



October 29, 2015

The Honorable Tom Wheeler
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
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 46 states participating in the State E-rate Coordinators' Alliance (SECA), we are pleased to re-nominate Julie Tritt Schell to the Board of Directors of the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) to serve an additional term as a USAC board member representing schools beginning January 1, 2016. She currently serves as the Chair of the Schools and Libraries Committee, having been elected by her board colleagues in the spring of this year. She also serves on the Executive and Audit Committees.

She is uniquely positioned to share her hands-on experiences as an E-rate stakeholder, through her role as a State E-rate Coordinator for 17 years, assisting Pennsylvania's 1250 schools and libraries by providing training and outreach as well as operating a help desk for all of these organizations to respond to their questions on a daily basis. She also files E-rate funding applications for PAIUnet, the 10 GB broadband and Internet network that interconnects Pennsylvania's 28 intermediate units. Her depth of knowledge spans from the minutia of detailed questions that the USAC staff reviewers ask of applicants to the forward looking policy issues concerning the overall health and sustainability of E-rate for years to come. She has encyclopedic knowledge and expertise that spans all aspects of E-rate.

She is a nationally recognized expert on E-rate and serves as the Co-Chair of the State E-rate Coordinators Alliance. Through her involvement with SECA and regular communications with USAC and FCC staff, she identifies issues and proposes solutions to operational challenges that arise from time to time. Through the preparation and submission of comments to the FCC in pending proceedings on behalf of SECA, she makes policy recommendations to improve the structure and framework of the E-rate program and routinely participates in *ex parte* meetings with FCC staff.

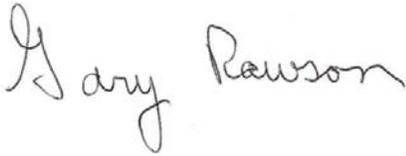
It is evident why Ms. Tritt Schell has emerged as a leader on the USAC Board. At each board meeting, she illustrates her full command of the materials she has been asked to review by posing thoughtful questions, offering insightful comments and raising important issues that get to the heart of the matters being discussed. Her contributions routinely move the discussion forward.

Ms. Tritt Schell began her career in educational technology as a member of the governmental relations staff of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association. In that role, she formed EdLiNC-PA, an education consortium which advocated to the PA Public Utility Commission concerning technology and telecommunications policies affecting public education.

Ms. Tritt Schell then moved to the Pennsylvania Office of Educational Technology where in addition to serving as State E-rate Coordinator, she was responsible for educational technology initiatives including a \$12 million Microsoft Education Partnership, several workforce development initiatives, technology leadership academies for school administrators, and coordination of the state telecommunications contract on behalf of school and library users. She also served on the Governor's Rural Telecommunications Task Force and assisted with policy development on all education-related technology issues, including cyber charter schools. She has worked in the information technology field for nearly her entire professional career in one form or another. In her work in state government and as State E-rate Coordinator she has been intimately involved with many complex procurements at a statewide level involving millions of dollars.

For all of these reasons, we believe that Ms. Tritt Schell's knowledge and expertise in the E-rate program uniquely position her to continue to serve on the Board with distinction. It is our privilege to re-nominate Julie Tritt Schell to the USAC board as a schools representative.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gary Rawson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G".

Gary Rawson, Chair
State E-rate Coordinators' Alliance
Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services
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Jackson, MS 39211
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Enclosure (Julie Tritt Schell Resume)

JULIE TRITT SCHELL

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EXPERIENCE

PA E-RATE COORDINATOR

NOVEMBER 1997 - PRESENT

To the Pennsylvania Department of Education

- Provide E-rate coordination services to more than 1500 schools and libraries in Pennsylvania, and conduct numerous annual E-rate training workshops and teleconferences at the local, state and national level on ways to maximize E-rate savings and navigate the E-rate process.
- Represent the interests of the Commonwealth and Pennsylvania's schools and libraries before USAC and the FCC in an effort to simplify the program and maximize funding for Pennsylvania's schools and libraries.
- Since E-rate's inception, have assisted Pennsylvania's schools and libraries obtain more than \$1.2 billion in E-rate discounts.
- Serve as co-chair of the national State E-rate Coordinators' Alliance (SECA) and participate in the development of all SECA comments to FCC rulemakings.
- Serve on the Board of Directors to the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) representing schools, including the current Schools and Libraries Committee Chair. Additionally serve on the Board's Executive and Audit Committees.

PRESIDENT

AUGUST 2002 - PRESENT

Tritt-Schell Consulting Services

- Represent PAIUnet, Pennsylvania's state network backbone, on all E-rate-related issues including the annual E-rate application submissions.
- Provide E-rate consulting and coordination to small number of individual Pennsylvania school districts -- both large and small, urban and rural -- in order to achieve technology-related education goals.
- Provide Request for Proposal (RFP) development and analysis and bid evaluation consultation.

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

MAY 2001 – AUGUST 2002

EXECUTIVE POLICY SPECIALIST

NOVEMBER 1997 – MAY 2001

Pennsylvania Department of Education

Responsible for all K-12 and higher education technology policy and initiatives for the Governor and Secretary of Education, including Link-to-Learn, Students Achieving Standards, Technology Leadership Academies for School Administrators, Enhancing Education Through Technology, eTechPlanner, Improving Technology at Colleges and Universities, and all Workforce Development Partnerships and Initiatives. Managed and disseminated more than \$45 million in state and federal education technology funding annually. Additional initiatives included:

Federal Universal Service Program - E-rate

- Coordinated initial and ongoing state efforts for the establishment and implementation of E-rate at the state and national level. Wrote numerous national articles on the program and served on several SLC task forces and advisory committees to develop new application

forms and improve the overall program. Also served as the State E-rate Coordinator and an active member of the national State E-rate Coordinators' Alliance.

Workforce Development Initiatives with Microsoft/Cisco/3Com/Oracle

- Served as project manager for the \$12 million Microsoft Education Donation that resulted from the Commonwealth's Enterprise Agreement in 1998. Designed and implemented training program that provided Windows NT, Visual Basic and FrontPage training to 300 Pennsylvania educators. Developed and led the first-ever statewide Microsoft Office 2000 initiative for business education teachers.
- Negotiated and developed partnerships with the nation's leading technology companies, including the first-ever state Net Prep training partnership with 3-Com, the Commonwealth's Cisco Networking Academy Training Initiative, and the Oracle Internet Academy.

Technology Leadership Academies

- Instrumental in development, implementation, and delivery of the Pennsylvania Technology Leadership Academies for School Administrators (TLA) which provided hundreds of administrators -- including superintendents, business managers, school board members, principals, vocational directors, and nonpublic school administrators -- with technology leadership and basic technology skills to share with their districts in an effort to better utilize the funds provided through local, state and federal sources. Obtained \$5 million Technology Leadership Grant application from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to provide matching funds for the Pennsylvania Technology Leadership Academies.

State Telecommunications Contract

- Served as lead contact for Category 3 users (schools and libraries) for all issues relating to the Commonwealth's Telecommunications Contract with Adelphia Communications, including conducting workshops and information teleconferences. Also served as the liaison with Adelphia for deployment schedule and E-rate compliance issues.

Other Initiatives

- Coordinated Department strategy for Chapter 354's Teacher Preparation Standards to vastly improve technology standards in teacher preparation programs at Pennsylvania's higher education institutions, including the general standards as well as each content-specific certificates. Provided support and management for all outsourced contracts, including the state's PEPPM contract which provides a state master contract from which schools can purchase technology hardware and software, as well as the unique eTechPlanner and Technology Inventory which were web-based technology planning tools and assessment measures for all districts. Served as a member of the Governor's Rural Telecommunications Task Force and assisted with policy development on all education-related technology issues, including cyber charter schools.

NETWORK OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS ASSOCIATE
Office of Governmental Relations
Pennsylvania School Boards Association

JUNE 1995 - NOVEMBER 1997
FEBRUARY 1994 - JUNE 1995

- Served as one of three member government relations team on behalf of member districts and school boards.
- Analyzed state and federal legislation, drafted amendments, developed and implemented legislative strategy, and prepared testimony on pending legislative issues. Wrote position statements, bill analyses for legislators and staff, and articles for association publications.
- Conducted numerous presentations at state, regional, and county meetings with school board members and school administrators on legislative activity. Coordinated and

prepared all aspects of the Legislative Action Program: training volunteer education lobbyists; coordinating a statewide network of 500 legislative chairpersons from public school districts; and, overseeing the Federal Relations Network to lobby Congress on education policy.

- Created and chaired EdLiNC PA, an education association alliance charged with educating the state Public Utility Commission on technology and telecommunications regulations affecting public education, as well as made numerous presentations to local, state and federal officials on the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

EDUCATION

LOCK HAVEN UNIVERSITY

Bachelor of Arts

Political Science Major, Spanish Minor

Member, University Council of Trustees (1989-1991)

Co-Chair, Commission on Women (1989-1991)

PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Graduate Work in Public Administration