

**Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)
)
Appeal for denial of 2012 funding by USAC Schools) CC Docket No. 02-6
and Libraries Division to the School District of)
Abbotsford)

**—APPEAL—
REQUEST FOR REVIEW AND WAIVER OF AN OUT OF WINDOW FORM 471
DECISION
OF THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE ADMINISTRATOR**

Appellant:

School District of Abbotsford
BEN: 133199
510 W Hemlock Street
PO Box A
Abbotsford WI 54405

RE: Appeal for denial of 2012 funding for the following funding request:

FRN: 2389877
Form 470: 218060000982431
Form 471: 0000875380
Category of service: Telecommunications Services
Service provider: Frontier North, Inc. **Spin#** 143004791

FRN: 2389864
Form 470: 567280000982556
Form 471: 0000875372
Category of service: Telecommunications Services
Service provider: AT & T Corp. **Spin#** 143001192

FRN: 2389873
Form 470: 439920000982543
Form 471: 0000875377
Category of service: Telecommunications Services
Service provider: Frontier North, Inc. **Spin#** 143004791

FRN: 2389876
Form 470: 808040000982474
Form 471: 0000875379
Category of service: Internet Access
Service provider: WiscNet **Spin#** 143004351

FRN: 2389878
Form 470: 167270000982455
Form 471: 0000875381
Category of service: Telecommunications Service
Service provider: Charter Fiberlink CCO, LLC **Spin#** 143027625

FRN: 2389884
Form 470: 671670001030748
Form 471: 0000875382
Category of service: Internal Connections Other than Basic Maintenance
Service provider: WiscNet **Spin#** 143004351

To Whom It May Concern:

The Abbotsford School District is appealing the denial of 2012 funding for the above referenced funding request. The denial was in an Out of Window letter we received dated October 2, 2012.

USAC reason for denying the funding request: “Your Form 471 application and/or certification was submitted online or postmarked AFTER the deadline for an application to be considered as filed within the window.

District’s rebuttal of USAC’s reason for denying the request:

The School District of Abbotsford is a small school district (750 students) in rural Wisconsin, so funding is tight and personnel is very limited. In an attempt to alleviate the burden on the district office personnel, the district reassigned the e-rate work to other staff members. Along with the new staff being unfamiliar with the extensive and complex e-rate application processes, the email notifications were being sent to myself since I am the official authorized personal but not the actual person completing the forms. Therefore, in trying to coordinate with staff the 471 deadline was missed. However, it is important to note that we missed the March 20, 2012, form 471 deadline by just three days. To address our internal communication issues we have since returned the e-rate duties back to the district office to hopefully eliminate this from occurring in

the future. I will forward these reminders/notifications to the actual person who is responsible for these duties in the future.

We hope you will grant our request to waive the Commission's rules in this area and direct USAC to proceed with review of our funding request. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.¹ Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Reed G. Welsh".

Reed Welsh
District Administrator

¹ I have given Robert Bocher, State E-rate Coordinator in the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, permission to file this appeal on our behalf.