

Press Clips from 10th Anniversary of the E-Rate

Technology Daily PM 2/28/07

Telecom: Two organizations that seek to expand the use of technology for educational purposes released a report Wednesday touting the "schools and libraries" portion of the universal service fund. Under that so-called e-rate, discounted telecommunications and Internet services are available to public schools and libraries. The report heralds the 10-year anniversary of the initiative, which was created by the 1996 Telecommunications Act. The Education Library and Networks Coalition and the National Coalition for Technology in Education and Training released the report. It found that 100 percent of U.S. public libraries offer free Internet access as a result of the program. It also credits the e-rate with boosting Internet access in classrooms, from 14 percent in 1996 to 95 percent in 2005. But critics in both parties over the years have raised concerns about waste and fraud associated with the e-rate.

Associated Press

Jay Seeks to Extend Broadband Program

By TOM BREEN 02.28.07, 12:22 PM ET

More than nine out of 10 public school classrooms have Internet access today, thanks to a little-known piece of federal legislation that has created billions of dollars in computer service discounts since 1998.

In a report released on Capitol Hill Wednesday, the so-called E-rate program is credited with bringing the Internet to countless classrooms and libraries across the country. Now Sen. Jay Rockefeller, D-W.Va, is proposing legislation to keep the program exempt from federal budget rules that would severely complicate how it runs.

The E-rate program started as an amendment to the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. The amendment created a fund - paid into by providers of telecommunications services - that provides discounts on Internet access, internal networking and other communications tools for schools and libraries.

Congress has made a series of exemptions for the program from an Office of Management and Budget directive that the federal government cannot commit money to programs unless it has that money in hand. The E-rate program, by its nature, works on forecasts of money being paid into the fund.

With another exemption due to expire this year, Rockefeller wants to permanently exempt the program from the requirement.

The report, prepared by a coalition of education and technology groups, was paid for by several major telecommunications companies, including AT&T, Verizon and Cox Communications.

The report shows that public classrooms with Internet access grew from 14 percent in 1996 to 95 percent in 2005. In addition, more than 90 percent of classrooms in rural, high-minority or low-income districts now have Internet access, up from below 10 percent in 1996. The program also has provided discounts to more than 2,800 private schools, the report found.

Since 1998, the program has paid for about \$18.8 billion worth of discounts on Internet and communications services, according to the report, which was prepared by the Education and Library Networks Coalition and the National Coalition for Technology in Education and Training.

In rural Roane County, the school district has received more than \$409,000 in discounts, allowing it to equip every classroom with high-speed Internet connections. At Spencer Middle School, with about 450 students, up to 100 computers can log on at once. Students use them for a range of programs from science experiments to earning high school course credit for online Spanish lessons. Before the E-rate program, the situation was much different, Principal Bill Chapman said. "Imagine trying to connect two or three computers at once using dial up," he said. "That's where we were."

The report lists similar success stories from Hawaii to Boston. In Anchorage, Alaska, where the school district has gotten more than \$10 million in discounts, teachers draw from thousands of online lessons to tailor classes to each individual student's needs.

"I haven't heard anyone in Congress say they oppose E-rate," Rockefeller said. David Fish, a spokesman for Verizon - one of the largest payers - said the company doesn't oppose Rockefeller's plan.

A spokesman for the Universal Service Administrative Co., which runs the program under the supervision of the Federal Communications Commission, referred questions to members of the company's board, who were not immediately available for comment.

More than 30,000 applications for discounts are filed each year. School and library discounts, which range between 20 percent and 90 percent of total cost, are based on poverty level. The applicants from the lowest-income areas get the largest discounts.
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The Herald-Dispatch

Rockefeller lauds Internet access program, wants it permanent February 28, 2007
CHARLESTON (AP) — It's almost impossible today to find a public school classroom that isn't connected to the Internet. And libraries? Forget it: a public library with no Internet access is rarer than card catalogues.

What's primarily responsible for this saturation, supporters say, is a little-known piece of federal legislation dating back to 1996. To continue the effort, Sen. Jay Rockefeller, D-W.Va., wants a federal law allowing the program to continue without changes to its budget process.

"It absolutely shreds the boundaries between rich and poor schools, between urban and rural communities, and I love that," Rockefeller told The Associated Press in a telephone interview.

The program, commonly known as E-rate, started as an amendment to the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996. The amendment created a fund, paid into by providers of telecommunications services, which provides discounts on Internet access, internal networking and other communications tools for schools and libraries.

Congress has made a series of exemptions for the program from an Office of Management and Budget directive that the federal government cannot commit money to programs unless it has that money in hand.

The E-rate program, by its nature, works on forecasts of money being paid into the fund. With another exemption due to expire this year, Rockefeller wants to permanently exempt the program from the requirement.

On Wednesday, a report on the E-rate program prepared by a coalition of education and technology groups will be released on Capitol Hill. The report was paid for several major telecommunications companies, including AT&T, Verizon and Cox Communications.

A copy of that report obtained by The Associated Press shows that public classrooms with Internet access grew from 14 percent in 1996 to 95 percent in 2005. In addition, more than 90 percent of classrooms in rural, high-minority or low-income districts now have Internet access, up from below 10 percent in 1996. The program also has provided discounts to more than 2,800 private schools, the report found.

Formally launched in 1998, the program has paid for roughly \$18.8 billion worth of discounts on Internet and communications services, according to the report, which was prepared by the Education and Library Networks Coalition and the National Coalition for Technology in Education and Training.

Rockefeller said the report shows the program is a success and that Congress should make its exemption from the OMB rule permanent. "I haven't heard anyone in Congress say they oppose E-rate," he said.

David Fish, a spokesman for Verizon — one of the largest payers — said the company doesn't oppose Rockefeller's plan. A spokesman for the Universal Service Administrative Company, which runs the program under the supervision of the Federal Communications Commission, referred questions to members of the company's board, who did not immediately return telephone messages Tuesday.

If it weren't for the E-rate program, say school officials around the country, the quality of education in their districts would be very different. In rural Roane County, the school district has gotten more than \$409,000 in discounts, allowing it to equip every classroom with a high-speed Internet connection. At Spencer Middle School, with roughly 450 students, up to 100 computers log on at once. Students use them for a range of programs from science experiments to earning high school course credit for online Spanish lessons.

Before the E-rate program, the situation was much different, Principal Bill Chapman said. "Imagine trying to connect two or three computers at once using dial up," he said. "That's where we were."

The report lists similar success stories from Hawaii to Boston. In Anchorage, Alaska, where the school district has gotten more than \$10 million in discounts, teachers draw from thousands of online lessons to tailor classes to each individual student's need. "If the Internet were taken away, we would be lost," Darla Jones, Anchorage's secondary education technology coordinator, told the compilers of the report.

More than 30,000 applications for discounts are filed each year. School and library discounts, which range between 20 percent and 90 percent of total cost, are based on poverty level. The applicants from the lowest-income areas get the largest discounts. Copyright © 2005 The Herald-Dispatch

TelecomWeb

The E-Rate 10 Years Later

On the 10th anniversary of the program that provides deep discounts on telecom, Internet access and internal networking to America's public and private schools as well as its public libraries, a new report from two educational coalitions says the mission still isn't complete.

The E-Rate program was enacted as an amendment to the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and represents an expansion of the universal service fund (USF), including Internet-access support for schools and libraries for the first time in the USF. In 1997, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) unanimously approved the rules to implement the E-Rate, establishing a \$2.25 billion annual cap for E-Rate discounts. More than 30,000 applications for E-Rate discounts are filed each year, and school and library discounts, ranging between 20 percent and 90 percent, are based on poverty level, with the lowest income applicants receiving the deepest discounts. The E-Rate has provided nearly \$19 billion in discounted services.

"E-Rate: 10 Years of Connecting Kids and Community," released today by the Education and Libraries

Networks Coalition (EdLiNC) and the National Coalition for Technology in Education and Training (NCTET) during a hearing on Capitol Hill. The report indicates that E-Rate-supported connectivity allows 100 percent of public libraries to provide free Internet access to their communities, and it credits the E-Rate for increasing the overall number of

public classrooms with Internet access from 14 percent in 1996 to 95 percent in 2005. And after 10 years of E-Rate support, more than 90 percent of classrooms in rural, high-minority and low-income school districts now have Internet connections.

But it's not enough. "While the first 10 years of the E-Rate have helped schools and libraries upgrade and build their technology infrastructure, maintaining and upgrading these public institutions will require a continued effort and continued support of the program," says Sen. Olympia Snowe (R-Maine), one of the original authors of the E-Rate provision along with Sen. Jay Rockefeller (D-W.V.), the late Sen. James Exon (D-Neb.), Sen. Bob Kerrey (D-Neb.) and Rep. Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.).

"Looking forward, we must make sure that this program continues to provide a world of opportunities for people across the country," comments Rockefeller. "That's why I am reintroducing a bill to protect the long-term future of the USF, which includes E-Rate, to ensure that funding continues to flow to our schools and libraries."

Among the success stories cited in the report -- underwritten in part by AT&T, Cox Communications and Verizon -- are the Ho'okena Elementary School in Hawaii, a community where 70 percent of the population are migrant farmers who live in homes that lack telephones and computers; the Archdiocese of Boston Catholic Schools, a socio-economically diverse parochial school system where E-Rate support allows as many as 6,000 students to participate in distance learning on a daily basis; the Woodland Library Cooperative in southern Michigan that serves 36 public libraries and roughly 525,000 patrons within a 4,600-square-mile radius and uses E-Rate support to allow community members to stay in touch with friends and family members serving in Iraq; and the Clark County School District in Nevada, whose district's distance-learning program offers synchronous and asynchronous instruction to the district's more than 300,000 public-school students.

To read the full report, go to <http://www.edlinc.org> or <http://www.nctet.org>.

Communications Daily, February 28, 2007

Late Spring Hearings?

Commerce Committees in Sync on E-Rate Antideficiency Exemption

No hearings are planned to make the E-Rate antideficiency exemption permanent, but Commerce Committee staffers from both parties and chambers said Wed. their bosses have legislation to that effect on their agendas, and late-spring action is probable. The policymakers spoke at a National Coalition for Technology in Education (NCTE) panel celebrating E-Rate's 10th anniversary. NCTE marked the event with a report rating the program's performance and cataloging educational connectivity needs around the U.S. E-Rate reform concepts are still being formed, but all panelists spoke of ways they thought they could streamline the program.

"While I like the job security of having to pass a new bill every year, it would be best for the program to get a permanent one passed," said Kristin Smith, an aide to Sen. Snowe (R-Me.). In Wyo., "we have places that just can't get connected without a program like

this," said Pete Obermueller, aide to Rep. Cubin (R-Wyo.). He said Cubin will take part in the push to make permanent the antideficiency exemption.

A permanent exemption would cut off the last remaining E-Rate opponents, said Sen. Rockefeller (D-Va.), speaking before the panel. Rockefeller called E-Rate "one of the top one or two things I've done in my life, in terms of public policy," but said the people who want to cut or end it are now saying "Okay, you got to 90%, that's enough." But it isn't enough to connect 90% of schools, he said, and even those wired have "to pay the bills every month."

E-Rates' main opponents are "leaving or dying off" because "they've heard from their folks" that the program overwhelmingly works, said Mark Seifert, House Commerce Committee majority counsel. Committee Chmn. Dingell (D-Mich.) wants more openness in the program's workings, and he's "curious" about how money is awarded, Seifert said. "I imagine he's going to satisfy that curiosity," especially by forcing players to move information around faster, he said.

Congress will study the \$2.25 billion E-Rate cap, several staffers said. But devising funding streams for USF is a bigger priority, said Barbara Pryor, an aide to Rockefeller. Colin Crowell, aide to House Telecom Subcommittee Chmn. Markey (D-Mass.), said political compromises behind that figure may be a reason to reconsider it. The \$2.25 billion mark "was chosen after serious economic modeling," he said, to heavy laughter in the room.

Staffers were mostly mum on a timeline for hearings or markups on a permanent exemption but all said a schedule is in the works. Crowell said "late spring" is an approximate target date for proceedings, but no one was more specific.

Eradicating "waste, fraud and abuse would be Snowe's 2nd priority after a permanent exemption, Snowe said. She favors random audits of "not just E-Rate but the entire USF," she said. Panelists agreed that tying performance evaluations to academic metrics could be dangerous. "Keep in mind it's a telecom program," Pryor said. USAC and the

FCC, which run E-Rate, "are very good at telecom," she said, to more laughter. Smith said the worst approach would be to say "X amount of kids learned algebra this year, therefore, E-Rate is successful." FCC Wireline Bureau Chief Tom Navin added "performance for us is level of connectivity, is how quickly money gets there, how efficient is the process."

Pryor echoed most panelists when she said E-Rate can't be satisfied with success, since technology changes so fast. "I have no idea what we're going to need in 2015," she said, "but I can tell you it's not going to be a T1." -- *Ian Martinez*

E-RATE SUCCESS NO REASON TO END PROGRAM, SUPPORTERS SAY

Sen. John D. (Jay) Rockefeller IV (D., W.Va.), staffers for other lawmakers, and a new report on the 10-year-old “E-rate” program agree that the program, which subsidizes telecom services, Internet access, and internal connections for schools and libraries, is a success but that there is still work for it to do.

“The interesting thing is that the program has been so successful . . . [that] now the people who [oppose] the program . . . say, ‘Oh, you’ve got 90% or over 90% [classroom connectivity] and that’s enough.’ It just doesn’t work [that way],” Sen. Rockefeller said at a Capitol Hill forum today. “You’ve got to keep paying the monthly bills and the technology needs to be upgraded. . . . We have to keep the pressure on.” Sen. Rockefeller was one of the original sponsors of the E-rate legislation that was incorporated into the 1996 Telecommunications Act.

Congressional staffers for the Democratic leadership of the House and Senate commerce committees, as well as for original E-rate legislation sponsor Sen. Olympia J. Snowe (R., Maine) and for Rep. Barbara Cubin (R., Wyo.) appeared at the forum, praising the E-rate program, its aims, and its successes.

Mark Seifert, Democratic counsel-telecom and the Internet for the House Energy and Commerce Committee, said that his boss, Committee Chairman John D. Dingell (D., Mich.) might “have the reputation for being quite the oversight guy” and might say that he is going to “root out the rapsollions” that are defrauding the E-rate program “because this program deserves it.” He also noted that Rep. Dingell has heard concerns from stakeholders that the program’s rules are “hard to know” because they seem to change from day to day. Mr. Seifert added that the E-rate opponents referenced by Sen. Rockefeller are “leaving or dying off.”

Regarding concerns about rule changes, Barbara Pryor, a legislative assistant to Sen. Rockefeller, said, “The rules change a lot . . . but they’re changing to meet new demands and technologies.”

Kristin Smith, a legislative assistant to Sen. Snowe, said that her boss “doesn’t want to rest; she wants to make sure that as technology changes we stay current.” She added that Sen. Snowe is interested in several E-rate issues this year: (1) establishing a permanent exemption from the Anti-Deficiency Act (ADA); (2) implementing random audits of the entire USF program; and (3) balancing concerns about the vulnerability of children on social networking sites with the desire to maintain children’s access to well-run sites with educational and other benefits.

Peter Obermuller, a legislative assistant to Rep. Cubin, agreed that “a permanent exemption [from the ADA] is the way to go.”

James Assey, the Democratic senior counsel-communications and media issues for the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee, predicted that “the issue of the impact of media on kids is one you’re going to hear a lot more about.”

Asked by an audience member whether it was time to reconsider the \$2.25 billion annual cap on E-rate funding imposed by the FCC, Colin Crowell, a telecommunications policy analyst for the House telecom and the Internet subcommittee, said, “It’s important to see what the \$2.25 billion gets you.” He noted that the cost of some technology has come down over the years, while new technologies such as wireless broadband “may get you more bang for the buck.” Ms. Pryor said, “I think that’s really something we won’t look at until the revenue stream is dealt with.” She added that demand for E-rate subsidies “is slowly but surely declining. It was \$4 billion; now I think it’s \$3.5 billion.”

Meanwhile, the Education and Libraries Networks Coalition (EdLiNC) and the National Coalition for Technology in Education and Training, released a report today citing an increase in the percentage of public school classrooms with Internet access from 14% in 1996 - when legislation authorizing the E-rate program was enacted - to 95% in 2006. However, “its mission is not yet complete,” the groups said in a press release. The report includes case histories from around the country.

In a letter sent to EdLiNC and NCTET today regarding the report, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D., Nev.) pledged continued efforts to improve the E-rate program. “To begin with, Congress must stabilize the Universal Service Fund which funds the program. Please be assured that I will work to ensure that students continue to benefit from this important program. I will also continue doing everything I can at the federal level to provide our schools with the resources needed to create a dynamic, world-class educational system,” he said. - Lynn Stanton, lynn.stanton@wolterskluwer.com

Education Daily February 28

E-Rate turns 10

At an elegant Tuesday night reception at the [U.S. Botanical Garden](#), corporate and education technology members of the [National Coalition for Technology in Education and Training](#) and the [Education and Libraries Networks Coalition](#) honored Sens. **John Rockefeller**, D-W.Va., and **Olympia Snowe**, R-Maine, and Rep. **Edward Markey**, D-Mass., for writing the E-Rate program into the Telecommunications Act of 1996. As Rockefeller and Snowe praised each other's tenacity for enacting and supporting the program -- especially during a rough first year at the [Federal Communications Commission](#) in 1997 -- they marveled at how far the program has come.

It has produced results "beyond anyone's expectations," Snowe said.

Education Daily March 1, 2007

E-Rate advocates gather to mark anniversary

By [Patti Mohr](#)
Staff Writer

On the 10-year anniversary of the federal E-Rate program that finances school Internet connections, education technology advocates wanted to do more than just celebrate the date: They wanted to make sure lawmakers understand how the program has successfully helped schools give students access to digital communications and networks.

A day after hosting an evening reception honoring E-Rate founders, corporate executives and technology lobbyists booked a **Senate** hearing room for a half-day forum where participants praised the E-Rate program as a tremendous success.

"It is an extremely successful program that has leveled the playing field," said **David Saedi**, president and CEO of **Certiport**, a computer certification firm.

Though E-Rate now enjoys broad, bipartisan support, advocates said they still need to validate the program against potential skeptics -- especially during this year's scheduled overhaul of the nation's telecommunications laws.

E-Rate's most significant accomplishment, stakeholders said, is that it effectively helps educators surmount financial and geographic obstacles to learning. It benefits all types of schools -- public and private, urban and rural, rich and poor -- based on a sliding scale of support that funds 20 to 90 percent of a district's connectivity.

In the ten years since its inception, the [Federal Communications Commission's Universal Service Fund](#) has distributed \$19 billion worth of E-Rate discounts to service providers that connect schools and libraries to the Internet and to upgrade existing telecommunications networks.

According to a report released by the [National Coalition for Technology in Education and Training](#) and the [Education and Libraries Networks Coalition](#) in conjunction with Wednesday's forum, E-Rate success stories are evident nationwide:

- Alaska's largest district uses E-Rate dollars to provide teachers with thousands of lesson plans and to distribute differentiated reading materials to students based on individual needs.
- Internet connections help rural districts in Texas access distance learning courses in advanced math, science and foreign language. In effect, it helps districts comply with highly qualified teacher requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act.

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Consensus: e-Rate a success--but still needed

On its tenth anniversary, the \$2.25 billion-a-year federal program remains integral to providing school connectivity, educators and other experts agree

From eSchool News staff and wire service reports

March 1, 2007

In recognition of the 10th anniversary of the e-Rate, two education groups released a report on Feb. 28 stating that the program has transformed U.S. schools and libraries into institutions of modern learning--but that its mission is not yet complete.

"e-Rate: 10 Years of Connecting Kids and Community" indicates that e-Rate-supported connectivity now allows 100 percent of public libraries to provide free internet access to communities, and it credits the e-Rate with increasing the number of public-school classrooms with internet access from 14 percent in 1996 to 95 percent in 2005.

Created in 1997, the e-Rate is a federally funded program that provides up to \$2.25 billion per year in discounts on telecommunications services, internet access, and internal networking to U.S. public and private schools and public libraries. To date, nearly \$19 billion in discounts have been provided to schools and libraries (in some years, not all of the e-Rate money was spent).

The Education and Libraries Networks Coalition and the National Coalition for Technology in Education and Training teamed up to produce the report.

The report says that after 10 years of e-Rate support, more than 90 percent of classrooms in rural, high-minority, and low-income school districts now have internet connections, allowing them to leverage modern communications tools to support student achievement. An additional 2,800

private schools also have received support from the e-Rate.

Although such progress is significant, the report notes the program's work is hardly complete. Schools and libraries not only must sustain their current access levels, but they also need to expand their bandwidth capacities to ensure that students, teachers, and community members keep pace with the ever-expanding digital resources available online.

A panel discussion, featuring representatives from educational organizations and various members of Congress, accompanied the report's release and touched on the e-Rate's future in schools and libraries. Part of the discussion turned to the e-Rate's rules and regulations, which have been difficult for some applicants to interpret.

The e-Rate "is important to our kids educationally, and it's important to our country economically," said panel member Mark Seifert of the House Commerce Committee. But, Seifert said, "I've heard people say it's hard to figure out the rules on Tuesday because they have changed since Monday." Seifert is Democratic counsel to the Commerce Committee.

"[We are] interested in a better flow of information between stakeholders and USAC," he said, referring to the Universal Service Administrative Co., the third-party contractor that administers the program for the Federal Communications Commission.

"I assure you, without e-Rate there will be no closing of the achievement gap," said panel member John Wilson, executive director of the National Education Association. "e-Rate has changed the public schools. You don't have a great public school without having the right tools and resources-- [and] e-Rate is that resource to help sustain kids in 21st-century learning."

The report highlighted 10 school districts and the progress they each have made as a result of receiving e-Rate funds. Hokena Elementary School in Hawaii used e-Rate funds to give every classroom a working telephone, cable television access, and internet connectivity. Nevada's Clark County School District established a virtual high school to support its rapidly growing population. Archdiocese of Boston Catholic Schools used e-Rate funds to allow up to 6,000 students to engage in distance learning on a daily basis.

Yet, the rise in online video and other bandwidth-intensive applications points to the continued need for such a program; just because schools are now "wired" doesn't mean the e-Rate no longer is necessary, the report

says--a point that many others echoed.

"The e-Rate is quite simply the most important national funding source for educational technology," said Keith Krueger, CEO of the Consortium for School Networking (CoSN). "Without it, meaningful educational technology initiatives, ranging from online professional development and assessment to video streaming, would not be possible. CoSN believes the eRate has been a tremendous success over the past 10 years, and it clearly meets a continuing and future need."

"As the report demonstrates, e-Rate has played a pivotal role in revolutionizing how students learn, educators teach, and communities engage with the global economy," said Don Knezek, CEO of the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE). "ISTE recognizes e-Rate's decade of success but submits that the e-Rate has much work still to do in maintaining existing services and paving the way for our schools and libraries to adopt new and even more exciting online educational applications and services."

Olympia Snowe, Republican senator from Maine and one of the key architects of the e-Rate in Congress, stated: "Information is the key to education and to keeping America competitive in an increasingly global economy. While the first 10 years of the e-Rate have helped schools and libraries upgrade and build their technology infrastructure, maintaining and upgrading these public institutions will require a continued effort and continued support of the program. Today's report outlines how essential the e-Rate is to our country's future."

Another new report, this one from the Benton Foundation, reaches the same conclusion.

"Universal service programs need increased funding, better coordination, policy changes, and service improvements if every American is to have the opportunity to participate in the 21st-century information society," it says.

Among the Benton report's recommendations: (1) Continue the e-Rate as a permanent component of universal service; (2) limit funding to connectivity and related infrastructure; (3) maintain discounts based on poverty and rurality; (4) require a triennial review of application and oversight procedures to improve efficiency, effectiveness, and transparency of funding; and (5) require that a small percentage of funds be used for outreach to make more educators and librarians aware of the program and how to participate.

Meanwhile, a survey of K-12 educators conducted by Certiport, a company that certifies digital skills, revealed a disparity between internet use and

training in U.S. schools. About 95 percent of survey respondents said they use the internet as a learning tool in curricula such as language arts, social studies, and science. In contrast, only 39 percent reportedly receive targeted training to leverage the internet in the classroom. "Over its 10-year history, the e-Rate program has been extremely successful in providing schools with access to the internet," said David Saedi, president and CEO of Certiport. "Access is a significant, but not a complete, solution to bridging the digital divide in our schools. Teachers and students must now learn and validate their digital skills to ensure they can achieve optimum learning outcomes and succeed in the 21st century."

Links:

Education and Libraries Networks Coalition

<http://www.edlinc.org>

National Coalition for Technology in Education and Training

<http://www.nctet.org>

Universal Service Administrative Co.

<http://www.universalservice.org>

Federal Communications Commission

<http://www.fcc.gov>

National Education Association

<http://www.nea.org>

Consortium for School Networking

<http://www.cosn.org>

International Society for Technology in Education

<http://www.iste.org>

Sen. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine

<http://snowe.senate.gov>

Benton Foundation

<http://www.benton.org>

"What Have We Learned From the e-Rate?: An Assessment of e-Rate Performance"

<http://www.benton.org/index.php?q=node/4948>

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