

## Students need internet access

### Editor:

We must work collectively to close the digital divide, and I applaud BISD, Texas Southmost College and others working to improve Brownsville's broadband internet access.

The digital divide is a multifaceted local, state and national problem. Affordability, access to computers and lack of digital literacy create connectivity challenges that leave millions of low-income and rural students disproportionately impacted compared to their peers.

Today, most of our lives and opportunities are driven by the ability to access the internet, such as earning a higher education credential, owning a small business that requires accessing world markets or providing health care through telemedicine. At Western Governors University Texas, a non-profit, accredited online university, our mission is to expand access and success to high-quality postsecondary educational opportunities for all Texans, but we are limited in our ability to do so until broadband internet is treated as a public utility and expanded to all corners of the state.

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