

Press Release Template

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(Insert your letterhead)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

(Name)

(Phone number)

(E-mail)

Superintendent (superintendent's last name) Sounds Call for Scaling Up Digital Learning

(City, state abbreviation – today's date) – The digital technology landscape continues to reshape teaching and learning environments in our schools. That's why (superintendent's first and last name), the superintendent of the (school district), supports efforts to improve the nation's E-Rate program.

E-Rate is a federal program, funded through telecommunications companies, that helps school districts afford their communications connectivity, including the Internet.

"In order for the students of (name of city or town) to achieve academic success and compete in the 21st century global economy, they must have high-speed connectivity," said (superintendent's last name). "E-Rate represents the single-largest source of education technology funding for our schools and libraries. It provides funding that is vital in establishing, upgrading and maintaining telecommunications for the benefit of our schools and more importantly, our students."

This summer, the Federal Communications Commission approved the E-Rate Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM), an initiative to modernize the E-Rate program.

"Schools build from and leverage E-Rate resources as part of their comprehensive technology plans," added (superintendent's last name). "I call on my fellow superintendents in our state to support the FCC with respect to this rule making. The conversation needs to shift from establishing connectivity to expanding connectivity, especially for the benefit of students from low-income families. This expansion will only happen with increased investment in the E-Rate program, whose funding has remained virtually unchanged since the program was created. The FCC can bolster digital learning by investing \$5 billion in E-Rate, an amount that would meet current demand."

E-Rate provides discounts that support affordable telecommunications and Internet connectivity. (School district) applauds the action taken by the FCC, a move that compliments the ConnectED initiative to provide high-speed broadband access to 99 percent of the nation's students.

For additional information about the E-Rate program, please visit <http://www.aasa.org/E-Rate-Toolkit.aspx>.

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About (School district)

(School district's mission)

(Superintendent's name) is a proud member of AASA, The School Superintendents Association.