

**Pike County School
District**

101 W. Love St.
Troy, Alabama 36081

November 22, 2005

To Whom It May Concern:

The e-rate program has been of real benefit to the Pike County School District. We are in a high poverty area with all rural schools. Through e-rate funding we have been able to provide internet, email, Alabama Virtual Library, student information systems and many web based programs to all our schools. Without this funding we would not have been able to provide these vital programs to our schools.

We also, have Distance Learning so that students at the rural schools can get advanced courses and foreign languages that otherwise they would not have had the opportunity to receive. E-rate funding has provided for our school system the tools of technology that we would not have had with the program.

If we loose e-rate funding it would be detrimental to our system. We could not afford to do the things in technology education that we do without the e-rate funding. Our students would loose the opportunity of surfing the internet and the tools that they are capable of using now to make their education much more meaningful.

With the Distance Learning portion of e-rate the students that are receiving advanced courses and foreign languages that they are present receiving.

E-rate has been a tremendous help to our schools system in acquiring the technology needed for our students to compete in a global society.

Thank you,

Marvin Jackson
Technology Coordinator
Pike County Board of Education