

**School & Library Network
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
June 21, 2000**

Members Present: Phil Lindley, Reginald Palmer, Gary Nichols, Joanne Steneck, Greg Scott, Barry Crommett, Barry McCrum

Members Absent: Bill Black, John Vedral

1. Minutes. Minutes from the May 10, 2000 meeting were approved.
2. Status of ATM Steve Vose demonstrated the ATM equipment installed at the Maine State Library. It is expected that 20 sites will be connected by the end of July and representatives of those sites are receiving four days of training this summer. An additional 26 sites should be operational by the start of the school year with representatives of those sites receiving training in the fall. The most remote locations have shown the most interest in obtaining ATM.
3. Status of Federal E-Rate. Edna Comstock reported that Federal E-Rate funds will continue to be distributed through the end of July. Maine has received \$2.56 M so far for year 3. New applications (Form 470) can be posted beginning July 1.
4. Discussion of Implementation of New Telecommunication Education Access Fund. Joanne Steneck described the issues that need to be resolved to ensure that a new program is in place July 1, 2001.
 1. Blanket 470/471s. It was agreed that a priority, for at least the first year of the program, was to have in place a state contract for a consortia so schools and libraries desiring a 56 kbps or T-1 connection can apply for Federal E-Rate under blanket 470 and 471s submitted by the State. It was agreed that Joanne and Phil would work with Linda Lord and Edna to prepare an RFP that complies with any state requirements to be posted as required under the E-Rate program. The goal is to have a contract in place as close to September 1 as possible so that a campaign can begin to inform schools and libraries about what they need to do to apply for E-Rate.
 2. Additional Libraries. It was agreed that Gary Nichols will prepare a list of those libraries that currently participate in MSLN that are not eligible for Federal E-Rate and recommend how their participation should be treated (both eligibility and funding level) under the EAF.

3. POTS. There was a discussion of whether the EAF should provide assistance beyond what is already provided under the Federal E-Rate for “plain-old-telephone” service. In particular, there were questions about the two lines currently provided to libraries for \$12.50 each per month. Gary will make a recommendation concerning libraries at the next meeting. It appeared to be generally agreed that no additional State funding would be available for POTS in schools.

4. Training/Computers. There was discussion about how much should be allocated for training and computers. Linda Lord agreed to provide a list at the next meeting of other sources of funds either obtained or being pursued (e.g. Federal and State funds; grants from private entities, etc.), for training related to the use of computers and Internet access. Greg, Reggie, and Gary agreed to work on possible criteria for funding projects that are “innovative and technologically advanced.”

The next meeting will be July 26, 2000 at 10:00 a.m. at the Maine State Library. Depending on availability, the meeting will be held over the ATM Network. Members who would like to attend via an ATM site should contact Greg Scott.