



NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Robyn Burke, President
Members of the School Board

THROUGH: David Vadiveloo, Chief School Administrator DSV

THROUGH: Rick Luthi, Chief Operating Officer REL

FROM: Reginald Santos, Director of Information Technology RS

DATE: June 5, 2023

**SUBJECT: Purchases over \$10K -
Bridge Data**

**Memo No: SB23-199
(Action Item)**

NSBSD Policy Manual:

BP 3300 Expenditures/Expending Authority: The Superintendent or designee may purchase supplies, materials, and equipment in accordance with the law. The Superintendent or designee shall not authorize any proposed expenditure that exceeds the major budget classification allowance against which the expenditure is the proper charge unless an amount sufficient to cover the purchase is available in the budget for transfer.

BP 3310, Purchasing Procedures: The School Board desires to ensure that maximum value is received for money spent by the district and that records are kept in accordance with the law. The Superintendent or designee may issue and sign purchase orders.

BP 3311, Bids: All purchases in the amount of \$20,000 or more shall be based, when possible, on three competitive bids. The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures to ensure that formal advertised bids are solicited for purchases over \$50,000.

BP 3312, Contracts: The Superintendent or designee may enter into contracts and memoranda of agreement on behalf of the district. All contracts and memorandums of agreement with a dollar value of \$10,000 or greater must be approved by the School Board.

BP 3440, Inventories: The Superintendent or designee shall provide for the proper control and conservation of district property.

Issue Summary:

As presented at the May 9, 2023, Regular Board Meeting, the Utqiagvik Core Switch and the remaining old network access switches districtwide are estimated to be 15 years old and 3 years past their useful life. When these switches fail, Districtwide network services will fail, affecting the accounting software, student attendance software, email, telephones, and other District systems.

The following are the positive outcomes of upgrading the Utqiagvik Core Switch and the remaining old network switches.

- Reduced cost and complexity by automating policy, enabling fast service creation, and providing complete visibility into the wired and wireless access networks.
- Create better employee experiences through higher performance and improved support.

Threats to our network are more sophisticated and targeted than ever. The older our infrastructure, the more vulnerable we become. IT must spend most of its time and resources managing and troubleshooting the network. Moving to a more modern infrastructure will simplify network deployments, operations, and management.

The North Slope Borough School District has been using E-Rate for many years to subsidize internet access, internal network equipment, and connections at a discount rate of 80%. This cost savings is an essential component for the continued fiduciary stewardship offered by the Board. Bridge Data was the only qualifying bidder for the E-Rate Category 2 Eligible Services (Internal connections needed for broadband connectivity within schools) request for proposal. Bridge Data Solutions is a privately held, Northwest-incorporated company serving customers based in the Pacific Northwest and their offices and facilities outside the region. They are comprised of an extended, customer-focused team of engineering and sales professionals who have worked together for many years. As a Pacific Northwest-focused company, they are purpose-built for our local customer base. Their proposal meets all District technical and E-Rate requirements.

Funding Source and Contract Amount:

Function	Account Code	Amount
Supplies/Materials/Media	100.200.355.000.450	\$266,711.20

Bridge Data Proposal # BDS220913-BC-1u	Equipment	\$238,747.10
Bridge Data Proposal # BDS220913-BC-1s	Installation	\$27,964.00

Grant Funds:

FCC Form 471: 231034683 (80% USAC share \$219,473.20)

Compliance with BP 3311:

USAC requires the entity filing the FCC Form 471 to ensure that the competitive bidding process is open and fair. Please see the attached received proposals and the bidding matrix. The scoring was performed by Reginald Santos, Director of Information Technology, and Kela Halfmann of Southeast Regional Resource Center (SERRC Alaska). The sole responsive bidder is Bridge Data.

Proposed Motion:

“I move that the NSBSD Board of Education approve the E-Rate Eligible Services contract as described by Board memo SB23-199.

Moved by _____ Seconded by _____

Advisory Vote _____ Vote: _____

Signature: *Ds Vadiveloo*
Ds Vadiveloo (Jun 10, 2023 17:40 AKDT)

Email: david.vadiveloo@nsbsd.org

Signature: *Rick E Luthi*
Rick E Luthi (Jun 10, 2023 11:57 AKDT)

Email: rick.luthi@nsbsd.org

Signature: *Reginald Santos*
Reginald Santos (Jun 10, 2023 12:23 AKDT)

Email: reginald.santos@nsbsd.org