SCUSD PREPARES TO APPLY FOR E-RATE YEAR 15 (2012-13) TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES

As presented to the Board of Trustees on November 17, 2012, the District is preparing to move to Phase II of the District Technology Infrastructure Upgrade Project. As part of the Phase II plan, core infrastructure upgrades will be rolled out to school sites across the district in a multi-year process. District upgrade timelines will be dependent and developed upon available federal technology funding as well as available District technology funds.

A major component of funding District infrastructure projects will be the use of the federal program, E-Rate, which will be dependent upon matching district funds required to participate. The deadline to apply for E-Rate Year 15 (2012-13) funding is March 20, 2012. The District will be asking the Board for approval of the first round of E-Rate Applications on March 15.

SCUSD FIRST ROUND OF E-RATE APPLICATIONS

In using $500,000 of reallocated Bond Modernization Funds as matching E-rate Board approved contributions on January 19, 2012, the District will apply for E-Rate projects totaling $4 million. The anticipated amount of federal E-Rate funds that the district will receive will be approximately $3.5 million.

If approved for E-Rate technology infrastructure funding, the District will begin upgrading 11 schools beginning June 2013.

Technology infrastructure upgrades will include upgrading internal connections wiring, core infrastructure LAN equipment upgrades, Cisco voice and video capabilities.

E-RATE FIRST ROUND SCHOOLS

In E-Rate Year 15 (2012-2013) with board approved reallocated bond funds for E-Rate district matching funds, it has been determined that the District has the capacity to upgrade 11 schools.

Included in this list of E-Rate eligible schools are the District's seven priority schools, as well as three additional schools selected by the District for the first wave of upgrades.

The District's ultimate goal is to have all schools upgraded within the E-Rate multi-year plan.

E-Rate Year 15 (2012-2013) school list:

1. Cesar Chavez
2. Fern Bacon
3. Edward Kemble
4. Ethel Baker
5. Earl Warren
6. Fr. Keith B. Kenny
7. Rosa Parks
8. Hiram Johnson
9. Jedediah Smith
10. Oak Ridge
11. Will C. Wood

E-RATE PROGRAM INFORMATION

E-Rate Background

The E-Rate program is administered by the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) under the direction of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The program was established in 1996 and provides discounts that help schools and libraries obtain access to state of the art services and technologies. The program also addresses the need for schools and libraries to have access to "affordable" telecommunication communications services such as voice and data lines that are discounted by the individual telecommunications carriers at the associated discount rates. The eligibility and level of associated discount that a school or library receives is determined by the level of poverty that the school or library serves as measured by the percentage of students eligible for the national school lunch program.

E-Rate District Use Summary

E-Rate is a federal technology infrastructure discount program for public schools and libraries based on National School Lunch program participation. The Sacramento City Unified School District has applied and been awarded E-Rate discounts in past years.

Dependent upon Free and Reduced Lunch eligibility, some schools in the district get awarded for campus infrastructure equipment, while lower eligibility schools do not. However, after three years of use, E-Rate infrastructure equipment can be moved to other non-eligible schools and an eligible school can apply for a renewal of equipment through E-Rate.

This will be an essential and primary mechanism to ensure that all SCUSD schools receive an upgrade of equipment over a multi-year timeframe.

E-RATE PROGRAM INFORMATION

How E-Rate Funding Works

E-Rate funding is requested under four categories of service: telecommunications services such as voice and data lines, internet access, internal connections, and basic maintenance of internal connections. Funding for telecommunications services must be reviewed by the school or library and requested annually but is guaranteed as long as the school or library certifies the services are used to support E-Rate eligible sites.

Internal Connections funding provides associated discount rates for additional resources including network cabling and equipment (e.g., network switches, wireless systems, phone switches, etc.), and the other elements that are necessary to utilize the connectivity funded by the program.

Funding is awarded starting with telecommunications services as priority one then moving to Internal Connections as priority two. All Internal Connections or priority two applications are funded in the "top down" manner starting with the 90% eligibility level and continues until the funding cap is met, currently set at $2.25 billion. In recent years, the program has only been able to fund down to the 87% eligibility level, however in E-Rate year 13 (school year 2009-2010) funding level reached the 40% eligibility level.

E-RATE CONSTRAINTS

Eligible Internal Connections:

- **Telecommunications wiring**
- **Routers**
- **Switches**
- **Network Servers**
- **Certain system operating software**
- **Wireless Access Points**
- **Installation & basic maintenance**
- **Private Branch Exchange (PBX)**

Ineligible Internal Connections:

- **Personal computers**
- **Mobile Devices**
- **FAX machines**
- **Electrical wiring**
- **Asbestos removal**
- **Cameras**
- **Interactive Whiteboards**
- **Projectors**