

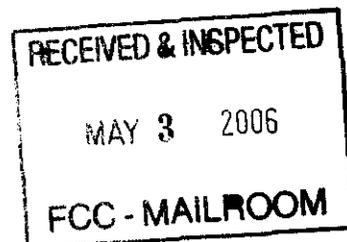
St. Mary Star of the Sea School

★ 6424 SOUTH KENNETH AVENUE
★ CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60629

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

DATE: 04/27/2006

Letter of Appeal / Request for Review
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Room TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554



RE: **Request for Review**
Funding Commitment Decision Letter / Appeals Decision Letter
Funding Commitment Decision Letter Date: *October 19, 2005*
Administrator's Decision on Appeal Letter Date: 03/31/2006
CC Docket Number No. 02-6
471 Application Number: 464208
Funding Year: 07/01/2005 – 06/30/2006
Funding Request Numbers: 1292169
Billed Entity: *St. Mary Star of the Sea School*
Billed Entity Number: 70617

CONTACT:

Evelyn Califfe (Principal)
St. Mary Star of the Sea School
6424 S Kenneth Ave.
Chicago, Illinois 60629-5525
Phone (773) 767-6160
Fax (773) 767-7077
ecaliffe@yahoo.com

Dear Sirs:

This letter is submitted to appeal the Universal Service Administrative Company's (USAC) Funding Commitment Decision Letter dated *October 19, 2005* (See Attachment A).

St. Mary Star of the Sea School would like to appeal the USAC's decision to deny funding under the explanation that no technology plan covering the current funding year was in place when the Form 470 was filed.

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List A B C D E

We contend that we did indeed satisfy the technology plan requirements of the Schools and Library Division of USAC.

The higher-level technology plan for the Schools in the Archdiocese of Chicago, of which *St. Mary Star of the Sea School* is a member, has had an approved technology plan, without interruption, since 1998. The National Catholic Educational Association approved the initial plan on February 11, 1998 (See Attachment C). The Illinois State Board of Education approved the 1st revision of the plan on July 2, 2002 (See Attachment D). The Catholic Conference of Illinois approved the latest plan revision on June 17, 2005 (See Attachment E).

Each version of the plan has updates but remains essentially the same plan. Attached is a chart (See Attachment B), which lists the goals of the 2002 plan and the 2005 plan. When you compare the two columns, you will see that the goals are almost identical. A closer examination of the strategies detailed in the plan document itself will also show a very close correlation between the two versions. (See attached copies of the 2002 and 2005 versions of the plan.)

Most importantly, you will note that the schools in question had been asking for a consistent “package” of e-rate eligible products and services, which include local and long distance wired and wireless voice services, dedicated internet access lines, and eligible CPE to access the internet. Our point here is if, the goals were similar -- and the products and services asked for by the schools remained constant -- why was the validity of the original plan questioned, and funding denied, with these applications?

We cite here the SLD’s own direction on the matter:

Technology Plan Scope and Timeframe

Scope

Schools and libraries are not required to write or develop a separate Universal Service Fund technology plan. However, the approved plan must include a sufficient level of information to validate the purpose of a Universal Service Fund request. An approved technology plan does not have to include the specific details on required on the *Description of Services Requested and Certification Form (Form 470)*, the *Services Ordered and Certification Form (Form 471)*, the *Receipt of Service Confirmation Form (Form 486)*, and the *Adjustment to Funding Commitment and Modification to Receipt of Service Confirmation Form (Form 500)*.

<http://www.universalservice.org/sl/applicants/step02/technology-planning/default.aspx>

The schools in question had a valid technology plan that had more than enough detail to “validate the purpose of the Universal Service Fund request”, per the SLD’s direction on the matter.

PIA Review

During the PIA review, vague questions such as, “When was the plan created?” Or, “When was the plan available?” were asked. The school gave the plan approval date not quite understanding what information was requested under the term, “created” or “available.”

When the Director of Technology of the Office of Catholic Schools in the Archdiocese of Chicago (the school system of which we are members) inquired on our behalf to the SLD as to the reason for the questions and the meanings of created or available, he was told, “We can’t tell you.”

We believe that this confusion led to the PIA review determining that we did not have a technology plan in place when, in fact, we have developed cooperative plans and implemented them over the past six years.

We note here that in a recent decision in regards to an appeal by the Pasadena, CA school district (see http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-06-486A1.doc), the FCC has asked the SLD for “reasonable inquiry by USAC and better communication between the USAC and the applicant could have resolved the issues” in this case.” We note here that the Chicago Archdiocese’s efforts to intervene on the matter should not have been dismissed or treated as irrelevant and could have addressed many of the issues here. In summary, there was a valid technology plan in place at the filing of the 470, there were efforts to make minor changes within that plan, and ultimately, the new plan was approved by June 30th and in time for the new funding year.

In summary, *St. Mary Star of the Sea School* believes that it was denied funding in error and requests USAC to award a Funding Commitment Decision favorable to our school.

Please do not hesitate to call our local school contact with any questions.

Sincerely,



Evelyn Califfe

Principal

Attachments:

- Attachment A – Funding Commitment Decision Letter
- Attachment B – Comparison of Technology Plans Goals
- Attachment C – 1998 Technology Plan Approval Letter
- Attachment D – 2002 Technology Plan Approval Letter
- Attachment E – 2005 Technology Plan Approval Letter
- Attachment F – Appeals Decision Letter

Complete 2002 Technology Plan for Schools in the Archdiocese of Chicago
Complete 2005 Technology Plan for Schools in the Archdiocese of Chicago

USAC

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

ATTACHMENT A

TIME SENSITIVE MATERIAL

00367
Evelyn Califfe
ST MARY STAR OF THE SEA SCHOOL
6424 S KENNETH AVE
CHICAGO, IL 60629-5525





FUNDING COMMITMENT DECISION LETTER
(Funding Year 2005: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2006)

October 19, 2005

Evelyn Califfe
ST MARY STAR OF THE SEA SCHOOL
6424 S KENNETH AVE
CHICAGO, IL 60629-5525

Re: Form 471 Application Number: 464208
Funding Year 2005: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2006
Billed Entity Number: 70617
Billed Entity FCC RN:
Applicant's Form Identifier: 471-2005

Thank you for your Funding Year 2005 E-rate application and for any assistance you provided throughout our review. Here is the current status of the funding request(s) featured in the Funding Commitment Report at the end of this letter.

- The amount, \$1,759.38 is "Approved."
- The amount, \$1,057.44 is "Denied."

Please refer to the Funding Commitment Report on the page following this letter for specific funding request decisions and explanations.

The Important Reminders and Deadlines immediately preceding this letter are provided to assist you throughout the application process.

NEXT STEPS

- Work with your service provider to determine if you will receive discounted bills or if you will request reimbursement from USAC after paying your bills in full
- Review technology planning approval requirements
- Review CIPA Requirements
- File Form 486
- Invoice the SLD using the Form 474 (service provider) or Form 472 (Billed Entity) - as products and services are being delivered and billed

FUNDING COMMITMENT REPORT

On the pages following this letter, we have provided a Funding Commitment Report for the Form 471 application cited above. The enclosed report includes a list of the Funding Request Number(s) (FRNs) from your application. The SLD is also sending this information to your service provider(s) so preparations can be made to begin implementing your E-rate discount(s) after you file your Form 486. Immediately preceding the Funding Commitment Report, you will find a guide that provides a definition for each line of the Report.

TO APPEAL THIS DECISION:

If you wish to appeal a decision in this letter, your appeal must be received by the SLD or postmarked within 60 days of the date of this letter. Failure to meet this requirement will result in automatic dismissal of your appeal. In your letter of appeal:

1. Include the name, address, telephone number, fax number, and (if available) e-mail address for the person who can most readily discuss this appeal with us.
2. State outright that your letter is an appeal. Include the following to identify the letter and the decision you are appealing:
 - Appellant name,

IMPORTANT REMINDERS & DEADLINES

Billed Entity Number : 70617
Name of Billed Entity: ST MARY STAR OF THE SEA SCHOOL

The following information is provided to assist you throughout the application process. We recommend that you keep it in an easily accessible location and that you share it with the appropriate members of your organization.

FCC REGISTRATION NUMBERS (FCC RNs) - Effective November 1, 2004, the FCC's Fifth Order (FCC 04-190 released August 13, 2004) requires E-rate program participants to have FCC Registration Numbers. Please continue to review our web site for additional guidance.

FORM 486 DEADLINE - The Form 486 must be postmarked no later than 120 days after the Service Start Date you report on the Form 486 or no later than 120 days after the date of the Funding Commitment Decision Letter, whichever is later. If you are required to have a Technology Plan, that plan must cover all 12 months of the funding year. You must indicate the name of the SLD-Certified Technology Plan Approver (TPA) prior to the commencement of discounted services for this funding year. You must indicate the name of the SLD-Certified TPA who approved your plan in your Form 486, and you must retain your approval letter and documentation of your monitoring of the progress toward your stated goals.

CHILDREN'S INTERNET PROTECTION ACT (CIPA) - Please review the CIPA guidance in the Form 486 Instructions, Section II, "IMPACT OF CIPA REQUIREMENTS ON FORM 486."

INVOICE DEADLINE - Invoices must be postmarked no later than 120 days after the last date to receive service - including extensions - or 120 days after the date of the Form 486 Notification Letter, whichever is later. Invoices should not be submitted until the invoiced products and services are being delivered and billed, and (for BEAR Forms) the provider has been paid.

OBLIGATION TO PAY NON-DISCOUNT PORTION - Applicants are required to pay the non-discount portion of the cost of the products and/or services. Service providers are required to bill applicants for the non-discount portion. The FCC has stated that requiring applicants to pay their share ensures efficiency and accountability in the program. FCC 04-190 concluded that a presumptively reasonable timeframe for a beneficiary to pay its non-discount share is 90 days after the completion of services. If you are using a trade-in as part of your non-discount portion, please refer to the web site for more information.

DOCUMENTATION RETENTION - FCC rules require that documents demonstrating compliance with the statute and Commission rules must be retained for a period of at least five years after the last day of service delivered. See "Document Retention Requirements" in FCC 04-190 for a descriptive list of many of the documents you must retain.

SUSPENSION AND DEBARMENT - Persons who have been convicted of criminal violations or held civilly liable for certain acts arising from their participation in the Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism are subject to suspension and debarment from the program.

FREE SERVICES ADVISORY - Applicants and service providers are prohibited from using the Schools and Libraries Support Mechanism to subsidize the procurement of ineligible or unrequested products and services, or from participating in arrangements that have the effect of providing a discount level to applicants greater than that to which applicants are entitled.

Complete program information - including more information on these reminders - is posted to the SLD section of the USAC web site at www.sl.universalservice.org. You may also contact the SLD Client Service Bureau by e-mail using the "Submit a Question" link on the web site, by fax at 1-888-276-8736 or by phone at 1-888-203-8100.

- Applicant name and service provider name, if different from appellant,
 - Applicant BEN and service provider SPIN,
 - Form 471 Application Number as assigned by the SLD,
 - "Funding Commitment Decision Letter for Funding Year 2005," AND
 - The exact text or the decision that you are appealing.
3. Please keep your letter to the point, and provide documentation to support your appeal. Be sure to keep a copy of your entire appeal, including any correspondence and documentation.
 4. If you are the applicant, please provide a copy of your appeal to the service provider(s) affected by the SLD's decision. If you are the service provider, please provide a copy of your appeal to the applicant(s) affected by the SLD's decision.
 5. Provide an authorized signature on your letter of appeal.

To submit your appeal to the SLD by e-mail, use the "Submit a Question" feature on our web site at www.sl.universalservice.org. Click "Continue," choose "Appeals" from the Topics Inquiry on the lower portion of your screen, and click "Go" to begin your appeal submission. The system will prompt you through the process. The SLD will automatically reply to incoming e-mails to confirm receipt.

To submit your appeal to the SLD by fax, fax your appeal to (973) 599-6542.

To submit your appeal to the SLD on paper, send your appeal to:

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

While we encourage you to resolve your appeal with the SLD first, you have the option of filing an appeal directly with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). You should refer to CC Docket No. 02-6 on the first page of your appeal to the FCC. Your appeal must be received by the FCC or postmarked within 60 days of the above date on this letter. Failure to meet this requirement will result in automatic dismissal of your appeal. We strongly recommend that you use either the electronic filing options described in the "Appeals Procedure" posted in the Reference Area of our web site. If you are submitting your appeal via United States Postal Service, send to: FCC, Office of the Secretary, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554.

NOTICE ON RULES AND FUNDS AVAILABILITY

Applicants' receipt of funding commitments is contingent on their compliance with all statutory, regulatory, and procedural requirements of the Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism. Applicants who have received funding commitments continue to be subject to audits and other reviews that the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) and/or the FCC may undertake periodically to assure that funds that have been committed are being used in accordance with all such requirements. The SLD may be required to reduce or cancel funding commitments that were not issued in accordance with such requirements, whether due to action or inaction, including but not limited to that by the SLD, the applicant, or the service provider. The SLD, and other appropriate authorities (including but not limited to USAC and the FCC), may pursue enforcement actions and other means of recourse to collect improperly disbursed funds. The timing of payment of invoices may also be affected by the availability of funds based on the amount of funds collected from contributing telecommunications companies.

Schools and Libraries Division
 Universal Service Administrative Company

A GUIDE TO THE FUNDING COMMITMENT REPORT

A report for each E-rate funding request from your application is attached to this letter. We are providing the following definitions for the items in that report.

FORM 471 APPLICATION NUMBER: The unique identifier assigned to a Form 471 application by the SLD.

FUNDING REQUEST NUMBER (FRN): A Funding Request Number is assigned by the SLD to each Block 5 of your Form 471. This number is used to report to applicants and service providers the status of individual funding requests submitted on a Form 471.

FUNDING STATUS: Each FRN will have one of the following definitions:

1. An FRN that is "Funded" is approved at the level that the SLD determined is appropriate for this FRN. The funding level will generally be the level requested unless the SLD determines during the application review process that some adjustment is appropriate.
2. An FRN that is "Not Funded" is one for which no funds were committed. The reason for the decision will be briefly explained in the "Funding Commitment Decision Explanation." An FRN may be "Not Funded" because the request does not comply with program rules, or because the total amount of funding available for this Funding Year was insufficient to fund all requests.
3. An FRN that is "As Yet Unfunded" reflects a temporary status that is assigned to an FRN when the SLD is uncertain at the time the letter is generated whether there will be sufficient funds to make commitments for requests for Internal Connections at a particular discount level. For example, if your application included requests for discounts on both Telecommunications Services and Internal Connections, you might receive a letter with funding commitments for your Telecommunications Services funding requests and a message that your Internal Connections requests are "As Yet Unfunded." You would receive one or more subsequent letters regarding the funding decision on your Internal Connections requests.

CATEGORY OF SERVICE: The type of service ordered from the service provider, as shown on your Form 471.

FORM 470 APPLICATION NUMBER: The Form 470 Application Number associated with this FRN from Block 5, Item 12 of the Form 471.

SPIN (Service Provider Identification Number): A unique number assigned by the Universal Service Administrative Company to service providers seeking payment from the Universal Service Fund for participating in the universal service support mechanisms. A SPIN is also used to verify delivery of services and to arrange for payment.

SERVICE PROVIDER NAME: The legal name of the service provider.

CONTRACT NUMBER: The number of the contract between the eligible party and the service provider. This will be present only if a contract number was provided on your Form 471.

BILLING ACCOUNT NUMBER: The account number that your service provider has established with you for billing purposes. This will be present only if a Billing Account Number was provided on your Form 471.

SERVICE START DATE: The Service Start Date for this FRN from Block 5, Item 19 of your Form 471.

CONTRACT EXPIRATION DATE: The Contract Expiration Date for this FRN from Block 5, Item 20b of your Form 471. This will be present only if a contract expiration date was provided on your Form 471.

SITE IDENTIFIER: The Entity Number listed in Form 471, Block 5, Item 22a. This will be present only for "site specific" FRNs.

NUMBER OF MONTHS RECURRING SERVICE PROVIDED IN FUNDING YEAR: The number of months of service that has been approved in the funding year. This will be present only for recurring services.

ANNUAL PRE-DISCOUNT AMOUNT FOR ELIGIBLE RECURRING CHARGES: Eligible monthly pre-discount amount approved for recurring charges multiplied by number of months of recurring service approved for the funding year.

ANNUAL PRE-DISCOUNT AMOUNT FOR ELIGIBLE NON-RECURRING CHARGES: Annual eligible non-recurring charges approved for the funding year.

PRE-DISCOUNT AMOUNT: Amount in Form 471, Block 5, Item 23I, as determined through the application review process.

DISCOUNT PERCENTAGE APPROVED BY THE SLD: The discount rate that the SLD has approved for this service.

FUNDING COMMITMENT DECISION: This represents the total amount of funding that the SLD has reserved to reimburse your service provider for the approved discounts for this service for this funding year. It is important that you and your service provider both recognize that the SLD should be invoiced and the SLD may direct disbursement of discounts only for eligible, approved services actually rendered.

FUNDING COMMITMENT DECISION EXPLANATION: This entry provides an explanation of the amount in the "Funding Commitment Decision."

FCDL DATE: The date of this Funding Commitment Decision Letter (FCDL).

WAVE NUMBER: The wave number assigned to FCDLs issued on this date.

FUNDING COMMITMENT REPORT
Billed Entity Name: ST MARY STAR OF THE SEA SCHOOL
BEN: 70617
Funding Year: 2005

Form 471 Application Number: 464208
Funding Request Number: 1292093
Funding Status: Funded
Category of Service: Telecommunications Service
Form 470 Application Number: 385770000
SPIN: 143001912
Service Provider Name: SBC Illinois
Contract Number: MTM
Billing Account Number: N/A
Service Start Date: 07/01/2005
Contract Expiration Date: 06/30/2006
Site Identifier: 70617
Number of Months Recurring Service Provided in Funding Year: 12
Annual Pre-discount Amount for Eligible Recurring Charges: \$3,014.52
Annual Pre-discount Amount for Eligible Non-recurring Charges: \$.00
Pre-discount Amount: \$3,014.52
Discount Percentage Approved by the SLD: 50%
Funding Commitment Decision: \$1,507.26 - ERN approved as submitted

FCDL Date: 10/19/2005
Wave Number: 017

Funding Request Number: 1292169
Funding Status: Not Funded
Category of Service: Internet Access
Form 470 Application Number: 385770000
SPIN: 143001912
Service Provider Name: SBC Illinois
Contract Number: MTM
Billing Account Number: N/A
Service Start Date: 07/01/2005
Contract Expiration Date: 06/30/2006
Site Identifier: 70617
Number of Months Recurring Service Provided in Funding Year: 12
Annual Pre-discount Amount for Eligible Recurring Charges: \$2,114.88
Annual Pre-discount Amount for Eligible Non-recurring Charges: \$.00
Pre-discount Amount: \$2,114.88
Discount Percentage Approved by the SLD: N/A
Funding Commitment Decision: \$0.00 - Technology Plan Required
Funding Commitment Decision Explanation: Documentation indicates that you did not have a written Technology Plan at the time the Form 470 was filed. FCC rules require applicants to have a written tech plan, at the time the Form 470 is filed, if they are seeking discounts for more than basic phone service.

FCDL Date: 10/19/2005
Wave Number: 017

21-866320 Done

FUNDING COMMITMENT REPORT
Billed Entity Name: ST MARY STAR OF THE SEA SCHOOL
BEN: 70617
Funding Year: 2005

Form 471 Application Number: 464208
Funding Request Number: 1292227
Funding Status: Funded
Category of Service: Telecommunications Service
Form 470 Application Number: 385770000
SPIN: 143001192
Service Provider Name: AT&T Corp.
Contract Number: MTM
Billing Account Number: N/A
Service Start Date: 07/01/2005
Contract Expiration Date: 06/30/2006
Site Identifier: 70617
Number of Months Recurring Service Provided in Funding Year: 12
Annual Pre-discount Amount for Eligible Recurring Charges: \$504.24
Annual Pre-discount Amount for Eligible Non-recurring Charges: \$.00
Pre-discount Amount: \$504.24
Discount Percentage Approved by the SLD: 50%
Funding Commitment Decision: \$252.12 - FRN approved as submitted
FCDL Date: 10/19/2005
Wave Number: 017

Attachment B
Comparison of Technology Plan Goals

2005 - 2008 Technology Integration Plan Goals	2002 - 2005 Technology Integration Plan
Catholic schools, in partnership with the surrounding local and global communities, discover and leverage the educational, financial and technical resources available.	Catholic schools, in partnership with the surrounding local and global communities, discover and leverage the educational, financial and technical resources available.
Catholic schools strive for equity in Archdiocesan-wide uses of technology.	Catholic schools strive for equity in Archdiocesan-wide uses of technology.
Catholic schools utilize OCS and local resources to maximize Archdiocesan, school, family and community communication.	Catholic schools, in partnership with the associated local and global communities, leverage technology to enable and optimize communication and the exchange of information.
Catholic schools will develop local school addendums to the OCS plan incorporating the mission, vision and major goals and strategies.	Catholic schools will develop written technology plans that are based upon the mission, vision and belief statements and major goals of the OFFICE OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS technology plan.
Catholic schools integrate diverse technologies identified by scientifically based research into the process of teaching, learning and assessing in all disciplines at all instructional levels.	Catholic schools integrate technology competencies into the process of content-based teaching and learning in all disciplines at all instructional levels.
Catholic schools, independently and collaborative use technology to communicate, access, analyze and evaluate information.	Catholic schools, independently and collaboratively use technology to communicate, access, analyze and evaluate information.
Catholic schools align technology initiatives with school improvement goals for curriculum, instruction, and assessment.	Catholic schools align technology initiatives with school improvement goals for curriculum, instruction, and assessment.
Catholic School professional staff (Administrators, Teachers, Librarians, Specialists) and support staff demonstrates competencies in technology skills and practices related to their responsibilities.	Catholic School professional staff (Administrators, Teachers, Librarians, Specialists) and support staff demonstrate competencies in technology skills and practices related to their responsibilities.

Building level administrators become technology leaders.	
	Professional development technology needs will be fully funded.
Professional Development in technology integration resources are identified and communicated to school personnel.	
	Professional development reflects current research and best practice.
Catholic schools provide professional development in technology to support and enhance curriculum, instruction and assessment.	Catholic schools provide professional development in technology to support and enhance curriculum, instruction and assessment.
Catholic schools have sufficient technology resources for teaching, learning, and management.	Catholic schools have sufficient technology resources for teaching, learning and management.
Catholic schools electronically network with the Archdiocese and each other.	Catholic schools electronically network with the Archdiocese and each other.
Catholic schools leverage resources and programs to ensure adequate technology services.	Catholic schools leverage resources and programs to ensure adequate technology services.
Catholic schools adopt technology policies for the acquisition, deployment, utilization and support of educational technology and school management.	Catholic schools adopt technology policies for the acquisition, deployment, utilization and support of educational technology and school management.
Catholic schools utilize electronic administrative management systems.	Catholic schools utilize administrative information management systems.

ATTACHMENT @

NCEA



FEB 17 1998

NATIONAL
CATHOLIC
EDUCATIONAL
ASSOCIATION

February 11, 1998

Elaine M. Schuster, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Archdiocese of Chicago
155 E. Superior Street
Chicago, IL 60611

Dear Dr. Schuster:

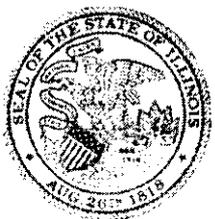
I am pleased to inform you that we have reviewed your technology plan and that it meets all five criteria established by the Schools and Libraries Corporation for participation in the Schools and Libraries Universal Service Program. Your plan is approved.

In order to receive program services, please note that you must indicate on FCC Form 486 that your plan has been approved by the **National Catholic Educational Association**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "Lourdes Sheehan".

Lourdes Sheehan, RSM
Executive Director
Department of Chief Administrators of Catholic Education



ATTACHMENT D
Illinois State Board of Education

100 West Randolph Street, Suite 14-300 • Chicago, Illinois 60601-3268-3169

Ronald J. Gidwitz
Chairman

www.isbe.net

Respicio F. Vazquez
State Superintendent of Education

July 2, 2002

Mr. Mark Gartski
Director of Technology - Office of Catholic Schools
Archdiocese of Chicago
155 E. Superior St.
Chicago, IL 60611

**CERTIFICATION OF TECHNOLOGY PLAN APPROVAL FOR SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES
UNIVERSAL SERVICE PROGRAM**

We are pleased to inform you that the Archdiocese of Chicago's Technology Plan has been reviewed by the Peer Review Group and has met the following standards and criteria as detailed for the Schools and Libraries Universal Service Program:

- (1) The Plan establishes clear goals and a realistic strategy for using telecommunications and other information technologies to improve teaching and learning.
- (2) The Plan has a professional development strategy to ensure that staff know how to use the new technologies to improve teaching and learning.
- (3) The Plan includes an assessment of the telecommunications services, hardware, software, professional development and other services that will be needed to implement the strategies to improve education.
- (4) The Plan provides a sufficient budget to acquire and maintain the hardware, software, and other services that will be needed to implement the strategy.
- (5) The Plan includes an evaluation process that enables a school to monitor progress toward the goals outlined in the Plan and make mid-course corrections in response to new developments and opportunities as they arise.

Ultimately, we stress that technology plans must not be viewed or treated as a separate exercise dealing primarily with hardware and telecommunications infrastructure. Instead, there must be strong connections between the Plan, your Staff' professional development efforts, and your overall goals for improving teaching and learning.

While we realize that your planning scope may be longer, this approval is valid for the Universal Service Program for three (3) fiscal years from this date, ending June 30, 2005. At that time, your Plan will undergo a review and assessment as required by the Schools and Libraries Corporation.

Thank You once again for your continued commitment to improve teaching and learning at your school. We wish you continued success in your efforts at securing the resources that go along with that important task.

Sincerely,

Ricardo Tostado
Policy Analyst
Illinois State Board of Education - Learning Technologies

cc: Zach Wichmann -- IL Catholic Conference

ATTACHMENT E

65 East Wacker Place • Suite 1620
Chicago, Illinois 60601
(312) 368-1066
FAX (312) 368-1090



108 East Cook Street
Springfield, Illinois 62704
(217) 528-9200
FAX (217) 528-7214

June 17, 2005

Mr. Mark Garstk
Archdiocese of Chicago
155 E. Superior Street
Chicago, IL 60611

**CERTIFICATION OF TECHNOLOGY PLAN APPROVAL FOR SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES
UNIVERSAL SERVICE PROGRAM**

We are pleased to inform you that the Archdiocese of Chicago School technology plan has been reviewed by the Peer Review Group and has met the following standards and criteria as detailed for the Schools and Libraries Universal Service Program:

- (1) The Plan establishes clear goals and a realistic strategy for using telecommunications and other information technologies to improve teaching and learning.
- (2) The Plan has a professional development strategy to ensure that staff know how to use the new technologies to improve teaching and learning.
- (3) The Plan includes an assessment of the telecommunications services, hardware, software, professional development and other services that will be needed to implement the strategies to improve education.
- (4) The Plan provides a sufficient budget to acquire and maintain the hardware, software, and other services that will be needed to implement the strategy.
- (5) The Plan includes an evaluation process that enables a school to monitor progress toward the goals outlined in the Plan and make mid-course corrections in response to new developments and opportunities as they arise.

Ultimately, we stress that technology plans must not be viewed or treated as a separate exercise dealing primarily with hardware and telecommunications infrastructure. Instead, there must be strong connections between the Plan, your Staff professional development efforts, and your overall goals for improving teaching and learning.

While we realize that your planning scope may be longer, this approval is valid for the Universal Service Program for three (3) fiscal and school years from this date, ending June 30, 2008. At that time, your Plan will undergo a review and assessment as required by the Schools and Libraries Corporation.

Thank you once again for your continued commitment to improve teaching and learning at your school. We wish you continued success in your efforts at securing the resources that go along with that important task.

Sincerely,

Zachary H. Wichmann
Associate Director for Education

ATTACHMENT F

Evelyn Califfe
St. Mary Star of the Sea School
6424 South Kenneth Avenue
Chicago, IL 60629-5525

Billed Entity Number: 70617
Form 471 Application Number: 464208
Form 486 Application Number:

Received 4/4/06



Administrator's Decision on Appeal – Funding Year 2005-2006

March 31, 2006

Evelyn Califfe
St. Mary Star of the Sea School
6424 South Kenneth Avenue
Chicago, IL 60629-5525

Re: Applicant Name: ST MARY STAR OF THE SEA SCHOOL
Billed Entity Number: 70617
Form 471 Application Number: 464208
Funding Request Number(s): 1292169
Your Correspondence Dated: December 09, 2005

After thorough review and investigation of all relevant facts, the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) has made its decision in regard to your appeal of SLD's Funding Year 2005 Funding Commitment Decision Letter for the Application Number indicated above. This letter explains the basis of SLD's decision. The date of this letter begins the 60-day time period for appealing this decision to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). If your Letter of Appeal included more than one Application Number, please note that you will receive a separate letter for each application.

Funding Request Number(s): 1292169
Decision on Appeal: **Denied**
Explanation:

- On appeal, you seek reversal of the SLD decision to deny funding for this request because St. Mary Star of the Sea did not have a technology plan covering the current funding year when the Form 470 was filed. You state that the Archdiocese of Chicago, of which St. Mary Star of the Sea is a member, has had an approved technology plan without interruption since 1998. The initial plan was approved in February 1998, the first revision was approved in July 2002, and the latest revision was approved in June 2005. You further state that each version of the plan has updates but remains essentially the same. You assert that vague questions asked during PIA review regarding the date the plan was created or available led the school to provide the approval date of the technology plan and led to confusion, which led PIA to determine that the school did not have a

technology plan in place. You believe that funding was denied in error and request a favorable Funding Commitment Decision for the school.

- Upon review of the appeal and its relevant documentation, it was determined that St. Mary Star of the Sea School, was chosen for Selective Review in Fund Year 2005. As part of the Selective Review Information Request (SRIR), applicants are directed to provide a copy of technology plan for the current funding year. Your response to the SRIR included a copy of the Archdiocese of Chicago's 2005-2008 tech plan and a certification letter dated June 17, 2005. However, the plan provided did not reference the date of creation and included the footer "Archdiocese of Chicago - June 2005," which indicates that the plan was not available when Form 470 was filed (1/13/05). You were contacted by the SLD, informed that the certification letter was dated June 17, 2005, and asked to provide the date that the technology plan was created. Your response stated that the technology plan was started in the 2003-2004 school year, submitted for approval on May 23, 2005, and approved on June 17, 2005. You were then contacted for clarification and asked to provide the day, month, and year that the tech plan was written. Your response stated that June 17, 2005 was the acceptable date. As program rules require applicants to have a tech plan covering the current fund year in place at the time Form 470 is filed, all funding requests requiring a technology plan were denied. On appeal, you state that the school has had an approved technology plan, without interruption, since 1998 and have provided a timeline of revisions and approvals. You have also included the 2002 and 2005 technology plans, and the 1998, 2002, and 2005 approval letters in support of the appeal. Upon review of the documentation, it is clear that the Diocese has had a continuous technology plan since 1998. However, you have failed to address the reason for denial, that the school did not have a technology plan in place for Funding Year 2005 at the time the Form 470 was filed. As your original responses indicated that St. Mary Star of the Sea School did not have a Funding Year 2005 tech plan in place at the time the Form 470 was filed, and you have failed to provide evidence that the SLD has erred in its decision, the appeal is denied.
- On your Form 471, you certified that the recipients of products and/or service were covered by an individual and/or higher-level technology plan and that the technology plan had been approved or was in the process of being approved. During the review of your application, SLD requested that you provide a copy of your technology plan. Since you failed to provide a copy of your technology plan that was written prior to the filing of your Form 470, SLD denies your appeal.
- Your Form 471 requested funding for services other than basic local and long distance telephone service. FCC rules require applicants to certify that the entities receiving products and/or services other than basic telephone service are covered by an individual and/or higher-level technology plan that has been, or is in the process of being approved. 47 C.F.R. § 54.504(b)(2)(vii); *See Schools and Libraries Universal Service, Services Ordered and Certification Form, OMB 3060-0806 Block 6, item 26, 27 (FCC Form 471)* .

If your appeal has been approved, but funding has been reduced or denied, you may appeal these decisions to either the SLD or the FCC. For appeals that have been denied in full, partially approved, dismissed, or canceled, you may file an appeal with the FCC. You should refer to CC Docket No. 02-6 on the first page of your appeal to the FCC. Your appeal must be received or postmarked within 60 days of the date on this letter. Failure to meet this requirement will result in automatic dismissal of your appeal. If you are submitting your appeal via United States Postal Service, send to: FCC, Office of the Secretary, 445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554. Further information and options for filing an appeal directly with the FCC can be found in the "Appeals Procedure" posted in the Reference Area of the SLD web site or by contacting the Client Service Bureau. We strongly recommend that you use the electronic filing options.

We thank you for your continued support, patience and cooperation during the appeal process.

Schools and Libraries Division
Universal Service Administrative Company



OFFICE OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
— ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO —

Technology Plan

Superintendent: Nicholas M. Wolsonovich, Ph. D.
Address: 155 E. Superior St., Chicago, IL 60611
Phone: 312-751-5200
Contact Person: Mark W. Garstki, Director of Technology
Phone: 312-751-5223
E-mail: mgarstki@archdiocese-chgo.org
Fax: 312-751-5295

Date Submitted: June 16, 2002
Plan Years: 2002 - 2005

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SECTION 2:**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT**

Name	Title/Organization	Role/Responsibility/Contribution to the Plan
Sr. Judith Cauley	OCS Associate Superintendent	Steering Committee Member
Mark Garstki	OCS Director of Technology	Coordinated the development of the plan
Delores Baumgarten	OCS Elementary Consultant	Steering Committee Member
Barbara O'Block	OCS Elementary Consultant	Steering Committee Member
Sr. Josephine Sferrella	OCS Director of Research and Data	Steering Committee Member
Peter Tantillo	OCS Elementary Consultant	Steering Committee Member
Ellie Anderson	Office of Information Technology Director	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee
Hugh O'Neill	Office of Information Technology	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee
Gang Chen	Office of Information Technology	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee
Sr. Kathleen Taite	OCS High School Consultant	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee
Mary Dojnick	OCS Sponsored Programs Consultant	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee
Robert Dumke	Director for the Center for Teaching and Learning	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee
Rev. James Heneghan	Pastor St. Bonaventure Parish	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee
Rev. Richard Todd	Associate Pastor St. Paul Church	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee
Rev. Matthew Eyerman	Pastor St. Columbanus Church	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee
Dr. Robert Smith	Principal St. Patricia	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee
Carole Palmore	Principal St. Bride	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee
Robert Condon	Principal St. Stanislaus B+M	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee
Dr. Andrea White	President Good Counsel High School	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee
Tawnia Nowakowski	Assistant Principal SS. Faith, Hope & Charity	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee
Diane Zuzga	Teacher St. Michael (Orland Pk.)	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee

Margaret Cour	Teacher St. Damian	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee
Nadine Norris	Teacher St. Francis Xavier (LaGrange)	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee
Irene Halko	Technology Coordinator Queen of Peace High School	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee
Tony Rosinia	Technology Coordinator St. Ignatius High School	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee
Angelo Militello	Project Manager of the AT&T Enrich Program	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee
John Ceisel	School Board member Queen of All Saints	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee
Karen Bergren	School Board member IHM High School	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee
Students	Students at various elementary and high schools	Reviewed Mission, Vision and Belief Statements
Bruce Montgomery	Community leader DePaul University	Participated in the Planning Advisory Committee

The Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Chicago comprise both the largest private and the largest parochial school system in the country. Among all public and private systems, it ranks nineteenth. Of the 304 schools, 43 are secondary schools, 261 are elementary schools. The total student population is 123,449. Over 85,000 families send their children to either an elementary or secondary Catholic School. 16% of the students are non-Catholic. Specific school enrollments range from 100 students to over 2057. 164 schools are located in the City of Chicago, 118 in the suburbs of Cook County and 22 in the Lake County suburbs.

The diversity expressed in metropolitan Chicago is also reflected in Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic schools. Immigrants from Poland, Vietnam and Korea intermingle with Cubans, Puerto Ricans and Mexicans. Haitian populations sit alongside Asians whether from the Philippines, China or India. 83% of students from inner city families represent people of color. They add a rich resource to the future of our cities and to the Church of Chicago. Based upon data received from the food service provider, FSP, 24% of students at the system level receive free & reduced lunches. However, many local schools in the inner city have poverty levels between the 75-100% rate.

17 secondary schools and 8 elementary schools have received the U.S. Department of Excellence in Education award (four of them twice, one three times). 51 elementary school early childhood programs have received accreditation from NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children). 94% of elementary schools have an extended day program. 99% have a kindergarten while 83 % have a pre-K program. At the completion of their elementary education, 100% of the eighth graders enter high school. Catholic High Schools in the Archdiocese have a 97.69% high school graduation rate with 91% of seniors entering college. The dropout rate is less than 1%.

In the spring of each year, students in Grade 3,5 & 7 participate in the Terra Nova II standardized testing program. Archdiocesan students consistently perform above the national norm. On the secondary level, 92% of the students take the ACT compared to 38% on the national level and 72% at the state level. Composite score ACT score for the Archdiocese is 21.4.

The Archdiocesan School system has 6,005 teachers and 483 administrators. 98% of the elementary faculty and 97% of the secondary teachers are either certified or hold degrees in areas such as music, art and religion. 66% of the secondary staff have been teaching 6-25+ years; at the elementary level, the average years of experience is 10.5 years. 96% of our teachers are lay persons and 4 % are women/men of religious congregations.

Ongoing support for Catholic education remains a challenge. Average cost to educate an elementary Catholic school child is \$3009.00 and at the secondary level it is \$6,784.00. Schools are funded primarily through tuition revenue. However, substantial support has been provided by the