

# **Buford City Schools**

## **Request for Proposal (RFP)**

### **Single Mode Fiber**

**Inquiries and requests regarding this RFP must be directed to:**

Jason Downs  
Technology Director  
Buford City Schools  
2625 Sawnee Avenue  
Buford, GA 30518  
[jason.downs@bufordcityschools.org](mailto:jason.downs@bufordcityschools.org)

**Sealed proposals and bids must be delivered no later than 2:00 PM on January 6, 2017 to:**

Buford City Schools 2625 Sawnee Avenue Buford, GA 30518

Please note that all proposals must be received at the designated location by the stated deadline. Late proposals will be returned unopened and shall be considered void and unacceptable. Please don't assume the proposal was received, please confirm. BCS will be closed from Dec 19th – 30<sup>th</sup> 2016 for the winter holidays and will not be available for site surveys. Please plan accordingly.

Questions can be directed to Jason Downs at [jason.downs@bufordcityschools.org](mailto:jason.downs@bufordcityschools.org). NO phone calls will be accepted.

**BUFORD CITY SCHOOLS RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND PROPOSALS AND TO AWARD IN PART OR IN TOTAL WHICHEVER IS DEEMED TO BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT.**

## **SECTION 1—GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **1.1 – Background**

Buford City is located approximately forty miles northeast from Atlanta, GA. This nationally renowned community is considered both a rural and suburban community. Parental support for the school system is strong, and the Board of Education is positive and constructive in support of the academic and extra-curricular programs in all Buford City Schools. Our schools continue to lead Georgia in academics, the arts, and athletics.

We have two elementary schools, one middle school, and one high school in our school system. We have two administrative locations - Central Office and Transportation. We enroll approximately 4400 students and employ approximately 550 professional employees. The addresses for the four schools are below:

Buford High School  
2750 Sawnee Ave.  
Buford, GA 30518

Buford Middle School  
2700 Robert Bell Pkwy  
Buford, GA 30518

Buford Academy  
2705 Robert Bell Pkwy  
Buford, GA 30518

Buford Elementary  
2500 Sawnee Ave.  
Buford, GA 30518

Buford City Schools needs to run OS2 rated single mode fiber within the schools.

### **1.2 – Intent of the RFP**

It is the intent of this Request for Proposal (RFP) to provide bidders with sufficient information to prepare a proposal for the single mode fiber needed in BCS. This project is contingent on E-Rate funding and Georgia CFC grant funding.

Our goal is to have OS2 rated single mode fiber within the schools. This is being done to help future proof the schools for future network traffic demands.

### **1.3 --Evaluation Criteria**

The interested parties from hereinafter will be referred to as the vendor, respondent, or bidder. Selection will be based upon technical quality, project management, costs of E-Rate eligible goods and services, and system features. The evaluation criteria will consider but are not limited to the following factors:

- 1 Product quality/appropriateness/compatibility/performance consistent with the specs in the RFP
- 2 Bidder's qualifications/experience

- 3 Bidder's total proposed price of eligible goods or services (Highest Weighted Factor)
- 4 Proximity of bidder to Buford City Schools
- 5 Districts past experience with vendor

BCS reserves the right to seek clarification of any or all bidders in order to assist in the evaluation process. Any interested bidders must meet the following:

- 1 All specification terms and conditions as outlined in the RFP are complied with and met.
- 2 Suitability of proposed solution with respect to the district's needs and objectives
- 3 Bidder participation and responsibility clearly defined
- 4 BCS's participation and responsibilities clearly defined.
- 5 Hardware and peripheral product quality and content including, but not limited to, durability, performance, integration, serviceability, warranty, maintenance, meets or exceeds industry standards, and fulfillment of criteria specified in this RFP.
- 6 Bidder's service and support hours clearly defined.
- 7 Due to technical nature of the equipment, bidder has addressed all applicable future system use, future expansion possibilities, and possible upgrading.
- 8 Price of proposal including, but not limited to, individual system pricing, upgrades/downgrades pricing, installation support, warranty support, training, and any other relevant options with associated pricing.
- 9 Experience and/or references of the company submitting proposal.
- 10 Submission of satisfactory reference checks with proposal submitted on company letterhead.
- 11 Installation procedures clearly defined if applicable.
- 12 Bidder agrees to provide an on-site proof of concept at no cost to BCS if requested.
- 13 Acknowledgement in writing that any software will be properly licensed for BCS.
- 14 Bidders must have or obtain a valid E-Rate SPIN (Form 498 ID)
- 15 Bidders must have or obtain a valid SPAC/Form 473 filed with USAC
- 16 All Bids Must be in the format:

Service and price quotes:

Proposed services and equipment and their pricing must be quoted in the format specified on FCC Form 471 Item 21b for Internal Connections. Use the following weblink:

<http://usac.org/res/documents/sl/xls/window-hq/Category-Two-Internal-Connections.xlsm>

Price Quote must be submitted utilizing the above template link! (Opens in Excel). Failure to quote in this format, or omission of any of the data items can lead to rejection of the bid for Internal Connections.

- 17 All Bids must break down eligible and none eligible E-Rate equipment on a line by line basis for each entity

#### **1.4 --Contract Negotiation**

BCS reserves the right to negotiate with any company/supplier submitting a response to alter, clarify, or further enhance the company's proposals and/or any contract arising out of the acceptance of the response. In the evaluation of the proposal, the pricing submitted will be considered the best and final pricing.

## **SECTION 2 –SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS**

### **2.1 – Company Experience and/or References**

BCS reserves the right to fully investigate the qualifications of any bidder(s) based on references supplied and publicly available information.

Bidder(s) are required to supply a minimum of three referrals on projects of similar nature and/or magnitude. The referrals must include customer name, address, contact names, and telephone/fax numbers.

All bidders must be able to provide (if requested):

- 1 Certificate of Insurance naming Buford City Schools as an additional insured.
- 2 HB 87 Immigration Affidavit (copies available to download).

### **2.2 – Confidential Material**

Any material that is to be considered as confidential in nature must be clearly marked as such and will be treated as confidential by BCS to the extent allowable.

### **2.3 – Supplemental/Supporting Materials**

Please include descriptive literature/brochures, if available, in the proposal. All user/owner/technical reference manuals must be included with and submitted upon delivery of equipment.

### **2.4 – Lowest Corresponding Price (LCP)**

Service provider's bid must be the Lowest Corresponding Price (LCP). The proposed pricing for services and equipment must be the LCP of similarly situated nonresidential customers for similar services. When services and equipment are delivered, and charged, the price billed must be no higher than LCP of similarly situated nonresidential customers for similar services.

### **2.5 – Bundled Services**

Any E-Rate ineligible products, services, or components bundled with eligible products or services must be listed separately from the eligible products or vices. Prices for these ineligible products or services must be allocated out of the price for the eligible services; failure to do so can lead to rejection of the bid. Allocations must comply with USAC rules which specify that the allocation methodology must be based on tangible criteria and reach a realistic result.

If E-Rate funding is not available for any reason, the District reserves the right to defer or cancel any agreements entered into at the District's discretion.

## **SECTION 3 –TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS**

### **3.1 --General Requirements**

BCS needs to run OS2 rated single mode fiber within the schools. The new single mode fiber will be connecting the IDFs within the schools to the school's MDF. The respondent's proposed solution must include all equipment (new patch panels, fiber, patch cords, etc.) needed to complete this project.

All hardware must be manufactured by a recognized market leader with at least twenty-five (25) years of experience that is compatible/equivalent with Panduit Opti-Core or Corning ClearCurve.

### **3.2 – Technical**

#### **3.2.1 Current Network**

BCS has a 10 GB fiber backbone to all locations. All schools currently have 1 Gb switched architecture with a 1 Gb backbone.

The Georgia Department of Education has provided our Internet service for the schools through E-Rate. This has been contracted to AT&T under the E-Rate program. This connection has been upgraded through the State E-Rate grant, and our current connection's bandwidth is currently 400 Mbps.

There are many services provided through the network. Web access (http), file storage, and printing are the dominant services provided on the network. Other services include FTP, multiple multicast applications, computer drive imaging, and streaming video.

BCS utilizes Microsoft Server software and has an Active Directory domain.

#### **3.2.2 - Needs Assessment**

The project will include a total of 14 (12 strand) single mode fiber runs (7 at BHS, 2 at BA, 3 at BMS and 2 at BES). The respondent must perform a site survey to determine what materials will be needed. Information for accessing floor plans, drop locations, and building maps will be available when scheduling site surveys. The respondent's proposed solution must include all equipment (new fiber patch panels, patch cords, cabling, etc.) needed to complete this project.

#### **3.2.3 Network Drop Specifications**

Design, manufacture, test, and install telecommunications cabling networks per manufacturer's requirements and in accordance to ANSI/EIA/TIA 568C (Commercial Building Telecommunications Cabling Standards), ANSI/EIA/TIA 569 (Commercial Building Standard for Telecommunications Pathways and Spaces) and National Electric Code standards.

Install cabling in accordance with the most recent edition of BICSI® publications including but not limited to the following:

- BICSI –Telecommunications Distribution Methods Manual.
- BICSI --Cabling Installation Manual.

All cabling besides patch cords used must be plenum rated. The respondent must have personnel knowledgeable in local, state, province and national codes, and regulations. All work shall comply with the latest revision of the codes or regulations. When conflict exists between local or national codes or regulations, the most stringent codes or regulations shall be followed.

The standard connector to be used at the fiber patch panel will be SC connectors. Two 3m SC - LC single mode patch cords will be provided for each fiber run for a total of 28 fiber patch cords. All relevant patch cords will be plugged into the patch panel using the first fiber pair of the fiber run and will be neatly arranged with wire management and velcro straps.

Unless otherwise specified, unconditionally guarantee in writing the materials, equipment, and workmanship for a period of not less than twenty (20) years from date of acceptance by the owner. Acceptance shall be deemed as beneficial use by the owner.

The Respondent shall pass along to BCS any additional warranties offered by the manufacturers, at no additional costs to BCS, must said warranties extend beyond the 20 year period specified herein.

This warranty shall in no manner cover equipment that has been damaged or rendered unserviceable due to negligence, misuse, acts of vandalism, or tampering by BCS or anyone other than employees or agents of the respondent. The respondent's obligation under its warranty is limited to the cost of repair of the warranted item or replacement thereof, at the respondent's option. Insurance covering said equipment from damage or loss is to be borne by the respondent until full acceptance of equipment and services.

The fiber wiring will be OS2 rated single mode fiber. All terminations need to be fusion spliced SC connections in patch panel with less than 0.5 dB loss per mated pair.

Cables shall not be tie wrapped or routed along electrical or gas conduit. Horizontal cable run in hallways above a suspended ceiling shall be in J hooks or cable tray. Cable ties must be trimmed off cleanly at a locking hole. Cables shall be secured at every corner. Cables shall be run in a uniform fashion and shall not be woven among other utilities. In areas that do not have suspended ceilings, conduit will be used to hide and protect the cabling.

All internal building network infrastructure must meet all TIA/EIA commercial building wiring standards including but not limited to ANSI/EIA/TIA 568C (Commercial Building Telecommunications Cabling Standards), ANSI/EIA/TIA 569 (Commercial Building Standard for Telecommunications Pathways and Spaces), and National Electric Code standards.

Note: All networks shall be installed per applicable standards and manufacturer's guidelines.

Patch panels must be 19 in. rack mountable meeting fiber performance standards and pinned to ANSI/TIA/EIA 568C standards. However, the max signal loss per mated pair needs to be 0.5 dB.

Penetrations through floor and fire-rated walls shall utilize intermediate metallic conduit (IMC) or galvanized rigid conduit (GRC) sleeves and shall be fire stopped after installation and testing, utilizing a fire stopping assembly approved for that application. Any penetrations needed will need to be approved by BCS first before anything is done.

Labeling shall conform to ANSI/TIA/EIA-606 standards. In addition, provide the following:

- 1 Label each termination panel of each fiber run with a label having a minimum 3/16 in. high characters.
- 2 Label each cable with permanent self-adhesive label with minimum 1/8 in. high characters on the cable close to the termination panel
- 3 The labeling for the fiber runs must include the IDF letter from which it originates

Testing shall conform to TIA/EIA 568C standards and should have a dB loss of less than 0.5dB per mated pair.

Vendor must have a project manager on site at no additional cost during the course of the installation. This person shall maintain current RCDD® (Registered Communications Distribution Designer) registration and shall be responsible for quality control during installation, equipment set-up, and testing.

Installation personnel shall meet manufacturer's training and education requirements for implementation of extended warranty program.

### **3.3 – Financial**

Please provide quotes detailing your solution priced out per school for BCS. The quote must include all necessary hardware, installation costs, and cabling needed to complete a full installation.

### **3.4 – Warranty**

Warranty terms on the hardware and any associated software must be clearly defined.

### **3.5 – Delivery and Installation**

Any delivery and installation charges must be clearly defined as separate line items.

All equipment installation will be done after normal school hours of operation or in the summer, so as not to leave any school disabled for any significant amount of time.

### **3.6 – Questions and Answers**

Any clarifications to this RFP will be provided by BCS by the way of a Q&A page on the school district's website. Questions can be directed to Jason Downs at [jason.downs@bufordcityschools.org](mailto:jason.downs@bufordcityschools.org). NO phone calls will be accepted.