the American Association of School Administrators. While I served as President of this organization in 2012-2013 and worked in a variety of other leadership positions over many years, I have had the opportunity to see firsthand the respect which Dr. Domenech holds within the profession. His vision for a national view of education and his work to advance technology has enhanced education in schools of all sizes and types. These factors demonstrate that Dr. Domenech is the proper director representing K-12 schools.

With more than 40 years of experience in public education, Dr. Domenech has extensive education and leadership experience, including first-hand experience of the critical role of telecommunications and connectivity in schools. Further, his direct link to public school systems provides a sense of continuity when it comes to representing school system-level thoughts and opinions.

In today's increasingly global and competitive world, a top notch education and the building of lifelong learning skills require access to education technology, and Dr. Domenech is acutely aware of the crucial role the E-Rate program plays in helping schools and libraries afford telecommunications connectivity. Dr. Domenech recently assembled an AASA Digital Consortium comprised of representative school leaders to examine best practices in the utilization of technology to improve student access and to advance their facility to use the latest advances in technology.

Beyond his years in the classroom, which include extensive teaching and leadership experience, Dr. Domenech has served on the U.S. Department of Education's National Assessment Governing Board, on the advisory board for the Department of Defense schools, on the Board of Overseers for the Baldrige Award and the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. He is currently chair for Communities in Schools of Virginia and the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, and is on the board for the Learning First Alliance, the Center for Naval Analyses, ACT and USAC.

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The prior service as a member of the USAC Board which Dr. Domenech has experienced give him a strong background to understand full the issues which the Board of Directors will face in the future. This will help to provide continuity during the period of rapid change in the field.

For these reasons, we respectfully request your approval of Dr. Domenech's nomination to the USAC Board of directors, representing schools and libraries that are eligible to receive discounts.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Benny L. Gooden". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "B" and "G".

Benny L. Gooden, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

AASA President 2012-2013