



MEMO TO: Harlem Board of Education  
Josh Aurand, CSBO  
FROM: Aaron Guske, Director of Technology  
DATE: March 17, 2025  
RE: Fiber Replacement Memo

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Continuing the technology department’s dedication to providing the staff and students of Harlem School District 122 with updated technology, we are proposing a fiber optic upgrade at all locations. Our current fiber optic infrastructure, which has been in place since the mid 90s, will support 1GB connections reliably while the new fiber will support 100 GB+. This would allow us to provide 10GB connections from all network closets back to the main network closet at each school giving our new wireless access points the necessary bandwidth to allow faster and less throttled connectivity for end user devices.

We submitted a request for proposal (RFP) via E-Rate (category 2) in coordination with our E-Rate consultant. We entered into an agreement with our E-Rate consultant to manage the initial RFP and vendor selection after your approval of the proposed contract. We have concluded the E-Rate RFP process and have reviewed the proposals submitted and have selected Nicomm Networks to provide the fiber optic upgrades. The criteria and percentage of each criteria used for the decision are as follows:

- **Costs of Eligible Products and Services\*** - 50%
- **Costs of Ineligible Products and Services** - 5%
- **Completeness of Proposal** - 10%
- **Meets Technical Specifications of RFP** - 15%
- **Vendor’s Experience on Projects of Comparable Size and Scope** - 20%

\*Cost of services is required to be the highest percentage per E-Rate funding rules.

Included are our E-Rate consultants findings and review matrix.

Our category 2 E-Rate funding remaining is \$214,562. The proposal we are recommending is priced at \$233,441.51. Our responsible portion after E-Rate is \$61,791.91. This would be paid for using existing technology funds.