



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF GREATER WESTFIELD**

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August 25, 2014

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

Re: MB Docket No. 14-57

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- Joseph R. Zazzaro*

Executive Director
William R. Parks

*Executive Committee

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

I write to you today to voice my support for the proposed transaction between Comcast and Time Warner Cable. In my time as Executive Director of the Westfield, Massachusetts' Boys & Girls Club, I've gotten to personally experience Comcast's fantastic commitment to supporting educational opportunities and promoting digital literacy for our children.

The Westfield Boys & Girls Club, which serves over 1,800 youths, has benefitted tremendously from Comcast's generous and involved support. The company funded our Digital Arts Project, which develops youth members' technical skills, creativity and critical thinking with projects in web design, photo editing, and digital movie making. By cultivating these creative outlets, we help provide our participants with the opportunity to develop employable skills in this career-field, while simultaneously helping improve their digital literacy. Comcast has also sponsored our Club's Youth of the Year awards dinner, which honors local youth for character and leadership skills.

Comcast has also provided its Newsmakers program as a platform for the Club to promote our message and explain some of our programs, attracting families in our area to come and experience the beneficial programs we offer. These services, which are only a few among several that Comcast provides for our community, recently earned Comcast our prestigious Helping Hand award. This award honors Comcast for the valuable and positive impact they have had on not only our Club, but the community as a whole.

We are lucky here in Westfield to receive the support we have from Comcast, but I know that the company is dedicated to Boys & Girls Clubs in other areas in the country as well. Since 2010, Comcast has teamed up with Boys and Girls Clubs across America to promote digital literacy and bridge the digital divide. Comcast has sponsored Club Tech, our Club's national digital literacy initiative dedicated to providing youth with the computer skills necessary for success in the 21st Century. Through this support we have been able to expand and in 2014 we announced the launch of a new technology initiative called My.Future. This new program will help kids develop the skills necessary to succeed as students as well as community leaders and role models.



Comcast's partnership with the Boys and Girls Club programs and initiatives is intertwined with the company's own efforts to eradicate the digital divide, seen especially in the Internet Essentials Program. Internet Essentials offers affordable Internet, affordable computers and free digital literacy training classes for low-income families that have at least one child eligible to enroll in the National School Lunch program. At the Boys and Girls Club we have been strong advocates for the program and have let the parents of our participants know when they may qualify. As word continues to spread, Internet Essentials has experienced growth and success. In Massachusetts, I recently read that the number of connected families rose from 1,000 in year one (2011) to 7,000 by the end of 2013.

It is clear that Comcast has left a lasting, positive impression on not only our Boys and Girls Club, but Massachusetts as a whole. By approving the transaction with Time Warner Cable, you'd allow Comcast to advance the Boys and Girls Club mission and bring Internet Essentials, and its various other outreach programs, to millions of additional families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William R. Parks". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "W" and "P".

William R. Parks
Executive Director