

USD #291 Grinnell Public Schools

Rose Kane, Superintendent and K/12 Principal

Grinnell Grade School School

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LETTER OF APPEAL WAIVER REQUEST

August 30, 2006

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
Electronic Comment File Submission

RE: CC Docket 96-45
CC Docket 02-6
Grinnell Unified School District 291
Billed Application Number: 138128
Form 471 Application Number: 538532
Funding Request Number(s): 1491512, 1491515, 1491517, 1491519, 1491521

To Whom It May Concern:

We are appealing the decision of the USAC to deny our application due to the late filing status of our form 471. We would like to point out the FCC's ruling FCC 06-54 found at http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-06-54A1.pdf that granted 196 appeals for fund denials that were "due to certain clerical or ministerial errors in the application, *i.e.*, a failure to timely file an FCC Form 471, a failure to timely file a certification related to an FCC Form 470, or failure to comply with minimum processing standards". The FCC acknowledged that the primary jobs of most E-Rate coordinators are teachers; school administrators and technology staff as opposed to professional federal grant writers. The FCC gave the USAC the directive to notify applicants that have filed an FCC Form 470, but have failed to file an FCC Form 471 or its certification by the close of the filing window.

Our school district is a very small district and the staff fills many shoes. The date of the closing of the filing window was not as evident to us and the filing date slipped by us. We unfortunately missed it by only three business days. We are hopeful that we will be given the same consideration given to the schools involved with the Bishop Perry order in the prior funding year. The amount of the projected discount is very important to our district. We are struggling with declining enrollment and the e-rate discount affects our budget for our Interactive Television.

Page 2
Letter of Appeal
Waiver Request

Therefore, we respectfully request a waiver of the FCC requirement for all parts of the application to be filed by the final date of the filing window for the relevant funding year.

Our contact for this appeal is:

Joyce Baalman
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Sincerely,

Joyce Baalman
Board Clerk
USD #291 Grinnell Public Schools