



SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

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November 10, 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 Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), we are pleased to support the re-nomination of Julie Tritt Schell to serve as the schools representative on the USAC Board beginning January 1, 2016. Ms. Tritt Schell currently serves as the Chair of the Schools and Libraries Committee, and also serves on the Executive and Audit Committees. She has been a strong leader on the USAC Board for all educational stakeholders.

OSPI is the state Department of Education for Washington State, representing 295 school districts and over one million students. The E-rate program is extremely important as a source of technology funding for our schools and libraries, and we believe that continuity of leadership is needed during this time of changes in the program.

Ms. Tritt Schell is highly qualified to serve in this role, having served as the Pennsylvania State E-rate Coordinator for 17 years. She has a strong understanding of the FCC's policy goals and vision for the E-rate program, as well as the impacts of USAC's administration of the program rules and requirements in the field. She has been a consistent advocate for encouraging USAC to engage in more stakeholder outreach, which has been highly beneficial to applicants.

For these reasons we encourage you to re-appoint Julie Tritt Schell to the USAC Board.

Sincerely,

Peter D. Tamayo

CIO, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction