



Aurora Public Schools Foundation  
15701 East First Avenue, #206  
Aurora, Colorado 80011  
303-326-2042  
[www.EducateAurora.com](http://www.EducateAurora.com)

August 20, 2014

Chairman Tom Wheeler  
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn  
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel  
Commissioner Ajit Pai  
Commissioner Michael O'Rielly  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: MB Docket No. 14-57

Dear Chairman and Commissioners:

I am writing this letter to voice my sincere appreciation and gratitude for Comcast as a community partner for Aurora Public Schools (APS) and the Aurora Public Schools Foundation. Over the years, Comcast has proven to be a true long-term partner for our school district through their consistent engagement and support of programs that have had a positive impact on our more than 38,000 students, 4,200 teachers and staff, and 59 schools. We are grateful for Comcast's high levels of employee engagement seen in volunteer efforts across many years and their dedicated team members who serve as thought partners, helping us to strategically guide our work and assist in leveraging other community investment.

We are thrilled that Comcast partners annually with APS on projects for their Comcast Cares Day in the spring. This is Comcast's signature day of service, and Comcast teams have completed many different projects over the last several years benefitting our schools and our students. This year, the Comcast Cares Day activities were undertaken at Jewell Elementary School and Gateway High School. At Jewell Elementary Comcast employees worked on a wide variety of projects, helping to create a beautiful area for Jewell students to learn, play and grow. And at Gateway High School Comcast employees worked on such projects as painting classrooms, organizing the school's drama props & costume room, revamping the teacher lounges and workrooms, cleaning and bringing more school spirit to the varsity boys & girls locker rooms. These projects and projects like them in past years have had amazing impact.

We are equally inspired by Comcast's continued support of the "Fifth Block" summer school program, which helps thousands of students strengthen their skills and prepare for the new school year, and by the company's direct support of and investment in our APS Foundation efforts. This support has included helping us produce videos telling the Foundation's story as well as producing and donating air time to run a 30-second TV spot encouraging the Aurora community to engage in supporting Foundation programs. We have also benefited from having a Comcast leader volunteer as a member of our board of directors for several years, who was recently elected to serve as chair of the board.



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We also are grateful that Comcast offers the Internet Essentials program, which helps low-income families afford home Internet service. This program is a great benefit to many APS families; more than 70% of our students qualify for free and reduced price school lunches, and this program makes it possible for students to have Internet and a computer in their homes to use as they complete their school work. The district increasingly utilizes e-mail, social media, and website tools to share important information with parents and students, so we have partnered with district leaders and Comcast staff on many occasions to help make families aware of the opportunities and benefits available to them through Internet Essentials. The program has gone a long way toward empowering APS students and families, and it is compelling to note that if allowed to merge with Time Warner Cable, Comcast would expand Internet Essentials to benefit more and more communities.

Comcast has set a strong example in our community of what deep and lasting partnership looks like. As we build and deepen private, public, non-profit and philanthropic partnerships in order to drive innovative programming and accelerate learning for every APS student every day, we are grateful for the inspirational path forged by Comcast and its employees.

In closing, I couldn't be more pleased to express my support for Comcast as a stalwart community partner. I urge the FCC to approve the proposed Time Warner Cable/Comcast transaction so other communities can benefit from Comcast's presence as we have.

Sincerely,

Paul Lhevine  
Executive Director