REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

E-Rate FY2027 Category 2 — Cloud-Managed Network Switches

District & Bid Metadata

School District: Vallivue School District #139	**Submission Deadline:** 12/14/2026
Contact Person / Title: Joe Christensen	**Submission Method:** Email to bids@vallivue.org
Contact Email: bids@vallivue.org	

1. Purpose & Scope

Vallivue School District #139 ("District") is requesting proposals under the USAC E-Rate Category 2 program to acquire network switches, optics, and associated cloud management licenses/warranties to upgrade our campus network infrastructure. The District seeks reliable, high-performance, enterprise-grade networking equipment to support digital learning and high-density Wi-Fi 6E/7 deployments. This request is strictly for an equipment-only procurement; managed services are not being sought.

Vendors may quote the requested sample make/model or functional **equivalent equipment**. All proposed equivalent products should meet or exceed the technical, functional, physical, and management specifications listed in Section 2.

2. Technical, Physical & Management Specifications

All proposed solutions should adhere to the following requirements:

Cloud Management

- **Centralized Cloud Platform:** 100% of proposed switch models should be fully cloud-managed via a centralized, web-based management platform (e.g., Meraki Dashboard, Aruba Central, Ruckus One, ExtremeCloud IQ, Juniper Mist, or equivalent).
- **Licensing & Subscriptions:** Proposals should include all necessary cloud management licenses and subscriptions for seven (7) years. All licenses should be explicitly itemized on the bid sheet to verify E-Rate Category 2 eligibility.

24-Port Switch Models (Sample: Cisco Meraki MS150-24MP-4X or Equivalent)

- **Physical Dimensions & Cabinet Fit:** Designed to fit standard network enclosures. Compact form factor preferred; target physical depth is approximately 9.9 inches or shallow-profile equivalent to accommodate narrow wall-mount cabinets.
- **Port Configuration:** Minimum 16× 1GbE ports + at least 8× Multi-Gigabit (mGig) ports (up to 2.5G/5G).
- **Power over Ethernet:** At least 8× IEEE 802.3bt (60W PoE++) ports (all mGig ports) with minimum 370W total PoE budget.
- **Uplinks & Stacking:** Minimum 4× 10GbE SFP+ uplink ports; 2 dedicated stacking ports providing 80Gbps of total stacking bandwidth across members.
- **Acoustic Noise Levels:** Switches should operate quietly enough for deployment inside classroom wall cabinets without disrupting instruction.

48-Port Switch Models (Sample: Cisco Meraki MS150-48MP-4X or Equivalent)

- **Physical Dimensions & Cabinet Fit:** Designed to fit standard network enclosures. Compact form factor preferred; target physical depth is approximately 13.4 inches or shallow-profile equivalent to accommodate narrow network cabinets.
- **Port Configuration:** Minimum 32× 1GbE ports + at least 16× Multi-Gigabit (mGig) ports (up to 2.5G/5G).
- **Power over Ethernet:** At least 16× IEEE 802.3bt (60W PoE++) ports (all mGig ports) with minimum 740W total PoE budget.
- **Uplinks & Stacking:** Minimum 4× 10GbE SFP+ uplink ports; 2 dedicated stacking ports providing 80Gbps of total stacking bandwidth across members.

General Compliance Requirements

- **Production & Eligibility:** All proposed equipment should be new, current production model with no announced End-of-Sale (EOS) or End-of-Life (EOL) dates. Refurbished or secondary market equipment is not accepted.
- **Support & Warranties:** Include basic manufacturer technical support and warranties eligible under Category 2 rules.
- **Power Cords:** Standard US power cords must be included with each switch unit.

3. Submission Guidelines & Bidding Worksheet

To ensure an efficient and objective evaluation, bidding vendors **are expected to** complete and submit the official District Excel Pricing Worksheet (VSD-Switch-Worksheet-FY27.xls).

1. Fill out all mandatory fields in the **Vendor Information** section (Company Name, SPIN,

Contact Info).
2. Itemize unit prices, cloud license fees, and E-Rate eligibility percentages on the pricing sheet.
3. Specify the Make and Model for all proposed switches and attach manufacturer spec sheets demonstrating cloud management functionality, specifications, and chassis dimensions.
4. Submit the completed Excel pricing workbook via email prior to the submission deadline.

4. Vendor Evaluation Matrix

In compliance with USAC E-Rate guidelines, the cost of E-Rate eligible goods and services will be the primary factor in vendor selection. Proposals will be scored based on the following 100-point matrix:

Evaluation Factor	Weight / Points
Cost of E-Rate Eligible Products & Services (Primary Factor)	**35 Points**
Meets / Understands Needs	30 Points
Compatibility with Existing Network	25 Points
Past Performance with School District	10 Points
Total Score	**100 Points**

5. E-Rate Compliance & Contract Terms

SPIN Requirement: Bidders are expected to possess a valid Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN) and be in good standing with USAC and the FCC.

- **Invoicing Method:** The District reserves the right to choose between SPI (Form 474) or BEAR (Form 472) invoicing.
- **Proposal Validity:** All proposed pricing and conditions shall remain fixed for one (1) year from the date of proposal submission deadline.
- **Funding Contingency:** Any contract resulting from this RFP is contingent upon USAC E-Rate funding approval and District board authorization.

- **Right to Reject:** The District reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive informalities, or modify requested quantities based on budget allocations.