



VINTON-SHELLSBURG COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

"Home of the Vikings/Vikettes"

Mary Jo Hainstock
Superintendent

Brenda Barkdoll
Business Manager

July 26, 2018

City of Vinton and Vinton Municipal Electrical Utility:

The Vinton-Shellsburg Community School District Board of Directors took action at their meeting on July 24th that directed me to communicate the district's support and interest in purchasing high-speed internet through the city if available.

About two years ago, an iVinton volunteer group was formed in support of bringing more cost-effective and reliable internet options to the citizens of the community. Their catch-phrase was "We've waited long enough." The voters of the community of Vinton voted strongly in favor of the ballot language. The district supported the initiative because of the positive impact it could have on our students, our families, our staff and the entire district.

Our district's interest and support of the initiative has not changed in the time between the election and today. We know the value of having a strong, vibrant community including many quality-of-life amenities. We know that the school and the community must work together to both support the other and strengthen the other. We view the communications initiative as one of our duties to support the businesses, industries, citizens of the community, and patrons of the school district. We know high-speed broadband is a necessity for future economic development.

We strongly advocate for the project to move forward because it will impact many of our students' need for affordable and reliable access.

Additionally, we would want to purchase access as a district as part of the e-Rate bidding process. From all projected estimated costs to date, purchasing through the city's program would be financially advantageous to the district and our taxpayers.

Sincerely,

Mary Jo Hainstock
Superintendent

Cc: *Rob Levis, V-S School Board President*