



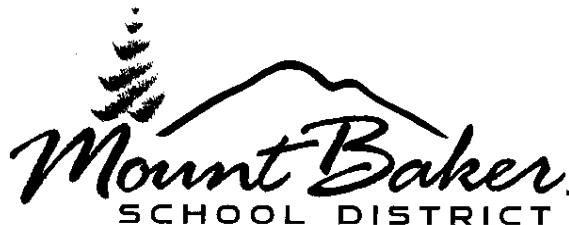
Superintendent's Office

## FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: Bill Erdly, Director of Tulalip Data Services	FROM: Richard Gantman
COMPANY: Tulalip Tribes of Washington	DATE: 8/7/2009
FAX NUMBER: 206-260-2907	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER: 2
PHONE NUMBER:	SENDER'S PHONE NUMBER: 360-383-2000
RE: WA-RBC proposal	

URGENT     FOR REVIEW     PLEASE COMMENT     PLEASE REPLY     PLEASE RECYCLE

Please find attached a letter of support for the WA-RBC proposal. The concept is well conceived, the proposal is well written and the project will be of great value to rural communities. I am very hopeful that you will be successful in getting the project funded. Please let me know if I can be of any help.



Tel: 360.383.2000  
 Fax: 360.383.2009  
 PO Box 95 • 4956 Deming Rd.  
 Deming, WA 98244-0095  
 www.mtbaker.wednet.edu

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 360.383.2000

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 360.383.2000

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 360.383.2013

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 360.383.2005

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 360.383.2045  
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 360.383.2050  
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**Kendall Elementary**  
 360.383.2055  
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**Mount Baker Junior High School**  
 360.383.2030  
 Derek Forbes

**Mount Baker High School**  
 360.383.2015  
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Assistant Principal  
 Byron Gerard

**Transportation & Facilities**  
**Supervisor**  
 Frank Cain  
 360.383.2060

**Food Services**  
**Director**  
 Karla Atwood  
 360.383.2024

August 7, 2009

Bill Erdly  
 Director of Tulalip Data Services  
 Tulalip Tribes of Washington  
 8732 27th Avenue NE  
 Tulalip, WA 98271

**RE: Support of the WA RBC Project**

Dear Mr. Erdly;

I write this letter in strong support of the Washington Rural Broadband Cooperative (WA-RBC) project. Much of the area served by Mount Baker School District is without broadband access

Mount Baker School District covers over 600 square miles and serves 2000 students, including the Nooksack Tribe, and the communities of Glacier, Maple Falls, Columbia Valley, Deming, Van Zandt, Acme, and Wickersham. There is no incorporated municipality within our boundaries and these small communities have limited accesses to services, including high speed internet, broadband and cell phone access. The lack of broadband access creates significant challenges for our school district and for families of school age children.

Research has shown the benefits of the addition of on-line learning opportunities to a school's comprehensive educational program. Bellingham Technical College, Whatcom Community College and Western Washington University and many suburban school districts all have significant portions of their programs on-line. It is essential that Mount Baker School District families have access to the multi-media, on-line educational programs that are becoming a major part of our students' opportunities.

On behalf of the Mount Baker School District community, I want to thank you for developing the WA-RBC project and to express Mount Baker's strong support of the project's goals. Furthermore, I look forward to any involvement in the project that would be appropriate for our school district.

Please contact me if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

Richard Gantman, Ed.D.  
 Superintendent