



# SELMA CITY SCHOOLS

OFFICE OF THE  
SUPERINTENDENT

300 WASHINGTON ST.  
P.O. BOX 350  
SELMA, AL 36702-0350  
(334) 874-1600

## *Curriculum, Instruction and Technology*

**Verdell Lett Dawson, Ed. D.**  
Coordinator

### MEMORANDUM

**Date:** September 20, 2005

**To:** Ms. Kim Carroll  
Alabama Supercomputer Authority  
401 Adams AV, Suite 758  
Montgomery, AL 36130-9553

**Through:** Dr. James H. Carter, Superintendent *JHC/wld*

**Subject:** E-Rate Program Success

The Selma City Schools District has benefited from the E-Rate Program since its inception. Because of the E-Rate Program, students and teachers use the Internet every day.

About three years ago, Selma City Schools had not received approval from the E-Rate program by the time school began. The local Board of Education did not have sufficient funds to meet operational expenses in addition to Internet access. So, when school started Internet services were not provided.

When students, teachers and parents discovered that they did not have Internet access, they flooded the Superintendent and the Board of Education with numerous complaints about not having Internet access. This caused the Superintendent to ask the Board of Education to reassess the situation. The end result was an agreement to fund Internet access until E-Rate funding was received. If anyone doubted or doubts the importance of the E-Rate Program in Selma City Schools, this occurrence alone shows how much it is valued.

Any time there is any disruption to Internet access, the telephone rings and rings to report failures. When a planned disruption is necessary, word is swiftly gotten to all schools in advance. The E-Rate program makes a significant difference to our students, teachers and parents. The entire District depends upon the E-Rate program.

VLD