



**Prospect Heights School District 23
Board Memorandum
Action/Discussion Item**

Date: March 4, 2019

Subject: Internet Access/Wide Area Network and Service Agreement

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BACKGROUND

This memo is intended to provide a summary of our Internet Access/Wide Area Network service and service provider given that the current WOW contract comes due June 30, 2019.

We currently receive 2 services from WOW. The first is a Leased Lit Fiber WAN of 500Mbps which connects facilities within the district to one another to form a wide area network. This does not include Internet Access. The second service is a Leased Lit Fiber Service that includes Internet Access of 1Gbps. This service connects the district hub or aggregation point to an Internet PoP of the service provider's/Vendor's choice where upstream Commodity Internet and other upstream are accessed.

An RFP was filed January 2019 by our E-rate consulting firm Zeller and Associates for Internet Access/Wide Area Network and service. The bids are then evaluated using the following criteria: complete bid submission, ability to support requirements of the RFP, proposed contract terms and conditions, service reliability and dedicated infrastructure, E-rate ineligible recurring or one-time costs, and prior experience with the vendor. In addition, an upgrade was been listed to both services. This upgrade reflects current Federal recommendations per pupil in terms of Mbps of internet Access. For the Leased Lit Fiber WAN the increase is 1Gbps and for the Leased Service Lit Fiber that includes Internet Access, it is 5Gbps. Such increases will also allow us to leverage our current AP and Network systems capabilities in terms of further securing our network and systems while supporting upcoming district-wide program upgrades.

RECOMMENDATION

Upon completion of our evaluation process and scoring of criteria for each area mentioned above, we recommend that we continue our service with our current provider WOW. Attached you may find the full proposal, and below is the evaluation grid and 36-month cost breakdown for each vendor. Although the other vendors present competitive pricing in each of the options listed for 1 Gbps, 5 Gbps,

