



# Oak Park Elementary School District 97

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TO: Members, Board of Education 90, 97, 200  
Dr. Ed Condon, Superintendent D90  
Dr. Carol Kelley, Superintendent D97  
Dr. Steve Isoye, Superintendent D200

FROM: Kevin Martin, Director of Technology  
Michael Arensdorff, Director of Technology  
Mike Carioscio, CIO

SUBJECT: Consortium Planning

DATE: January 7th, 2016

The three of us have met on a regular basis during the past two years to share information about the vision, goals and plans that our districts have for technology. Over time, we discovered that many of our individual equipment, infrastructure and network needs are aligned with each other. As a result, we started having conversations about the prospect/possibility of forming a consortium.

By establishing a consortium, we believe we will be able to:

- Advance the technology goals of our three districts.
- Better meet the needs of our faculty, staff and students.
- Identify additional opportunities for collaboration with community partners such as the Village of Oak Park, Oak Park Public Library, Park District of Oak Park and other community partners in River Forest.
- Increase our buying power, which will result in cost savings.
- Leverage shared services.
- Improve articulation via shared resources.

We would accomplish these goals primarily via our eRate filing. While all three districts would still have the option/ability to file as separate entities, we would accept items under the eRate program as a consortium instead of as individual organizations.

If we decide to pursue this endeavor, which is our recommendation, there are several steps that must be completed during the next year to help ensure its success. These steps include:

Drafting and approving an Intergovernmental Agreement between all three districts. Estimated date of completion is June 2016.

- Investigating, vetting and planning for the installation of private fiber within each district. Estimated date for performing these tasks and completing the necessary Request for Proposal process is September/October 2016.
- Presenting proposals to the board for approval. There is no estimated completion date for this step. Instead, it will be performed as needed in accordance with the work that must be done, as well as in conjunction with the policies, procedures and protocols that govern purchasing in each district.

In conclusion, we are asking for the support of all three district boards and superintendents to move forward to form the consortium with the above goals and timelines. Any and all future eRate items that will be filed under the consortium will come to each board for final approval.