

To Whom it may concern:

I would like to express the importance of broadband in a rural community. As you well know, a high-speed internet connection is critical for various aspects of life including our educational systems and economic development. This service is as important as electricity was to the rural areas in the early 1900s. With the ongoing threat of COVID-19, lack of access to a high speed internet connection is detrimental to our children and our local citizens. Without this, we have little to no access to work from home or to allow our students to participate in virtual learning. It is a service we need desperately in our community.

We are sending this letter in full support of Tombigbee Communication's fiber initiative which includes providing true, high speed broadband to every home and business in our area. It is no secret the rural areas in America have been falling behind our larger city neighbors. This type of project in our county gives us hope to increase our economic development, help our schools, improve our medical facilities and enhance our quality of life. We need something like this to encourage people and businesses to remain in our town. We need this to help us recruit new jobs for our great people. Simply, we need more opportunities. With the promise of a true high-speed connection, the opportunities are limitless. In the world we are living in today, fiber is no longer simply an option: it is a necessity. In order to be successful and to survive, this is a service we simply must have.

We stand behind Tombigbee Communications as they work to enhance the lives of those in Northwest Alabama. We are looking forward to receiving this world class service soon. We are anxiously awaiting the exciting opportunities and development this will bring to our rural area.

Thank you,

Staff at Tharptown School

Amenda Murray - 2nd
Savannah Latham - Speech Language Pathologist
Bailey Wilkerson - 5th
Penelope Ward - 4th
Jessica Nichols - 5th
Sharon Boz - PE
Beth Wilson - 5th
Sara Lane - EL
Lisa Butler
Angie Garrison - 6th
Karen Thom - Principal
Cheryl Overberg - Secretary
Kristy Smith - 6th
Connie Byars - 6th
Blaine Polince - SpEd
Angela Davis - SpEd
Jovya Wallace - SpEd
Autumn Hester - Aide

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Thank you,

Staff at Tharptown School

Helen Campbell - K
Anacy Elgin - 1
Kelli Gilbert - PE
Hannah Pace - 1
Morice Cleet - Intervention
Katina B. Peters - 1st
Jessica Galt K
Hann Malone - 1st
Keli Stitt 4th

Sara Rudy - 2nd
Marion Stacy - 2nd
Brooke Harris 4
Donna Vincent - K
Buttany Smallwood - K
Chana Innes - Pre-K
Sharon Howard
Christine Baker Sp.Ed.
Cassie Reed - 3rd
Nicole Henderson - 3rd
Suzanne Borden - 3rd
Shayna Alms 4th
Sheena Johnson 2nd