DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Virtual Education, Inc.

RECEIVED

SEP 8 2000

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

September 6, 2000

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S. W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re Ultra-Wideband
ET Docket 98-153

Dear Ms. Salas:

Former FCC Chairman Reed Hundt once delivered the following statement: "There are thousands of buildings in this country with millions of people in them who ... have no reasonable prospect of broadband services. They are called schools." For the past three years, Virtual Education, Inc., a non-profit company based in Central Florida, has striven to alter that reality for our nation's schools. We have helped numerous schools institute high-speed wireless Internet connections, and have taught them how to use this technology to maximize benefits for students. We began our work because we believed in the value of technology in education. Our experience in the field has since confirmed that belief many times over. It has also opened our eyes to the truly limitless potential of technology to raise the standard of education for every student.

Virtual Education now faces two major thresholds; two developments in our work that promise to bring valuable technology to hundreds of thousands more students. First, we have recently signed a contract with the Iowa State Department of Education to bring the Virtual Education program to over 500,000 students in Iowa. Second, the FCC stands poised to issue a rule permitting the deployment of Ultra-Wideband technology.

UWB is very probably the tool that can forever falsify Reed Hundt's grim statement, to bring broadband services to schools throughout America. When this technology is approved, every student could be within reach of the tremendous benefits of high-speed Internet connectivity. Even schools in rural Iowa could attain previously unthinkable Internet access rates. The hardware can be installed with minimal disruption to the ongoing academic process. And when this vision is realized, Virtual Education, Inc., will work with schools and teachers to instruct them in the best uses of the technology.

No. of Copies rec'd 0+4
List A B C D E

We applaud the FCC's efforts to ensure that current programs, such as GPS, are properly protected, as well as your proven commitment to education. We hope that the FCC will continue to uphold this commitment, by reviewing the technology in a timely and efficient manner, and establishing regulations that allow our nation's students to realize the full potential of UWB. At this amazing time of technological innovation, we are proud to see the FCC stand with us as we, in the words of Reed Hundt, "put the tools of the information age into the hands of every student," and "find new ways to achieve the longstanding goals of high quality and true equality of education for all."

Sincerely,

Michelle Robinson

Michelle Robinson
President & CEO, Virtual Education, Inc.

161 E. Lake Brantley Drive, Longwood, FL 32779
407-774-8001 Fax: 407-774-0240
president@virtualed.org