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June 10, 2014

Via ECFS Submission

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

Re: Proceeding #14-28, Protecting and Promoting the Open Internet

Dear Chairman Wheeler and Commissioners Clyburn, Rosenworcel, Pai, and O'Reilly:

We at TeachBoost write to express our support for a free and open Internet. As educators and technologists, we strongly believe that ISPs must treat all data equally and that our Internet must never enable “fast lanes” or pay-to-play incentives. Like countless other Internet startups, we built our small business through the innovation, creativity, and competition the Internet fosters and expect that the Commission continue to protect the freedoms that enable these values.

Since we started developing web-based educational tools in 2012, we have been able to help over 400 schools and their nearly 20,000 teachers across the country. We've grown from three entrepreneurs to a group of ten passionate team members. Our ability to compete with large institutionalized competitors and make better teacher development tools was made possible by the low costs of entry, immediate access, and fast delivery of service of our Internet-based applications. We would simply not exist today—and would never have started—without this equal and open Internet.

More importantly, we are not alone. Thousands of other innovators and entrepreneurs who have created companies, applications, and services on the Internet's broad and indiscriminate backbone share our story every year. These innovations not only create enormous value for consumers and users on and off the Internet, they continue to drive our economy further as global leaders in *all* industries. These innovations have been made possible through the opportunities afforded by a free and open Internet—one without discrimination or prohibitive barriers to entry.

Despite this, the Commission intends to propose regulations that would enable ISPs to discriminate against Internet companies, impose new fees on these companies before they can compete, and protect their monopolies and competitive positions. These policies would stifle new, innovative services like TeachBoost who could not afford expensive fees for better service at the outset, making them much less likely to start at all, let alone succeed.

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The Commission must never allow Internet discrimination.

Instead, it should protect Internet users and companies against paid prioritization plans and data transmission discrimination that ISPs would undoubtedly install. The Commission should make a clear statement that ISPs must treat all data and services equally—forever—providing certainty to current and new Internet services and protecting the freedoms of access, speech, and competition we all currently enjoy.

Such rules are essential for the future of the Internet and the innovators it supports.

Sincerely,

TeachBoost

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Gioia". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a horizontal line at the end of the last word.

Andrew Gioia
Chief Operating Officer