November 16, 2015

The Honorable Tom Wheeler
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 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:

As CoSN State Chapters heads and school district leaders from seven states, we respectfully encourage you to nominate Dr. Sheryl Abshire to serve on the Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors (USAC Board). Sheryl possesses the E-rate and education technology experience, knowledge and leadership skills required to serve as a learned and effective voice for schools on the USAC Board.

Dr. Abshire has worked tirelessly in public education for over 40 years and has an unmatched understanding of technology's capacity to improve teaching and learning. She has served as a recognized teacher, principal, librarian and media specialist, and since 1998, as Chief Technology Officer for the Calcasieu Parish Public Schools in Lake Charles, Louisiana. Dr. Abshire is also a well-regarded national education technology leader, providing years of dedicated service on education boards and other positions of responsibility for professional associations and on prominent advisory committees. Given her wide ranging educational experience and E-rate implementation expertise, education leaders, federal and state policy makers, and technology leaders routinely seek her counsel about the program and other related education technology projects and challenges.

The next school representative on the USAC board should not only deeply understand the program, but also have direct school district and school level experience. Dr. Abshire provides this suite of knowledge and skills, along with a vision for how the program can continue to be successful over the long-term to help future generations of students. We believe her unique expertise would strengthen the USAC Board and urge you to nominate her for this important position.

Sincerely,

Illinois Educational Technology Leaders

Karl Bruchhaus, Superintendent Calcasieu Parish Public Schools, Lake Charles, Louisiana

Louisiana Association of Computer Using Educators

Louisiana Chief Technology Officers Association

Massachusetts Educational Technology Administrators Association

Metropolitan School District of Wayne Township, Indianapolis, Indiana

New York State Association for Computers and Technologies

Texas K-12 CTO Council

Wisconsin Educational Technology Leaders