REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

WIDE AREA NETWORK (WAN)

Sealed proposals subject to the conditions will be received until 2:00 p.m., January 4, 2027 for furnishing equipment, supplies & services described.

Regardless of cause, late proposals will not be accepted and will automatically be disqualified from further consideration. It shall be the vendor's sole risk to ensure delivery at the designated office by the designated date and time.

Delivery Instructions: (2) copies of the proposal shall be submitted in a sealed envelope and delivered to:

Brunswick County Schools
Attn: Technology Director
Technology Department
The Coast
1109 Old Ocean Highway
Bolivia, NC 28422

Include the Form 470 #270005419 on the outside of the proposal.

All questions shall be e-mailed to Debra Bair, dbair@bcswan.net and bcserate@bcswan.net.

Include the 470 #270005419 and description in the subject line of the e-mail.
Questions will be received until 3:00 p.m., December 4, 2026.

Questions and answers will be posted on the district website. The District will make every effort to provide answers prior to December 8, 2026.

E-mail and/or Faxed proposals will not be accepted. The Brunswick County School District is seeking to establish price agreements for a period of up to three years. Such an agreement is not an authorization to provide goods or services.

Public bid opening to be held on January 6, 2027, 10 am at Technology Department, 1109 Old Ocean Hwy, Bolivia, NC 28422.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

Pricing for the items contained within this proposal is for Leased Lit Fiber. The term of service for this proposal is from July 1, 2027 up to June 30, 2030. The prices for the items contained herein shall remain firm for the period to be stated in the agreement. This proposal must allow for future additional sites to be added at the proposed cost structure as well as no early termination fee if circuit is to be moved and/or facility closed or no longer run by Brunswick County Schools.

The service provider shall provide all fiber cabling, pathways and spaces to accommodate the fiber (i.e. conduit) and Ethernet equipment necessary to connect the District's sites. The service provider must provide the Brunswick County Schools E-Rate discounts on their bill. All E-Rate eligible monthly recurring charges for the service and any one-time costs for installation of the wiring or equipment shall be included in the Service Provider's proposal as separate line items. Proposal must include any taxes that will be applied. The costs of any ineligible E-Rate components that may be required (such as electrical power) shall be broken out separately.

According to E-Rate guidelines, ownership of the fiber, conduit or equipment will remain the property of the Telecom Carrier and will never transfer to the District and there will be no option to purchase the fiber, conduit or equipment in the future. The District's internal data communications system shall function without dependence on the Service Provider's equipment. Included in the Telecom Carrier's proposal must be all construction costs to bring in the fiber from the street to the District's established Carrier Demarcation point on each campus. Any conduit and trenching from the street to the Major Point of Entry (MPOE) must include replacement of conduit, pavement, and returning the ground to its original condition.

Pricing shall include all recurring and nonrecurring costs over the term of the contract with the vendor, including startup costs, installation fees, cabling fees, equipment costs, port fees, telecommunication costs, taxes, etc.

Notification of any planned service outages at least 3 business days in advance.

All vendors must provide information concerning data service, service transition, service outage support, E-Rate eligibility, cost, company information, references, and other services.

The District desires data services for 5 Gbps (with a physical 10 Gbps connection) at each school location and Brunswick County Board of Education location. The district desires data services for 10 Gbps at the Data Center South and Data Center North locations. The connection between the Data Centers for synchronization of shared resources should be 10 Gbps. All physical connections for the Data Center locations (including the synchronization link) should be physical 40 Gbps.

Provide a detailed description of the data service you propose based on the information included in Appendix A.

Provide the procedure that would be used if more bandwidth would be required by the District. Describe the ability of your service to provide more bandwidth.

The District desires a minimum of downtime during the transition from the existing Wide Area Network to the new system. The District requires that the Network be built out and ready for service by the beginning of the contract 07/01/2027. If services are not ready by 07/01/2027, provider will bear the costs of continuity of existing services until WAN is operational.

The proposal must be compliant with E-Rate guidelines.

Provide costs for all the services you propose, including tariffs, taxes, surcharges, set-up or installation fees and any equipment lease fees.

Specify the length of the proposed contract and any optional contract terms.

Provide information about your company and its experience with this type of service.

If subcontracting the installation or support services, provide information on the companies providing services.

Provide at least three (3) references to other customers for whom you have provided WAN services that are comparably sized K-12 school districts. Briefly describe the services provided.

Describe any other features of your proposal that may add value to the District's Wide Area Network and enhance service to its students or employees.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

All proposals must be signed with the firm name and by an officer or employee with authority to bind the quote firm (title of the signer should be indicated.) Obligations assumed by such signature must be fulfilled or firm shall be removed from District's active firm file.
All proposals shall be submitted in a form that clearly addresses each of the requirements listed. The proposal must include the Vendor's Service Provider Identification Number (SPIN) as issued by the Schools and Libraries Division of USAC as well as the 470 number. The price quoted must include all costs associated with the requirements listed, including all installation costs and taxes, if applicable.

All prices or notations must be typed or written in ink. Proposals written with pencil will not be accepted. Verify all proposals before submission, as no corrections will be permitted after the proposals are opened.

The successful vendor(s) shall not be held responsible for delays in performance of the contract caused by strikes, lockouts, labor disturbances, lack of or failure by

transportation, acts of the government or other causes similar to the foregoing which are beyond the control of and are not the fault of the vendor.

Background Check Compliance, Brunswick County Schools requires that all contractors that come into contact with District students must perform background checks of all contractors and its employees. The background check must be given to the District prior to commencing work on the project.

In no event shall the Contractor or any of its employees come into contact with the District's students before the certification is completed and approved by the District.

The District reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals; one or more items of the proposal and/or waive any irregularities or informalities in any proposal or in the proposal process. "All or nothing" bids will not be accepted.

The District reserves the right to evaluate, in its absolute discretion, the total proposal of each firm/contractor so as to select the supplies or equipment which best serves the needs and the best interest of the District.

Default by contractor. The District shall hold the firms(s) responsible for any damage that may be sustained because of failure or neglect to comply with any term or condition listed herein.

If the successful firm(s) fails or neglects to furnish or deliver any of the materials, supplies or services listed herein at the prices named and at the time and place herein stated, or otherwise fails or neglects to comply with the terms of the proposal, the District may, upon 30 day written notice to the firm by certified mail, cancel the Contract in its entirety or cancel or rescind any or all items affected by such default, and may, whether or not the contract is canceled in whole or in part, purchase the materials, supplies or services elsewhere without further notice to the firm.

SELECTION CRITERIA

All proposals shall be evaluated on the following criteria. Upon conclusion of a successful evaluation, a recommendation will be made to the Brunswick County Board of Education for award of proposal.

Criteria/Description

The District will select the most cost-effective means that the price should be the primary factor, but not the sole factor.

The following weighting of the factors listed below will be used in evaluating proposal responses:

FACTOR	WEIGHT
Price	30%
Service Transition	20%
Format and completeness of proposal	10%
Service Outage Support	10%
E-Rate Eligibility	10%
Technical evaluation of proposed services	10%
References	10%
Total	100%

The District Board of Education will award the contract for the Wide Area Network services within 60 working days after the Proposal deadline. The District intends to award the contract under the applicable North Carolina purchasing law.

Previous references and relevant experience with projects of similar size and function from other customers.

Appendix A

SITES AND BANDWIDTH REQUIREMENTS

DATA CENTERS – 10 Gbps

(Physical 40 Gbps)

Data Center South
1109 Old Ocean Hwy
Bolivia, NC 28422

Data Center North
114 Scorpion Drive
Leland, NC 28451

POINT TO POINT SYNCHRONIZATION LINK BETWEEN DATA CENTERS – 10 Gbps (Physical 40 Gbps)

Data Center South
The Coast
1109 Old Ocean Highway
Bolivia, NC 28422

And

Data Center North
North Brunswick High School
114 Scorpion Drive
Leland, NC 28451

All SITES BELOW 5 Gbps
(Physical 10 Gbps)

Brunswick County Board of Ed
35 Referendum Drive
Bolivia, NC 28422

Belville Elementary
575 River Road
Leland, NC 28451

Bolivia Elementary
4036 Business Hwy 17-E
Bolivia, NC 28422

Brunswick County Early College
50 College Road NE
Bolivia, NC 28422

Cedar Grove Middle School
750 Grove Trail SW
Supply, NC 28462

Jessie Mae Monroe Elementary School
250 Pea Landing Road NW
Ash, NC 28420

Leland Middle School
927 Old Fayetteville Road NE
Leland, NC 28451

Lincoln Elementary School
1664 Lincoln Road
Leland, NC 28451

North Brunswick High School
114 Scorpion Drive
Leland, NC 28451

Shallotte Middle School
225 Village Road
Shallotte, NC 28459

South Brunswick High School
280 Cougar Drive BSL
Southport, NC 28461

South Brunswick Middle School
100 Cougar Drive BSL
Southport, NC 28461

Southport Elementary School
701 West 9th Street
Southport, NC 28461

Supply Elementary School
51 Benton Road SE
Supply, NC 28462

The COAST
1109 Old Ocean Highway
Bolivia, NC 28422

Town Creek Elementary School
6330 Lake Park Dr SE
Winnabow, NC 28479

Town Creek Middle School
6370 Lake Park Drive SE
Winnabow, NC 28479

Union Elementary School
180 Union School Road NW
Shallotte, NC 28470

Virginia Williamson Elementary School
1020 Zion Hill Road
Bolivia, NC 28422

Waccamaw Elementary School
5901 Waccamaw School Road NW
Ash, NC 28420

West Brunswick High School
550 Whiteville Road NW
Shallotte, NC 28470

(Physical 2 Gbps)

Shallotte Warehouse
3680 Express Drive
Shallotte, NC 28470