

September 13, 2013

Dear Members of the Federal Communication Commission,

I am writing to provide comments to you on the E-rate NPRM, proceeding 13-184. The E-Rate has been of great importance to Holy Trinity School because it has helped our students and teachers gain access to a wealth of on-line resources, to communicate and collaborate, and to develop the 21st century skills necessary for college and career. However, E-Rate funding levels have not kept pace with Holy Trinity School's future bandwidth needs. I urge you to consider raising the E-Rate funding level to at least \$5 billion per year, which is close to the average demand level for each of the past two years.

As a principal in Pennsylvania, I know that seamlessly infusing digital learning throughout the school curriculum is a pre-requisite for students to graduate from high school with the skills and knowledge they need to succeed in today's global economy. Access to high speed broadband is the key for modern teaching and learning to occur in schools across the country.

At Holy Trinity School, we use digital learning to provide meet common core state standards, administer online assessments and reinforce learning concepts.

Holy Trinity School's network is just keeping up with demand, and the need for a high speed reliable network is only going to increase in the near future.

The E-Rate program has been a phenomenal success bringing Internet access to almost every classroom in America. In the last funding cycle applications from schools and libraries totaled more than \$5 billion, more than double the available funding. I respectfully urge the FCC to increase funding for the E-rate program to at least \$5 billion to meet this demand. All students need access for high speed broadband. Our nation's future depends on their success.

Sincerely,

Connie Beam, Principal
Holy Trinity School
Ligonier, PA