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To Whom It May Concern:

I can not express to you the powerful difference that the E-rate program has meant to our school system.

Without E-rate funding we not be able to pay for the Internet and the network that connects our schools. The area where our schools are located is one of the poorest in the nation. Even though using technology is a vital part of a successful school system, we would not have the funds to set up, operate, or maintain out schools computers, network, or Internet without these funds.

I think if people truly knew how this money was being used in our system, they would gladly support the continued funding of this program. This is one of the few government programs, in my judgment, that is actually getting the most "bang for its buck" and truly helping those in less fortunate areas.

Because of this funding, our children are not limited by their geographical locations and are not handicapped economically. They are now able to compete on equal terms with any student in this state, nation, and world due to the connectivity that the E-rate funding has made possible, and our use of those funds.

Our schools have seen an unparalleled improvement in test scores as our access to technology has increased. We look forward to the future and the continued funding of this needed program.

Thank you very much,



Terry Grissom  
Technology Coordinator