Smart Schools Investment Plan Cairo Durham CSD

Part II 2024
Network and Wifi Refresh

Smart Schools Bond Act Background

Enacted in 2015 state Budget, $2 billion of bonds to be sold to fund Hi-Tech Projects in NYS Schools and Communities

Allowed projects are School and Community Connectivity, Classroom Learning Technology, High Tech Security and the phase out of Transportable Classrooms

30 Day comment period then 12-18 Month Approval Smart Schools Review Board

Applied in Dec 2018 for $298,754 for Network and Wireless in conjunction with E-Rate Funds - Installed summer 2020

Planning Process

- Begun in Spring 2023 looking at needs within district
- Only certain allowed expenses, Connectivity for School or Community, Classroom Learning, Pre-K Classrooms and Transportable Classrooms and Security
- Must line up with School Technology plan
- Worked with Administrators and Technology Committee to access needs

Project Selection

- Identified replacement of network and wifi as biggest need
- Wireless network needs grow of access points to increase coverage and range
- Wireless network needs growth potential for Guest and BYOD Programs
- Wired Network endured construction and survived but needs replacement
- Goal #3 of District Technology Plan drives need
- Network and Wifi refresh are not budgeted for so one time money must be used

Scope and Vendors

Existing switch quantity will suffice, schools physical set up hasn't changed

Need for 15 more Access points, need high availability for large areas and more small areas that are used for small office space, wifi is like oxygen must be available everywhere

Looking for 3 vendors/ bids and representation from 3 highest rate equipment manufacturers, Aruba, Cisco & Extreme (Gartner Reports)

Asked as many vendors as possible for proposals, but many had ceased operations in the area or didn't have the resources to respond

Decision Matrix

Key Factors in Evaluating Proposals

- Strength of the vendor, strength of the technology, wired and wireless
- Quality of the software and management tools
- Configuration and Installation Services
- Upkeep and Continuing Maintenance Costs
- Integration with Existing systems
- Sustainability of Proposal
- Total Cost and Value

Results

- 2 Proposals met Criteria, both strong technology offerings
- Both had same level of sustainability based on equipment
- Aruba Products would result in Firewall to client visibility
- Configuration and Installation included
- Trusted Partner with Excellent track record with District

ComSource Aruba Wired/Wireless

Proposed Solution from ComSource Costs

Software	$37,799.00
LAN - Wired Network	$352,476.00
Wireless Network	$164,660.00
Configuration and Deployment	$81,648.75
Total:	$636,583.75