

Bibb County Board of Education

Superintendent of Education
Donald R. McCalla

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RECEIVED

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January 15, 2001

97-21 /

TO: Federal Communications Commission's Office of the Secretary

This letter is to request a withdrawal of the appeal submitted in our letter dated October 6, 2000. The issue was successfully resolved with the USAC Schools and Libraries Division. A copy of the October 6, 2000 letter is attached for your reference.

Sincerely,



Alesa Judd
Contact Person
Bibb County Board of Education



Donald R. McCalla
Superintendent
Bibb County Board of Education

Copy to:

USAC
Schools and Libraries Division
Box 125-Correspondence Unit
80 South Jefferson Road
Whippany, NJ 07981

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List A B C D E



"Preparing Today's Youth for Tomorrow's World"

Bibb County Board of Education
157 SW Davidson Drive
Centreville, Alabama 35042

October 6, 2000

TO: Federal Communications Commission's Office of the Secretary

"In the matter of: Request for Review by the Bibb County Board of Education of
Decision of Universal Service Administrator"

Reference: FCC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45

- (i) statement setting forth interest in the matter presented for review:

The Bibb County Board of Education filed all forms as required for application to the USAC for financial assistance with a T-1 line to one of the elementary schools which lies in another area code. The cost of the line is so expensive, that without the help of USAC, the Bibb County Board of Education cannot afford to pay the costs. The Bibb County Board of Education qualified for a discount of 80% through e-rate. One vendor could not provide the full circuit and involved a second vendor. We are receiving a bill from the second vendor expecting payment from the Bibb County Board of Education. Before we realized we had a problem, the window for filing Year 3 was over, and we had repeated the same set up as Year 2. We have funding approved for payment through USAC, but because it involves a second vendor, we cannot access it.

- (ii) full statement of relevant, material facts with supporting documentation

Attached you will find copies of documents relevant to this request. When bids for service were taken in Year 2 for provision of T-1s to our schools, Mid-South Data bid as a vendor reselling BellSouth services. Mid-South/BellSouth could not provide all of the connection to give us access as was bid. ITC-DeltaCom was brought in by Mid-South as a second vendor to finish providing the link. The service was finally completed in May 2000. We are receiving bills from ITC-DeltaCom requesting payment. The service is approved through USAC under FRN251124 for a total of \$30,340 pre-discount cost. We can afford 20% of this amount, but we can not afford the service without the e-rate discount. The paperwork associated with e-rate is tedious and cumbersome. There should be some level of flexibility when every effort is made to adhere to the guidelines, but we still fall short of expectations. There was no way for us to anticipate that MidSouth/BellSouth could not provide the service. Please find the attachment from BellSouth dated December 9, 1999 assuring us that our Randolph Elementary School circuit would be covered. MidSouth Data has since gone out of business. We will receive the portion of funds billed through BellSouth, but we have no way to pay the part



from ITC-DeltaCom. The bill for the services from May-June 30 (see attached) could probably be managed, but we are in the same situation with Year 3. Our request to USAC was to allow us to pay BellSouth and ITC-DeltaCom with the approved FRN. The allocation, as approved, would cover the services if they would allow us to pay two vendors. The request was denied (please find letter of request and denial attached).

(iii) question presented for review

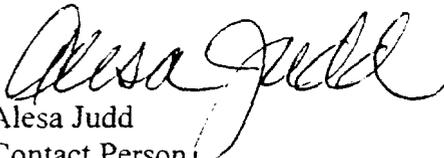
The SLD letter stated that the decision could be appealed to the FCC. The purpose of this letter is to ask that our request be reconsidered. Can we please pay two vendors from our Year 2 FRN251124, and our Year 3 FRN370134? The request is not for additional funds, only to pay both vendors providing service.

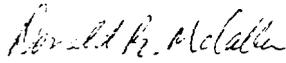
(iv) statement of the relief sought

The relief sought is only to be able to use approved FRNs in Year 2 and Year 3 to pay two vendors instead of one, as a result of one not being able to provide the service.

Your consideration of this review will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,


Alesa Judd
Contact Person
Bibb County Board of Education


Donald R. McCalla
Superintendent
Bibb County Board of Education

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