

Technology Board Report - March 2023

Sam Rigby

Starlink is now up and running at Newhalen, Port Alsworth, and Port Heiden. Installation required on-site travel by the tech department to mount the antennas, run new cabling, install additional network hardware, reset all existing network hardware, re-wire the network racks, and implement new web filtering protocols.

We are seeing available bandwidth at an average of 175mbps with bursts as high as 300mbps. The connections have remained relatively stable, but we still see ~30-second outages a few times each day. We have configured the networks to automatically revert back to DRS during these outages.

After scoring each ERATE internet proposal received, DRS has been awarded the contract for service starting July 1. We are awarding a 1-year contract with the possibility of two, 1-year extensions.

DRS will be connecting each of our schools to the internet with low latency OneWeb satellite terminal. They will also maintain the existing geostationary satellite connections to provide an automatic failover in case of a OneWeb outage.