

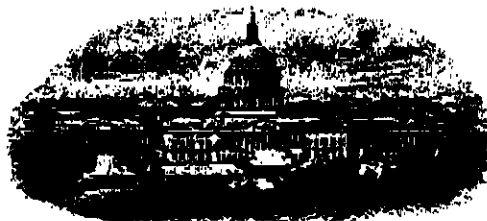
**ALCEE L. HASTINGS**  
23RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
FLORIDA

**RULES COMMITTEE**  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE  
AND BUDGET PROCESS  
RANKING MEMBER

**UNITED STATES**  
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**SENIOR DEMOCRATIC WHIP**



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-0923**

July 3, 2012

**Julius Genachowski**  
**Chairman**  
**Federal Communications Commission**  
**445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW**  
**Washington, DC 20554**

**RE: Palm Beach County School District E-Rate Priority 2 Funding**

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I write in strong support of Florida's Palm Beach County School District application for 2012-13 E-Rate Priority 2 funding. This funding is critical to the students of Palm Beach County who have been severely affected by the economic downturn, and whose schools are in desperate need of infrastructure and technological upgrades.

Incorporating technology into classroom curriculum can deeply improve a child's learning experience, and will also prepare them for the challenges of tomorrow. Unfortunately, Palm Beach County has faced severe challenges in its capacity to allow students to perform internet research, take mandated electronic end-of-course exams, and access the mandated digital STEM content, among other daily electronic activities critical for today's students.

The School District has benefitted from E-Rate Priority 1 funding but never from Priority 2, which is critical in developing the proper infrastructure to deliver an appropriate technology-rich classroom experience. As you consider applications this year, I respectfully ask your full and fair evaluation of Palm Beach County School District's application, as it has not benefitted from Priority 2 funding in the past. It is clear to me that they are in urgent need of the full amount of funding.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project. I would like to be kept informed of the overall progress of this request, and when a decision will be made. If you should have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office at 202-225-1313.

Sincerely,

*Alcee L. Hastings*  
Alcee L. Hastings  
Member of Congress

PLEASE RESPOND TO:

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*WCB*  
*Write*  
*8/8*