

227 N. Fourth Street
Geneva, Illinois 60134
(630)463-3070
mwilkes@geneva304.org



Michael Wilkes
Director of Technology
Geneva School District 304

To: Dr. Kent Mutchler
From: Michael Wilkes
Date: March 12, 2018
Re: Network Infrastructure Upgrades – Fiber Cabling Recommendation

Please submit this recommendation for purchase to the BOE for the March 12, 2018 meeting.

I am recommending the purchase and installation of fiber backbone cabling within five schools. The approved 2018-19 Technology Plan included this work as part of the three-year network infrastructure update initiative. This is the second of two major projects for year 1 of the network upgrade. The fiber which currently exists in these schools is not rated for the high-speed connectivity that will allow us to grow with increased Internet resource needs over time. Once installed, the new fiber, included in this project, can provide high rates of speed over longer distances and will help to ensure the District's network communications for staff and students are reliable and that there is capacity to support growth as the District's 1:1 learning program matures.

The fiber backbone cabling being recommended are core to providing both intra and inter-network connections for staff and students. To this end, funding support will be requested through the E-Rate program, under Category Two, to help offset the cost of materials and installation. The District has followed the E-Rate bidding process to secure pricing proposals. On January 11, 2018 the District published a Request for Proposals (RFP) and on January 22nd a mandatory walk through was held for potential bidders. Eight potential bidders attended the walk through. The bid window closed on the afternoon of February 16, 2018. In total, three bids were received from three different companies. An evaluation of these bids was conducted and with the Board's approval I recommend that the purchase be awarded to Pentegra Systems.

The following table provides the selected vendor's name and total cost of the purchase. This purchase consists of material and labor as the vendor will be performing all work related to this project.

Provider	Associated Cost (not to exceed)
Pentegra Systems	\$126,085.00
Total Request for Purchase – March 12, 2018	\$126,085.00

If approved, the District plans to schedule this work to occur in time for a summer 2018 implementation. Funding support from E-Rate is not guaranteed and the final amount of reimbursement will be determined by the FCC/USAC. Should the request for E-Rate support be approved, the estimated reimbursement to the District during the 2018-19 school year is up to approximately \$49,000. It should be noted that all Funding Year 2018 contracts to be considered for reimbursement must be signed and submitted by March 22, 2018. Approval of this recommendation would allow time to meet this important date.

Funds, which were identified in the 2018-19 Technology Capital Plan for year 1 of the network upgrade, will be used for this project.

Total number of bids received: 3

Evaluation Criteria

- Price (65%)
- Completeness and accuracy (10%)
- Similar projects – references – company experience (25%)

Each bidder submitted a base bid as well as two alternates as requested in the RFP. After considering each of the alternates it was determined that the base bid, as defined in the RFP, will provide the greatest benefit over time. The results are shown below:

Bid / Evaluation Summary

Bidder	Base Proposal Amount	Evaluation Rank / Score
Applied Communications	\$143,166.00	3 / 8.50
Pentegra Systems	\$126,085.00	1 / 9.80
Synapse Technology Group	\$136,548.60	2 / 9.15

Through evaluation, including review by the Technology Task Force, in which all factors were considered, the lowest responsible and responsive bidder for this purchase is **Pentegra Systems' bid in the amount of \$126,085.00.**