

Action Item

Subject:

Acquisition of PMSA Infrastructure Upgrade

Background:

We support a Wide Area Network (WAN) which is a system of high-speed fiber lines that connects every school to the main distribution frame (MDF) resources and to the Internet. In 2016, the bandwidth to the Internet was upgraded for each school from 500 Megabits per second (Mbps) to 1 Gigabit per second (Gbps). The infrastructure equipment is comprised of core and access switches that were installed in PMSA (2005), East (2008), and West (2009). The connection between the core and the access switches have a maximum capacity of 1 Gbps. The connection between the access switches and devices connecting to the network has a maximum capacity of 100 Mbps. To maintain access to the wireless network, wireless controllers and access points were installed at PMSA in 2015. Only wireless access points were installed at East and West in 2016.

Administration's Analysis:

An Information Item was submitted to the Board during the March 13, 2017 Board of Education meeting outlining this project. A RFP was posted to the website on Friday, March 31, 2017 for 25 days. Four vendors submitted proposals: Clear Corp, Converged Digital Networks, Heartland Business Systems, and Sentinel.

Essential to the RFP, and during the discussions with potential vendors during the walkthrough and Q&A, is the fact that District 209 currently utilizes Cisco equipment for the existing network infrastructure and would prefer to continue to do so. Converged Digital Networks submitted proposals for Aerohive and Brocade equipment. Clear Corp submitted proposals for Dell and Cisco equipment. The other two vendors proposed Cisco equipment.

A deeper evaluation of the proposals revealed that Sentinel suggestions were the most comprehensive as their solution will give greater wireless coverage with leading-edge technologies and configurations that will support improving the network infrastructure. This is key to achieving the District Goal 2 – Ensuring Effective and Efficient Operations.

June 13, 2017

Therefore, it was determined that the Board should award the contract to Sentinel Technology in the amount not to exceed **\$309,991** for the network infrastructure upgrades at Proviso Math and Science Academy.

These costs are included in the 2016 – 2017 school year budget.

Statute, Administrative Policy or Board Rules Statement:

All contracts for supplies, materials, or work involving expenditures in excess of \$25,000 shall be made in accordance with the state law bidding procedure, unless specifically exempted, 105,ILCS 5/10-20.21.

Implementation or Assessment Plan:

The contract will commence July 1, 2017 and conclude December 31, 2017.

Administration's Recommendation:

That the Board of Education of Proviso Township High Schools District 209 accept the Superintendent's recommendation to approve the contract of Sentinel Technology in the amount not to exceed **\$309,991** for network equipment and services for the network infrastructure upgrades at Proviso Math and Science Academy.

June 13, 2017