

Alan Buzacott
Executive Director
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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 9, 2013 Chris Miller, Maggie McCready and the undersigned of Verizon spoke with Lisa Hone and Trent Harkrader of the Wireline Competition Bureau, and Michael Steffen of the Office of Strategic Planning & Policy Analysis. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss potential changes to the E-rate program as a result of the President's ConnectEd initiative and other reforms.

Specifically, we discussed the current E-rate gift and charitable donation rules. We 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. We 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. We 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 and to prevent improper influence over E-rate service provider selections.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan Buzacott".

cc: (via e-mail)
Michael Steffen
Trent Harkrader
Lisa Hone