The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Majority Leader  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker  
1236 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
2468 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Speaker Pelosi, and Minority Leader McCarthy,

The Consortium for School Networking (CoSN) strongly supports the Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF). Supplementing the American Rescue Plan Act’s investment in the ECF would help qualified students, school staff, and library patrons acquire home broadband access and devices for another five years. If ECF funds are not replenished, millions of households may lose their digital connections for learning and homework. The ECF provided help for schools and libraries in every state and territory during the first application period, and we urge you to include this additional funding as part of the proposed reconciliation bill pending before Congress.

Equipping every student with seamless, high-speed broadband and an appropriate device is essential for completing online homework assignments, conducting Internet research, collaborating with teachers and peers, applying for college or jobs, and taking advantage of critical government services. Home connectivity also allows students to continue learning and attending class even if they are unable to be present physically in their classrooms. As the pandemic continues to disrupt learning across the country, learners without Internet connectivity at home are unable to stay on track for graduation and are at a huge disadvantage.

Thank you for working together to ensure schools, library patrons, and educators are provided with the tools needed for success, including the connectivity that is required for teaching and learning, homework, and other parts of daily life. Please continue to allocate funds for the ECF to ensure the work we have done during the pandemic to connect those who need connected for success can continue beyond COVID-19. We commend you for your leadership to address this
need and stand ready to provide whatever information and assistance would be helpful to you and your staff.

Sincerely,

Keith Krueger
Chief Executive Officer
Consortium for School Networking