



March 13, 2014

Marlene Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WC Docket No. 13-184

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On March 13, 2014, the following members of the Education & Libraries Networks Coalition met with Gigi Sohn of the Chairman's staff, Lisa Hone and Patrick Halley of the Wireline Competition Bureau, Jon Wilkins of the Office of Managing Director, and Michael Steffen and Jonathan Chambers of the Office of Policy and Plans:

Corey Williams and Mary Kusler of the National Education Association
Keith Krueger and Kedda Williams representing the Consortium for School Networking
Noelle Ellerson of the American Association of School Administrators
Jon Bernstein representing the International Society for Technology in Education
Marijke Visser of the American Library Association

During the meeting, EdLiNC indicated its support for the Commission's efforts to find efficiencies in the program, provide greater transparency within it, streamline its applications system and free up money from its existing reserved funds. EdLiNC reiterated, though, that additional significant funds were needed in the program and that a cap raise was merited. EdLiNC also discussed the importance of the program's focus on poverty and equity and its deep misgivings about any proposals that eliminated those focuses. There was discussion about the fiscal impact on school system of eliminating voice services, particularly as economically strapped schools and libraries would have to find ways to continue paying for those services even without E-Rate support. Finally, EdLiNC discussed the importance of local decision-making remaining a key feature of the program.

Sincerely,

Jon Bernstein
President
Bernstein Strategy Group