



DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY AND INFORMATION  
 STATE OF DELAWARE  
 801 SILVER LAKE BLVD.  
 DOVER, DELAWARE 19904  
 302.739.9500



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 participants in the E-rate Program for the State of Delaware, I wish to support the renewal of Julie Tritt Schell's position on 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.

Julie is uniquely positioned to share her hands-on experiences as an E-rate stakeholder, through her role as a USAC 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. Her depth of knowledge spans from the extremely 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 brings tremendous knowledge and expertise that spans all aspects of E-rate.

Julie 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.

Ms. Tritt Schell has emerged as a leader on the USAC Board with her ability to represent the largest and smallest E-rate recipients with equal effectiveness. Delaware has benefited from her assistance in garnering substantial E-rate funding over the 18-year life of the program, totaling \$40 million.



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With all the challenges being faced by the E-rate program today, Delaware believes that it is critical to have a proactive and experienced E-rate person on the USAC Board. Both professionally and personally, we know of no one who has, nor can be, as effective in this position as Ms. Tritt Schell.

We believe that Ms. Tritt Schell's knowledge and expertise in the E-rate program uniquely positions her to continue to serve on the Board with distinction. It is our recommendation to renew Julie Tritt Schell's participation to the USAC board as a schools representative.

Respectfully submitted,

Parthiban Jayaraman, Chief Operating Officer  
State of Delaware  
Department of Technology and Information  
801 Silver Lake Blvd.  
Dover, DE 19904