American Association of School Administrators

October 15, 2012

Chairman Genachowski
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC, 20554

In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors, CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

On behalf of the American Association of School Administrators, representing more than 10,000 school system leaders across the nation, I write to express our strong support for the nomination of AASA Executive Director Daniel A. Domenech to the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Board of Directors. Specifically, we support his nomination to the position currently held by Anne Bryant, pursuant to § 54.501. We welcome the opportunity to submit this letter of support.

As the professional organization for school system leaders, including superintendents and local education leaders, AASA stands firm in our support for Dr. Domenech to the USAC board. AASA has long supported the important mission of the E-Rate program, and has worked with other education organizations and the commission to improve the E-Rate program since its inception.

Dr. Domenech's leadership at AASA—and AASA's proven track record as an excellent advocate for the E-Rate program—make us confident that he will be a strong addition to the USAC Board.

With more than 40 years of experience in public education, Dr. Domenech has extensive education and leadership experience, including first-hand experience of the critical role of telecommunications and connectivity in schools. Further, his direct link to public school systems provides a sense of continuity when it comes to representing school system-level thoughts and opinions, as he would fill the spot currently held by the NSBA.

In today's increasingly global and competitive world, a top notch education and the building of lifelong learning skills require access to education technology, and Dr. Domenech is acutely aware of the crucial role the E-Rate program plays in helping schools and libraries afford telecommunications connectivity.

Beyond his years in the classroom, which include extensive teaching and leadership experience, Dr.
Domenech has served on the U.S. Department of Education's National Assessment Governing Board, on the advisory board for the Department of Defense schools, and on the Board of Overseers for the Baldrige Award. He is currently chair for Communities in Schools of Virginia, the Learning First Alliance, the Educational Research Service and the Board of Visitors for the College of Education at the University of West Georgia. He serves on the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, the National Student Clearinghouse, Americas Promise, the Center for Naval Analyses, and the Sea Research Foundation.

We believe that Dr. Domenech's broad understanding of education, education leadership and education technology, coupled with a strong work ethic and deep commitment to expanding educational opportunities to the nation's students will add to the work of USAC as it moves forward. His nomination to the USAC board provides continuity and leadership, filling the chair currently held the National School Boards Association with the voice of another school system leader, that of the school administrator/superintendent.

For these reasons, we respectfully request your approval of Dr. Domenech's nomination to the USAC Board of directors, representing schools that are eligible to receive discounts.

A copy of his professional biography is attached.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Noelle Ellerson
Assistant Director, Policy Analysis & Advocacy

cc: Erica Myers (FCC)
Charles Tyler (FCC)