



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

PAUL HEROUX
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
2ND BRISTOL DISTRICT

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RE: Attleboro Application for the MassIT Grant
DT: 16 March 2016

Dear Deputy Commissioner Chester,

I would like to share with you my support of the City of Attleboro and their application for **\$325,250** via the MassIT Grant in order expand wireless internet service to seven schools in the Attleboro School District, specifically four elementary and three middle schools.

This grant funding would bring their wireless connectivity from 0% to 100%. The school district has recently taken the steps to upgrade their Comcast lines from 10GB per school to be adequate bandwidth for wireless capability. The monies asked for in the grant would be used for 100GB per school, at a cost of \$24,000 annually for all seven schools, to make sure there would access points, firewalls, power systems, and other necessities to support wireless internet capabilities in classrooms. The benefits of wireless internet access in the classroom is immeasurable, kids in the district will have access to the latest information and have raw data at their fingerprints.

As you know, starting in early 2013, I worked hard with you, the Mass Association of School Committees, the Mass Association of School Superintendents, the MTA and AFT, the legislature and others to make funding available for schools throughout the Commonwealth to upgrade their broadband capability via the *Acts of 2014 Chapter 257, An Act Financing Information Technology Equipment and Related Projects*. Unfortunately, Attleboro's first application wasn't considered competitive enough. It is my hope that Attleboro will benefit from this critical assistance in this second round. Thank you for your time and consideration of this grant proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Heroux".

CC Mayor Kevin Dumas

CC Deputy Commissioner Sean Cronin