

## Albertville City Schools

September 20, 2005

To Whom It May Concern,

When asked to write a statement of how the E-Rate program has impacted the Albertville City School System, noteworthy accomplishments did not come to mind. I was hesitant to write a letter without such events. However, after thinking about what E-Rate funding has done for the district I am now more compelled to write this letter.

Even in the absence of grand accomplishments, the E-Rate program has made a substantial difference in the Albertville City School in a very meaningful way; it impacts every student and teacher on a daily basis. Without E-Rate funding the Albertville City School System would be pressed financially to offer the quality of Internet service and the amount of bandwidth we currently have to offer. Because of the quality of the Internet service and the amount of bandwidth, teachers can have full access to current and valid information quickly and reliably. The students of the Albertville City School System, a rural system, can compete on a level playing field with their peers across the state and nation because of the information they have at their fingertips.

In this time of public sentiment of “what’s in it for me” it is highly regarded that the telecommunications industry and the government are concerned with others who cannot provide for themselves at this time – the students. If we desire for students of all backgrounds and socioeconomic levels to be competitive nationally and internationally, initiatives such as E-Rate are valuable tools in achieving this goal.

I will be happy to provide further details if need and may be reached by e-mail at [jslivka@albertk12.org](mailto:jslivka@albertk12.org) or by phone at (256)891-1183.

Sincerely,

*John M. Slivka*

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