Bremen Public Schools
Request for Proposals – FY2027 C2
470 #270003745

November 13th, 2026

Bremen Public Schools (the "Applicant") is seeking proposals for a project to supply and install network equipment at its eligible locations. Bidders are advised that this project will be contingent upon the successful obtaining of Category 2 E-Rate funding, and the contract agreement between the district and the successful bidder must recognize that contingency.

The Applicant seeks an agreement that allows it to work with the selected vendor to adjust quantities and/or scale back or cancel the project entirely as needed based upon funding availability and/or the best interests of the Applicant.

Project Scope

The Applicant seeks eligible equipment as outlined in Appendix A. Equipment shall be new, factory-sealed equipment currently available from the manufacturer; the Applicant will not accept proposals of used, remanufactured, refurbished, "B stock," returns, open-box, discontinued, "gray market," or equipment in any other condition other than new and factory-sealed with all original manufacturer warranties

Installation will be in place of existing equipment, and the requested equipment will be integrated into the existing environment. Each bid should include all labor necessary for staging, installation, testing, and documentation of equipment. Equipment staging will consist of (but not be limited to) ensuring firmware version consistency, configuration loading, and hardware preparation for mounting. Software and firmware version for components will be agreed upon at time of deployment, and configurations will be coordinated with the Applicant's staff. Installation by the selected vendor shall include the removal of the existing equipment and placement of the new equipment. Equipment testing should verify access to internal resources and the Internet. Documentation should include configuration and summary reports of installations.

Questions/Site Visits

Any questions related to the technical aspects of this document should be directed to **Melissa Miller, Chief Technology Officer at melmiller@bps.k12.in.us**, **no later than 2pm local time on November 30th, 2026, and any requested site visits should be completed by that date. If bidding on project 2, sites visits are recommended but not required**. Answers to any written questions or any additional information, revisions, or clarifications to the RFP will be provided in the form of an addendum to be posted with the FCC Form 470 on the Universal Service (E-Rate) website. It is the sole responsibility of the Service Provider to check for any addenda that may be issued.

Response Format

Responses should include the following, if applicable:

- Applicable items should include all related software and hardware components that enable the functionality of the equipment (including any necessary mounting brackets, software licenses, multi-year licenses, and basic maintenance).
- If applicable, vendor is to specify all fees, shipping charges, taxes, surcharges and contingency fees for eligible equipment.
- If applicable, vendor is to specify the manufacturer's warranty provided as an integral part of an eligible component without separately identifiable cost.
- Any ongoing subscription pricing must be listed separately.

Your response **must** include the following information:

1. Line-item pricing for each item listed in Appendix A. Any discounting applied to your proposal must be reflected at the line-item level.
2. In the case of proposed equivalent products, a thorough technical description of how each product from the manufacturer being bid meets each of the required functionalities of the product listed herein.
3. Information outlining your company's certifications and connections regarding the manufacturer's equipment being bid, and length of time your company has provided equipment from the manufacturer being bid.
4. Two (2) reference sites where your company has performed a similar installation of the equipment being bid, including business name, contact name and contact information. It is preferable that at least one reference should be for a school corporation or library system within 90 miles of the Applicant.
5. Your E-Rate SPIN Number. (You must have a current SPAC form on file with USAC.)
6. A ready-to-execute contract which includes the proposal requirements and the E-Rate contingencies outlined herein.

The Applicant's review of information will be primarily focused on the substance of the details provided in response to the requirements herein including but not limited to technical details, pricing and terms, experience, references, and adherence to the response format provided. Per E-rate rules, the cost of eligible goods and services will be the most heavily weighted evaluation factor.

Proposals must be prepared with specificity with regard to the equipment and/or services listed herein. Bids merely listing a general menu of equipment and/or services available from a vendor, bids appearing to be automatically generated without specificity in relation to the requirements of this RFP, and bids missing substantial information but inviting the applicant to contact the bidder to refine the bid and/or discuss specifics will not be considered valid bid responses and will be disqualified from consideration. This includes any SPAM and/or robotic responses. For more information, please review the USAC E-Rate News Brief of February 15, 2024.

Proposal Delivery

The Applicant reserves the right to reject each and every bid, and to waive informalities, irregularities, and errors in the bidding to the extent permitted by law. This includes the right to extend the date and time for receipt of bids. In the event that a responsible bid is not received or if it is determined that the low bid received is too high, the bid received will be rejected and the project will be cancelled or re-bid.

Bids should be e-mailed to the office of Melissa Miller, Chief Technology Officer at melmiller@bps.k12.in.us by 2pm local time on December 29th, 2026.

APPENDIX A

Below is a reference of the type of equipment and capacities (or their equivalent) to be supplied. Bidders should price separately and clearly indicate any ineligible costs for all services and equipment associated with this RFP. If a product includes mixed functionality, please indicate the allocation for each function (i.e. "60% Internal Connections and 40% BMIC"). For any part numbers that have been updated or replaced by the manufacturer, bidders should offer the most similar current part.

Project 1 – Core Switch

Qty	Manu	Part Number	Description
1	vendor	Labor	Configuration of Core switch
3	HPE	R0M46A	**HPE Aruba Networking 50G SFP56 to SFP56 0.65m Direct Attach Copper Cable or equivalent** The District currently utilizes Cisco networking equipment for its core/switching infrastructure. Baseline specifications in this RFP are provided using HPE Aruba part numbers to define required functionality and performance standards. Bidders may submit proposals using the baseline HPE Aruba models, Cisco Catalyst equivalents, or functionally equivalent hardware from alternative manufacturers. Any proposed alternative hardware must demonstrate full interoperability with the District's existing Cisco edge/closet infrastructure without requiring modifications to existing hardware.
1	HPE	R0M47A	**HPE Aruba Networking 50G SFP56 to SFP56 3m Direct Attach Copper Cable or equivalent** The District currently utilizes Cisco networking equipment for its core/switching infrastructure. Baseline specifications in this RFP are provided using HPE Aruba part numbers to define required functionality and performance standards. Bidders may submit proposals using the baseline HPE Aruba models, Cisco Catalyst equivalents, or functionally equivalent hardware from alternative manufacturers. Any proposed alternative hardware must demonstrate full interoperability with the District's existing Cisco edge/closet infrastructure without requiring modifications to existing hardware.
6	HPE	JL087A	**HPE Aruba Networking X372 54VDC 1050W 110-240VAC Power Supply or equivalent** The District currently utilizes Cisco networking equipment for its core/switching infrastructure. Baseline specifications in this RFP are provided using HPE Aruba part numbers to define required functionality and performance standards. Bidders may submit proposals using the baseline HPE Aruba models, Cisco Catalyst equivalents, or functionally equivalent hardware from alternative manufacturers. Any proposed alternative hardware must demonstrate full interoperability with the District's existing Cisco edge/closet infrastructure without requiring modifications to existing hardware.
6	HPE	JL087A ABA	**INCLUDED: Power Cord - U.S. localization or equivalent** The District currently utilizes Cisco networking equipment for its core/switching infrastructure. Baseline specifications in this RFP are provided using HPE Aruba part numbers to define required functionality and performance standards. Bidders may

			submit proposals using the baseline HPE Aruba models, Cisco Catalyst equivalents, or functionally equivalent hardware from alternative manufacturers. Any proposed alternative hardware must demonstrate full interoperability with the District's existing Cisco edge/closet infrastructure without requiring modifications to existing hardware.
2	HPE	JL086A	**HPE Aruba Networking X372 54VDC 680W 100-240VAC Power Supply or equivalent** The District currently utilizes Cisco networking equipment for its core/switching infrastructure. Baseline specifications in this RFP are provided using HPE Aruba part numbers to define required functionality and performance standards. Bidders may submit proposals using the baseline HPE Aruba models, Cisco Catalyst equivalents, or functionally equivalent hardware from alternative manufacturers. Any proposed alternative hardware must demonstrate full interoperability with the District's existing Cisco edge/closet infrastructure without requiring modifications to existing hardware.
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3	HPE	S4P42A	**HPE Aruba Networking 6300M 32p Smart Rate 5G CL8 8p SFP+ 10G LRM 2p SFP28 25G MACsec 2p SFP56 50G Switch or equivalent** The District currently utilizes Cisco networking equipment for its core/switching infrastructure. Baseline specifications in this RFP are provided using HPE Aruba part numbers to define required functionality and performance standards. Bidders may submit proposals using the baseline HPE Aruba models, Cisco Catalyst equivalents, or functionally equivalent hardware from alternative manufacturers. Any proposed alternative hardware must demonstrate full interoperability with the District's existing Cisco edge/closet infrastructure without requiring modifications to existing hardware.
1	HPE	JL661A	**HPE Aruba Networking CX 6300M 48-port 1GbE Class4 PoE and 4-port SFP56 Switch or equivalent** The District currently utilizes Cisco networking equipment for its core/switching infrastructure. Baseline specifications in this RFP are provided using HPE Aruba part numbers to define required functionality and performance standards. Bidders may submit proposals using the baseline HPE Aruba models, Cisco Catalyst equivalents, or functionally equivalent hardware from alternative manufacturers. Any proposed alternative hardware must demonstrate full interoperability with the District's existing Cisco edge/closet infrastructure without requiring modifications to existing hardware.
11	HPE	J4858D	**HPE Aruba Networking 1G SFP LC SX 500m OM2 MMF**

			Transceiver or equivalent The District currently utilizes Cisco networking equipment for its core/switching infrastructure. Baseline specifications in this RFP are provided using HPE Aruba part numbers to define required functionality and performance standards. Bidders may submit proposals using the baseline HPE Aruba models, Cisco Catalyst equivalents, or functionally equivalent hardware from alternative manufacturers. Any proposed alternative hardware must demonstrate full interoperability with the District's existing Cisco edge/closet infrastructure without requiring modifications to existing hardware.
5	HPE	S2P31A	**HPE Aruba Networking 10G SFP+ LC LR 10km SMF C-class Transceiver or equivalent** The District currently utilizes Cisco networking equipment for core/switching infrastructure. Baseline specifications in this RFP are provided using HPE Aruba part numbers to define required functionality and performance standards. Bidders may submit proposals using the baseline HPE Aruba models, Cisco Catalyst equivalents, or functionally equivalent hardware from alternative manufacturers. Any proposed alternative hardware must demonstrate full interoperability with the District's existing Cisco edge/closet infrastructure without requiring modifications to existing hardware.
4	HPE	S2P30A	**HPE Aruba Networking 10G SFP+ LC SR 400m OM4 MMF C-class Transceiver or equivalent** The District currently utilizes Cisco networking equipment for its core/switching infrastructure. Baseline specifications in this RFP are provided using HPE Aruba part numbers to define required functionality and performance standards. Bidders may submit proposals using the baseline HPE Aruba models, Cisco Catalyst equivalents, or functionally equivalent hardware from alternative manufacturers. Any proposed alternative hardware must demonstrate full interoperability with the District's existing Cisco edge/closet infrastructure without requiring modifications to existing hardware.

Project 2 – ER Network Rack overhaul

2	Tripp-Lite	SR45UBDP or equivalent	Tripp-Lite 4-Post Fully Enclosed Deep Server Rack
1	Vendor	Labor	**Project 2: ER Network Rack overhaul** • Assembly, positioning, and anchoring of (2) new deep server racks. •Horizontal/vertical cable management ducts/organizers. For two racks •Removal of old racks • Pre-migration connection tracing and labeling of all active data and fiber connections. • Unmounting existing core/edge networking hardware and re-mounting into new racks. •Removal, rerouting, dress, and re-installation of existing copper data cabling into new racks. • Removal, rerouting, dress, and re-installation of existing fiber cabling into new racks. • Rack cable management, patching, and configuration.

			• Post-installation connectivity testing and verification across all migrated connections. **Note: Physical cutover, cable migration, and core switch re-installation will require after hours or on weekends to eliminate daytime network downtime.**