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U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
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April 29, 2003

To Whom It May Concern:

As a firm believer in education reform and improvement, it is with pleasure that I write this letter of support for the distance learning project between the Haxtun and Holyoke Schools.

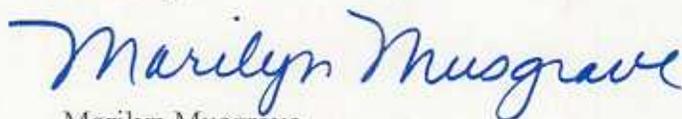
The primary challenge facing these schools is providing K-12 courses with qualified faculty in an economical manner. Given the geographic distance between districts, the small population, and the limited budgets and resources available, this type of program is imperative.

The ability to share highly qualified teachers between the two districts permits the possibility of offering high quality education to each student, as well as the communities.

The technology proposed in this project will help bridge the distance between the two school districts. One of the future applications of this network contemplates a connection to the Colorado Multi-Use Network for Telecommunications (MNT), which will provide additional connectivity between the Haxtun and Holyoke districts, state educational resources, and other school districts.

My full support is given to the Haxtun/Holyoke Distance Learning Project.

Sincerely,



Marilyn Musgrave
House of Representatives
Colorado, 4th District