

November 16, 2015

The Honorable Tom Wheeler
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
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:

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Association for Educational Communications and Technology (PAECT), we are pleased to 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 while simultaneously serving 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 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. She has extensive knowledge and expertise, spanning all aspects of E-rate.

Ms. Tritt Schell is a nationally recognized expert on E-rate and serves as the Co-Chair of the State E-rate Coordinators Alliance. Having begun her career as a member of the governmental relations staff of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association 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

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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. It is our privilege to nominate Julie Tritt Schell to the USAC board as a schools representative.

Sincerely,

Ann M. Noonan, Ph.D.

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President

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