November 2, 2015

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

In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors, CC  
Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Association of Intermediate Units and the 29 Intermediate Units for which it serves, I am writing to strongly encourage you to reappoint Julie Tritt Schell to the USAC Board of Directors as a representative of schools. Having served previously as a state educational technology director, Julie has a keen understanding of the technology needs of school applicants and the critically important role of E-rate for providing technology resources in classrooms across the country.

In her current role as the Pennsylvania E-rate Coordinator, Julie assists over 1,250 Pennsylvania applicants with their efforts to apply for E-rate discounts and understands the impact of the program rules on all stakeholders -- large and small, urban and rural, school or library. Further, she represents PAIUnet, the 10 GB broadband backbone that interconnects 28 of Pennsylvania’s Intermediate Units and thus has a special appreciation for how the E-rate program impacts consortia applicants.

Our experience working with Julie is that she has a keen appreciation of the policy objectives underlying the E-rate requirements and at the same time she understands how those policies are implemented into the Administrator’s operations. We believe that her experience and perspectives have and will continue to prove extremely beneficial to the USAC Board as it oversees the administration of the program.

Because of her outstanding expertise and knowledge, I encourage you to re-appoint Ms. Tritt Schell to the USAC Board of Directors on behalf of school districts.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Gluck  
Executive Director