
BOARD AGENDA ITEM

Information/Discussion: _____

Future Action: _____

Action: X

Item: Fiber Network Connection for Lincoln and Pine Grove

Submitted by: Glen Finkel

Date: 3.11.2024

Recommended by: Glen Finkel

Board Meeting Date: 3.18.2024

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Kent ISD School Board approve the bid from Fiber Link, Inc. for \$210,396.55 to connect both Lincoln Campus and the Pine Grove Learning Center to our existing wide area network. It is also recommended that board include a 10% contingency for a total cost of \$231,436.

BACKGROUND:

The Kent Wide Area Network (WAN) was started in 2017 with a goal of expanding our capacity to delivery Internet connectivity and other technology services to our local school districts. With this project, Kent ISD will extend our fiber to connect to both the Lincoln Campus and Pine Grove Learning Center. A fiber connection will improve the speed and performance of our center program network, and also, place the control of support within our organization.

Kent ISD received two competitive bids for this project. Fiber Link was the only vendor to bid on the construction of fiber, while Comcast bid a leased lit circuit. Based on the analysis of our E-Rate consultant, the Fiber Link bid was 76% less than the Comcast proposal over the 25-year expected lifespan of the fiber cable.

This project is eligible for both E-Rate reimbursement and state matching funds. Based on our current E-Rate discount, Kent ISD will be reimbursed for \$165,936.20 from E-Rate and \$41,484.05 from matching funds. After reimbursement, the total district cost of this work will be \$2,975.97.