



# NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Ambler · Buckland · Deering · Kiana · Kivalina · Kobuk · Kotzebue · Noatak · Noorvik · Selawik · Shungnak  
PO Box 51 · Kotzebue, Alaska 99752 · Phone (907) 442-1800

## NWABSD BOARD OF EDUCATION

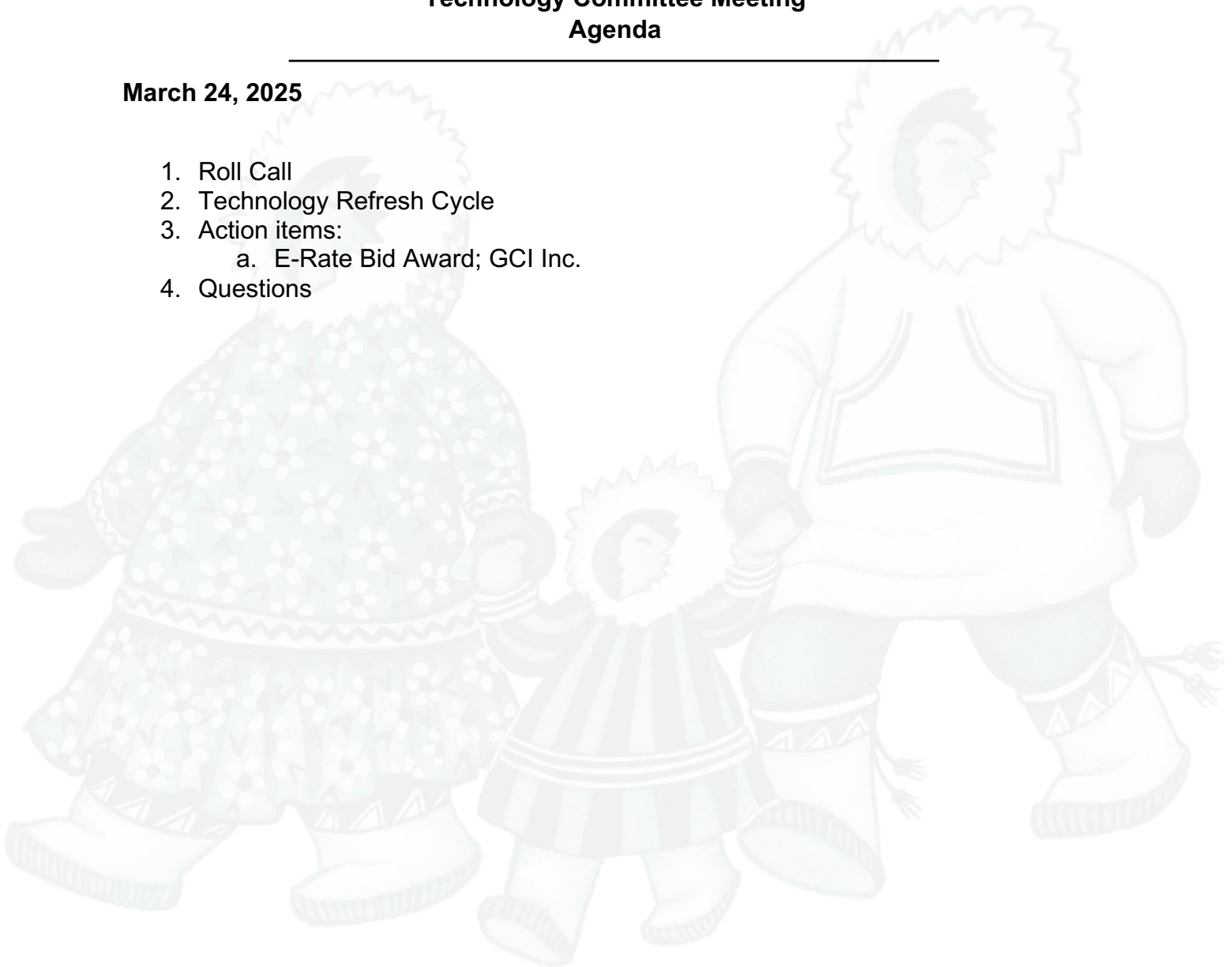
### Technology Committee Meeting

#### Agenda

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**March 24, 2025**

1. Roll Call
2. Technology Refresh Cycle
3. Action items:
  - a. E-Rate Bid Award; GCI Inc.
4. Questions



**Committee Members: Millie Hawley, Carol Schaeffer, Tillie Ticket**  
**Technology Director: Amy Eakin**

**MISSION:** To provide a learning environment that inspires and challenges students and employees to excel.  
**VISION:** To graduate all students with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for a successful future.



**NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
*Atautchikun Iñuunialiptigun (Through Our Way of Life Together as One)*

Providing A Learning Environment That Inspires and Challenges Students and Employees to Excel

# TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

## March 24, 2025

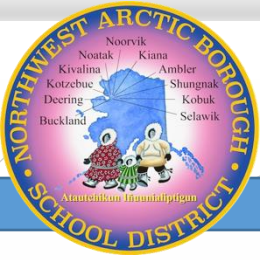
NWABSD Regional Board Members:

Millie Hawley - Chair

Joanne Harris

Carol Schaeffer

Upriver Member



# Agenda:

- Technology Refresh Schedule
- ACTION ITEMS
  - School Internet Award
    - Bandwidth & Cost Over Time
- Questions



**NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
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**Track 1: Operational Improvements**  
*Initiative: Optimize Business Practices*

**Technology Refresh Schedule**

	Aug–Dec 2023	Jan-Jul 2024	Aug–Dec 2024	Jan-Jul 2025	Aug–Dec 2025	Jan-Jul 2026	Aug–Dec 2026	Jan-Jul 2027	Aug–Dec 2027
5-12 Laptops	6-12 Refresh 2020 (Intel); 5-8 Refresh 2023 (M1)		5-8 & 6-12 Fleets Merged					Refresh 5-12 Fleet/Cases 2027	Deploy 5-12 Fleet
SMARTBoards	Purchased 2014/2015; Warranty expired 6/30/20		10 Annually		10 Annually		10 Annually		10 Annually
Principal Laptop, Secretary/DO iMacs	Secretary and DO iMac Refresh 2023	Principal Refresh/Deploy Pro/Screen 2024							Refresh Fleet 2030
PK-4 iPads	Refresh Fleet 2021	Prepare for App Refresh	Refresh Apps			Refresh Fleet; Prepare for App Refresh	Refresh Apps		
Staff iPads	Fleet Purchased 8/2020					Refresh PK-4 Teacher Fleet			
Staff Laptops	Refresh Fleet 2021 (M1/Intel)							Refresh Fleet 2027	Deploy Refreshed Fleet 2027
Computer Labs	ATC – partial update			ATC – partial update		ATC – partial update		ATC – partial update	
Network Infrastructure (Switches, Wireless)	402 Rack Replacement; Split OTZ Circuits Switches		C2 Install Wifi-6 APs in schools IAN, ORV, BKC, DRG; KVL Switch	C2 Install Wifi-6 APs in WLK, SHG, ABL, WTK; ATC, DO Switches	C2 Install Wifi-6 ORV, OBU, IAN, BKC, OTZ; Upgrade ALL Caching				
Meraki Refresh	3yr. License Renewal 2023						License Renewal 9/29/2026		
Mitel Phone System	Partial Phone Refresh 2023			Partial Phone Refresh				Partial Phone Refresh	
VTC	RUS Award 2020; Complete install of RUS awarded Infrastructure		Update Polycom Camera Software						
Servers	Refresh SHG	Refresh WLK	Research Village Virtualization Servers	Purchase Pilot Servers; Plan Refresh				DO Server Refresh 2027	
Windows Infrastructure	Windows 2019 Server Upgrade 2023			Purchase Windows Server 2022					

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# NORTHWEST ARCTIC BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

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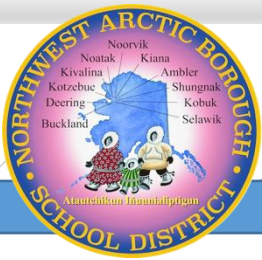
## Track 1: Operational Improvements

### Initiative: Optimize Business Practices

## Historical Band-width and Cost with Proposed FY26 Changes

Location	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18*	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	DIFFERENCE FROM FY25 to FY26
Ambler	7/3* → 10/4	15/5	15/5	15/4	15/4	15/4	25/4	25/4	25/4	25/10	50/10	100/40	Increase Quality of Service and Increase Upload/Download Speed
Buckland	7/3 → 10/4	15/5	15/5	20	20	20	25	25	25	25	100	100	Increase Quality of Service
Deering	7/3 → 10/4	15/5	15/5	15/4	10/4	10/4	25/4	25/4	25/4	25/10	50/10	100	Increase Quality of Service and Increase Upload/Download Speed
Kiana	7/3 → 10/4	15/5	15/5	15	15	15	25	25	25	25	100	100	Increase Quality of Service
Kivalina	7/3 → 10/4	15/5	15/5	15/4	15/4	15/4	25/4	25/4	25/4	25/10	100	100	Increase Quality of Service
Kobuk	7/3 → 10/4	15/5	15/5	15/4	10/4	10/4	25/4	25/4	25/4	25/10	50/10	100/40	Increase Quality of Service and Increase Upload/Download Speed
Noatak	7/3 → 10/4	15/5	15/5	20	20	20	25	25	25	25	100	100	Increase Quality of Service
Noorvik	7/3 → 10/4	15/5	15/5	20	20	20	25	25	25	25	100	100	Increase Quality of Service
Selawik	7/3 → 10/4	15/5	15/5	25	25	25	25	25	25	25	100	100	Increase Quality of Service
Shungnak	7/3 → 10/4	15/5	15/5	15/4	15/4	15/4	25/4	25/4	25/4	25/10	50/10	100/40	Increase Quality of Service and Increase Upload/Download Speed
District Office	5	15/5	15/5	20	60	60	60	100	100	100	100	100	Increase Quality of Service
KMHS	5 → 10	15/5	15/5	10	10	10	25	25	25	25	100	100	Increase Quality of Service
JNES	NA	NA	NA	10	10	10	25	25	25	25	100	100	Increase Quality of Service
ATC	3	15/5	15/5	5	10	10	10	10	25	25	50	100	Increase Quality of Service and Increase Upload/Download Speed
STAR Dorm	NA	NA	NA	NA	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	Increase Quality of Service
Total Cost	\$5,099,210.05	\$5,166,180.00	\$5,163,480.00	\$6,303,870.00	\$5,930,532.00	\$5,930,532.00	\$7,623,192.00	\$8,104,272.00	\$8,265,448.00	\$8,005,800.00	\$21,614,383.55	\$12,899,400.00	(\$8,714,983.55)
Total E-Rate Eligible Cost	\$5,099,210.05	\$5,166,180.00	\$5,163,480.00	\$6,303,870.00	\$5,930,532.00	\$5,930,532.00	\$7,623,192.00	\$8,104,272.00	\$8,265,448.00	\$8,005,800.00	\$21,614,383.55	\$12,899,400.00	(\$8,714,983.55)
E-Rate Revenue	\$4,034,271.60	\$4,649,562.00	\$4,647,132.00	\$5,673,482.82	\$5,337,478.80	\$5,337,478.80	\$6,860,872.80	\$7,293,844.80	\$7,456,903.20	\$7,205,220.00	\$19,452,945.20	\$11,609,460.00	(\$7,843,485.20)
BAG Revenue	\$408,014.89	\$56,846.00	\$58,130.00	\$44,024.00	NA	NA	\$169,266.80	\$169,266.00	\$187,384.00	\$266,285.33	\$1,649,523.76	\$821,180.40	(\$828,343.36)
District General Funds Cost	\$656,923.56	\$459,772.00	\$458,218.00	\$586,363.18	\$593,053.20	\$593,053.20	\$593,052.40	\$641,161.20	\$641,160.80	\$534,294.67	\$511,914.59	\$468,759.60	(\$43,154.99)

Type of Connection **GEO Satellite (Slow, High-Latency)** **LEO Satellite (Slow, Lower-Latency)** **Microwave/Terra (Fast, Low-Latency)** **Fiber (Fast, lowest latency)** **Microwave/Terra w/Dedicated (fastest/lowest latency)**



# School Internet Award:

## GCI Award

E-Rate eligible annual recurring charges total \$12,899,400.00 per year for five (5) years. Pending USAC approval of the new 2025-2026 E-Rate funding application, the district is eligible to receive a funding discount of 90%; the district is responsible for the remaining 10%, or \$821,180.40 per year, for five (5) years.

	<b>FY26 Estimates</b>	<b>Difference from FY25 to Proposed FY26</b>	
Total Internet Cost per Year	\$12,899,400.00	<b>(\$8,714,983.55)</b>	<b>Decreased Contract Cost</b>
E-Rate Revenue Estimate	\$11,609,460.00	<b>(\$7,843,485.20)</b>	<b>Decreased Estimated Revenue</b>
Broadband Assistance Grant Revenue Estimate	\$821,180.40	<b>(\$828,343.36)</b>	<b>Decreased Estimated Revenue</b>
NWABSD Estimated Out-of-Pocket Costs	\$468,759.60	<b>(\$43,154.99)</b>	<b>Decreased Total Estimated District Cost/Expenditure</b>
Total Out-of-Pocket Savings for Length of Contract (5 yrs)		<b>(\$215,744.95)</b>	<b>Decreased Total Estimated District Cost/Expenditure</b>





# Questions?



## MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** NWABSD Board of Education  
Members

**DATE:** March 24, 2025

**NUMBER:** 25-090

**FR:** Office of the Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** E-Rate Bid Award; GCI,  
Inc.

**STRATEGIC PLAN/BOARD GOAL:**

Track 1: Operational Improvements

*Initiative: Optimize Business Practices*

**ABSTRACT:**

Board approval is required for contracts exceeding \$50,000.

**ISSUE:**

At issue is the E-Rate bid award to GCI, Inc. to provide the NWABSD Internet.

**BACKGROUND AND/OR PERTINENT INFORMATION:**

NWABSD relies heavily upon E-Rate subsidies for its internet.

GCI Education Service Order E-Rate eligible annual recurring charges total \$12,899,400.00 per year for five (5) years.

Pending USAC approval of the new 2025-2026 E-Rate funding application, the district will receive a funding discount currently calculated at 90%; the district is responsible for the remaining 10%, or \$1,289,940.00 per year, for five (5) years.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Award the E-Rate bid to GCI, Inc. in the amount of \$1,289,940.00 per year for five (5) years; to provide internet as presented;
2. Do not award the E-Rate bid to GCI, Inc. as presented;
3. Take no final action.

**ADMINISTRATION'S RECOMMENDATION:**

The administration recommends the Board award the E-Rate bid to GCI, Inc. in the amount of \$1,289,940.00 per year for five (5) years; to provide internet as presented.