# Summary

### **Attendees:**

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| Dr. G | CL Walker | Abbie Ridenour |
| Ann Mathieson | Christina Salcedo | Henry Bankhead |
| Greg Knell | Ross Millerick | Sarah Ashton |
| Javier Trujillo | Bruce Vogen | Aiden Vermeulen |
| Nick Mitchell | Jeff Daniel | Tim Rocco |
| Ivan Silva  | Liza Massey | Nina Bell |

### **Location:**

Zoom- [Recorded](https://youtu.be/ZHmZpZSB2FI)

### **Agenda:**

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1. Discussion on Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF)
	1. Overview
	2. Questions
2. Sharing Proposal Ideas
3. Final Thoughts

### **Notes:**

### **Included below are the notes from this meeting, the poll results from the group polls, and the slide deck from the presentation.**

### **Part 1**

This is a competitive process.

Overview:

American Rescue Plan Act made $7B for Schools and Libraries under the FCC E-rate program.

Focus is around emergency connectivity, but devices and network equipment are also eligible for reimbursement.

Timeline:

* Applications opened June 29th and will close August 13th.
* Qualifying devices need to be in service in the period of July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022.

Questions:

* Cannot retroactively apply to spending on things delivered prior to July 1st.
* If they don't exhaust the funding pool this year, they may open up reimbursement for things delivered prior to July, but don't count on it.
* Ongoing service contracts for this next school year will be covered.
* Includes equipment and services in the student's home.
* For clarification filtering for child protection at libraries see <https://www.fcc.gov/emergency-connectivity-fund-faqs>
* Documentation for reimbursement does not need to name the end person receiving the device/service (no specifically identifying information)

**PART2 :  Sharing Proposal Ideas**

Sarah Ashton:

* Plan to apply for Student and Teacher device leases using ECF Funding
* HWC has been helping San Rafael City Schools with Erate and ECF application.
* Between Comcast Essentials, Canal Wi-fi, and mobile hotspots, they are practically at 100% coverage

Dr G:

* Looking to extend the funding for wi-fi in Marin City.  Free wifi and micro grids.
* Bolster the school and library wifi service
* Have equipment to send home with students for a shelter in place due to COVID or natural disaster.
* Liza: suggest expanding wi-fi into town squares and other public areas
* Noted that mobile hotspots don't have the bandwidth for multiple devices/children to be on the same hotspot device.  Recommends households either move to something like Comcast Essentials or have more than one hotspot assigned to a home.
* Foresees new need for kindergarten kids that were not able to attend pre-K education and catch-up plan that may be remote.

Q: does this apply to Library Staff just like School Staff.  Also, parent outreach and para-professional school support groups.  Abbie to check into that.

Cristina and Anjelica (West Marin):

* Just met with Javier and Abbie
* Looking to get devices that can be sent home
* Have been using hotspots provided by MC Free Library
* Have been able to connect with parents over zoom and bumped up community engagement.
* Many of our families live on ranches.  The ranch/dairy owners need to be kept in the loop so they are part of the conversation.

Q: Will the ECF cover devices for parents?  Abbie has not seen any rules like one device for households.  Another could be made available for the parent.  The libraries too have devices that can be checked-out.

Abbie/Javier:  Where are multiple families in the same dwelling Comcast Essentials have just one entry point to the home and only one family will have access.  Other families then need to rely on hotspots.  Javier is working with Comcast to expand the essentials service to allow their xfinity service that can handle multiple families with better bandwidth.

Chantel:

* Looking into the issue of filtering

**PART 3:**

Marin County Free Library Tech-connect packs (Chromebook with hotspot) are unfiltered.   The schools may need to come up with a filtered equivalent.

MPP is offering to help with student information data collection to support the application and reimbursement justification.

**POLLS:**





Slide Deck Presentation

Slide 1



Slide 2



Slide 3



Slide 4



Slide 5



Slide 6



Slide 7



Slide 8

