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Michael Wilkes  
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To: Dr. Kent Mutchler  
From: Michael Wilkes  
Date: February 27, 2023  
Re: Structured Cabling Purchase Recommendation

Wireless networking technology continues to evolve to support greater bandwidth capacity and device density to meet and support a reality in which most people expect to get work done without having to plug into a network. For CUSD 304, this shift has occurred over the past several years as we have embraced a 1:1 device program for students and worked to ensure staff have access to mobile computers. While users connect wirelessly to a network, the wireless access points themselves still require wires to connect them to the back-end infrastructure that allows users to access online resources. It's that infrastructure that this project seeks to bolster by installing cabling that can deliver high speed connectivity. This project is the first of a multi-year plan to ensure all district locations have a wired infrastructure that can support future demands for wireless connections.

On February 10th, the District received proposals in response to an e-rate 470 and associated Request for Proposals (RFP). While three potential providers attended a required walkthrough of the four sites included in this project, only two submitted proposals. Proposal pricing ranged from a low of \$156,050 to a high of \$260,265. After reviewing and evaluating the proposals, the district recommends the project be awarded to Bluewire Communications for \$156,050 pending the finalization of contractual terms. The summary of the recommendation is shown in Table 1. This is aligned with the approved 2023-24 Technology Capital Plan.

**Table 1 – Equipment and Services**

Locations	Provider	Description of Work	Amount
GHS, GMS North, GMS South, Western Ave.	Bluewire Communications (Overall); Netsource Solutions, Inc. (Installer)	Cat 6a cable installations (326) to support wireless network capability.	\$156,050 (~\$479 / drop)
<b>Total (Pre-Offset)</b>			<b>\$156,050</b>
Potential E-Rate Reimbursement			\$(62,420.00)
Net Amount			\$93,630

The pre-offset amount is approximately 20% over the initial projection.

All agreements are pending Board approval and the finalization of contractual terms and conditions.