Comcast.

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Board of Selectmen Town of Chilmark Chilmark Town Hall 401 Middle Road PO Box 119 Chilmark, MA 02535 Comcast Cable Communications, Inc. 31 Jonathan Bourne Drive, Suite 4 Pocasset, MA 02559 508-356-3295 (phone) 508-563-6374 (fax) Mary_OKeeffe@cable.comcast.com www.comcast.com



Dear Members of the Board:

We know that many students and their families would like to have Internet service at home so they can do homework, search for jobs, download music, pay bills, communicate with others and much more. We also believe the Internet can be an important part of a child's education.

That's why we want to make sure you know about a new program provided by Comcast called **Internet Essentials**SM.

I would like this opportunity to introduce you to **Internet Essentials** SM – a Comcast Broadband Opportunity Program, now in its second year. It is one of the first programs of its type to directly confront the digital divide by providing affordable access to quality home Internet service, a discount-priced computer and training to low income families.

While participating in Internet Essentials, families receive:

- Fast home Internet (3 mbps) for just \$9.95 a month + tax;
- No price increases, no activation fees, or equipment rental fees;
- A low-cost Netbook computer available at initial enrollment for just \$149.99 + tax; and
- Access to free Internet training online, in print and in classroom.

Internet Essentials can help in several ways:

- Provide low-income students opportunity to access the Internet at home
- Enable teachers to use online resources and tools to expand the flow of information and personalize learning opportunities for students
- Serve as an added incentive for parents to enroll children in National School Lunch Program
- Reduce barriers to improved school performance through access to online tools and resources such as books, encyclopedias, tutorials and much more
- · Allow parents to become more engaged with their children's education
- Reduce perceived barrier among African-American and Hispanic households
- They are more likely to say that a lack of home broadband access is a "major disadvantage"

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A household is eligible to participate in Internet Essentials if it:

- Is located where Comcast offers Internet service;
- Has at least one child receiving free or reduced school lunches through the National School Lunch Program (NSLP);
- Has not subscribed to Comcast Internet service within the last 90 days; and
- Does not have an overdue Comcast bill or unreturned equipment

It is very easy for families in your community to find out more information about Internet Essentials and see if they qualify. They may visit www.InternetEssentials.com to learn more, or call 1-855-8-INTERNET (1-855-846-8376) to enroll and get connected.

We also have brochures and flyers available to place in and around your community. Through this website, your office may view and order additional information, including the brochures, flyers and posters. https://www.internetessentialspartner.com/ I can also place an order on your behalf.

If you are interested in learning more about Internet Essentials, I will gladly speak with you or your staff or set up a meeting to provide you more detail about the program.

Again, we want to make sure that our students have access to online learning, and we are excited to tell you about programs like Internet Essentials that may be helpful to families.

Sincerely,

Mary O'Keeffe

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Senior Manager, Government & Regulatory Affairs