

Middle School Network

Progress is being made - wireless is installed in the new 8th grade pod and old 8th grade pod. We are waiting on Systems Northwest to label the old 7th grade pod to install the wireless equipment in that area of the building. Fiber has been run to the north network distribution room - it has been tested but when we connect our equipment it is not making a connection, Jonathan of Systems Northwest will be back on site the week of January 25th to determine where the issue is at. The equipment is in proper working order but it's possible the fiber pairs are mismatched to make the connection. Hopefully by the time of this board meeting the north network room will be online.

Internet For Students -

At this time, we currently have 587 Verizon Jet Packs distributed to students..

E-Rate 2021-22

The form 470's have been filed with USAC and are now in their 28 days for bidding/review for both Category 1 and Category 2 services.

Category 1 is our internet to the world and wide area network connectivity between the schools. This includes the opportunity for vendors to send proposals for services directly to our e-rate consultant as listed in the Form 470 filing.

Category 2 is for the physical side of things. Our elementary buildings (Napi, BES, KW, Vina) are in dire need of updated wiring to bring them up to current standards to support and future proof for a few years current wireless and network needs. Much of the wireless was installed when Category 5 was the latest thing and the requests are for the current standards of wired network cabling.

E-rate requires competitive bidding with a fair and open process. Until the Form 470 was submitted I was unable to communicate any wiring needs being requested. Now that the Form 470 has been filed, the district needs to ensure that the fair and open process continues. To ensure the process remains fair and open, we send all inquiries to our e-rate consultant who in turn posts the inquiries to our Form 470 so that the questions and our response are made available at the same time to anyone reviewing and considering making proposals to get the identical information confirming things remain fair during the process. The penalties for not having a fair and open process are severe including losing e-rate funding for up to 5 years into the future and worse yet being awarded e-rate dollars, finding the process was not fair and open and having to pay back the awarded dollars 1-3 years later when the district may not have the dollars to pay it back. If board members have questions they want to present to potential vendors,

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send those to me and I will forward to our e-rate consultant who will post those questions to our 470 filing(s).

What can be said outside of the fair and open process is extremely limited. Basically what can be said is “hey vendor, we have a 470 filing for network cabling - go take a look at it.” Once notified they need to do their followup from the information in the 470 filing and make proposal(s) if they wish to do so.

Competitive Bidding <https://www.usac.org/e-rate/applicant-process/competitive-bidding/>

Open & Fair Process <https://www.usac.org/e-rate/applicant-process/competitive-bidding/open-fair-process/>