



River Trails School District 26

1900 E. Kensington Road
Mt. Prospect, IL 60056

(847) 297-4120
Fax: (847) 297-4124
Website: rtsd26.org

To: River Trails Board of Education
From: Alicia Duell - Director of Innovation and Technology
Date: March 10, 2026
Subject: E-Rate

Introduction

For the upcoming 2027 E-rate funding cycle, we are requesting approval to upgrade the core network hardware at IG and RTMS to ensure our students and staff have reliable, high-speed internet access. This project involves replacing aging networking switches at IG to better power classroom devices and installing the latest "Wi-Fi 6E" wireless access points at RTMS to provide faster and more consistent coverage in high-traffic areas. Additionally, the proposal includes a five-year management subscription that allows our IT team to monitor the health of the network remotely and address issues before they disrupt learning.

Recommendation

I recommend the purchase of the network switches and additional components from E2 Services in the amount of \$57,342.72 in FY27. Please review the attached proposal analysis, evaluation, and recommendation from our E-Rate consultant.

Background

Below is a list of the network equipment included in the RFP.

| QTY | Equipment | Location(s) |
|-----|---|-------------|
| 6 | HPE Aruba Networking CX 6200F 48G Class4 PoE 4SFP+ 370W Switch | IG |
| 5 | HPE Aruba Networking 10G SFP+ to SFP+ 1m Direct Attach Copper Cable | IG |
| 1 | HPE Aruba Networking 10G SFP+ to SFP+ 3m Direct Attach Copper Cable | IG |
| 2 | HPE Aruba Networking C-Class - SFP+ transceiver module - 10GbE | IG |
| 45 | HPE Networking AP-635 (US) - Campus - wireless access point - ZigBee, Bluetooth, Wi-Fi 6E | RTMS |
| 5 | HPE Aruba Networking AP-MNT-MP10-U Campus AP 10-pack Universal Mount Bracket Kit | RTMS |
| 45 | HPE Aruba Networking Central AP Foundation 5-year Subscription E-STU | RTMS |
| 1 | Shipping | Both |

Financial Impact

The cost of the new network equipment will be in the FY27 Technology Budget. Furthermore, the district will be reimbursed approximately 50% of the cost of the equipment.

Timeline and Next Steps

Upon approval at the March 10 Board of Education meeting, the District will sign a contract with E2 services and will provide that signed contract to our E-rate consultant. Upon receipt of the signed contract, the consultant will file Form 471 with USAC (Universal Service Administrative Co.) to request the E-rate discounts on our contracted equipment. After the 471 application window closes, the District will receive a Funding Commitment Decision Letter from USAC.

Attachments

- [Access Points and Switch Purchase Recommendations from E-rate Consultant](#)