

July 12, 2012

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
12th Street Lobby, TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Mobile Education and the Wireless Industry: “Anytime, Anywhere Learning,” WT Docket No. 11-186

Dear Ms. Dortch:

CTIA – The Wireless Association® (“CTIA”) is pleased to file the attached paper with the Commission entitled, “Mobile Education & the Wireless Industry—“Anytime, Anywhere Learning,” describing the benefits of mobile education and highlighting several of the advantages that arise out of employing mobile devices in a classroom setting. This paper illustrates how the competitive U.S. mobile wireless industry has continued to grow, invest, and innovate, delivering significant and increasing benefits to students and educators, and helping our country to meet its education goals.

CTIA explained that, “with more than 1.2 billion new mobile devices produced each year, the pace of innovation in the mobile markets is unprecedented,” and combining that innovation with the evolving field of education is a natural fit. Mobile education, or “the leveraging of small, portable devices to facilitate anytime, anywhere, un-tethered learning,” has become prevalent in schools across the country. Thanks to tablets and smartphones, students can have 24/7 access to education resources.

The true value of mobile learning comes primarily from its key attributes: collaboration, individualization, and innovation. This paper looks at the multiple layers of mobile education, including:

- the devices used to engage students in their education
- the content that is provided on those devices, specifically, digital textbooks and mobile apps for education, and
- the benefits to students and teachers of using this inventive approach to learning.

The benefits of integrating mobile wireless technology are readily apparent in a video that is highlighted in this paper. CTIA included a QR code to this video, which showcases our recent visit to a public elementary school in Virginia where educators and students demonstrated the many ways that they are integrating this new tool into their lesson plans.



The appendix to this paper highlights over 35 interesting and innovative apps that can be used by students and teachers to create a fun learning experience. As a preview, the list includes apps that can: teach students Spanish, organize their assignment due dates, help with memorization of state capitols, balance chemical equations, provide virtual tours of landmarks around the world, and create 3D models of atoms and molecules.

This paper once again demonstrates how the U.S. wireless industry continues to innovate, improve lives, and help our nation meet critical policy goals. We look forward to working with the Commission to ensure that there is sufficient spectrum to continue this virtuous cycle of innovation and a regulatory environment that allows wireless providers to continue to compete, innovate and invest.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

/s/ Krista L. Witanowski

Krista L. Witanowski

Attachment