

Maggie McCready
Vice President
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July 11, 2013

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Ex Parte

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: Schools & Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism, CC Docket No. 02-6

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On July 10, 2013 I spoke by phone with Nick Degani, Legal Advisor for Commissioner Pai. The purpose of the call was to discuss potential changes to the E-rate program as a result of the President's ConnectEd initiative and other reforms.

Specifically, I discussed the current E-rate gift and charitable donation rules. I described the Verizon Foundation Innovative Learning Schools program that focuses on teacher training and professional development with a handful of schools nationwide. Through that program teachers learn how to individualize instruction in ways that deliver significant achievement gains for students in critical fields such as math and science. I discussed how this program compliments E-rate and how it could be expanded but sometimes faces challenges with respect to the E-rate gift rules. I suggested that the Commission seek comment on ways that schools could take greater advantage of private philanthropy while still allowing the Commission to maintain appropriate control over E-rate expenditures.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maggie McCready".

cc: (via e-mail)
Nick Degani