



*"Schools that are the Pride of our Community"*

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Request for Proposals #1780-19

Wireless Infrastructure Project

ADDENDUM #1

February, 8<sup>th</sup> 2019

Q: Does the district have BYOD for staff and/or students?

A: We do not have BYOD at this time.

Q: Does the district have guest wireless in the schools?

A: Only at East Hartford High School due to poor cellular signal. The guest wireless only provides internet access and does not allow network connectivity to any local resources on our network.

Q: Does the district have PoE and/or PoE+ switches?

A: Yes. All schools have PoE+ switches currently installed.

Q: What is the current power load on the PoE switches?

A: This varies from school to school and network closet. The highest power consumption in the district on a single switch is around 160 watts while others are as low as 50 watts.

Q: Does the district have Cat 5e or Cat 6 wiring to the current access points?

A: There is a mix of both types but we do not have an inventory of the cabling types.

Q: Are the current access points 802.11ac?

A: Of the schools included in this project, 77 access points are 802.11n and 205 are 802.11ac

Q: Are you looking to keep or expand Meraki?

A: Due to recurring licensing costs, we are looking for other solutions.

Q: Are there extra Ethernet ports available in the classrooms?

A: Only in a small number of classrooms in district.

Q: Are wireless devices used for student testing in every building?

A: It varies from building to building. Testing on wireless devices is used mostly at EHMS, EHHS, and CIBA. Future device growth may require higher AP density and the design should account for future needs.

Q: Do the carts have their own individual access points?

A: They do not.

Q: Do you prefer to have the access points mounted above the drop ceiling or below?

A: Below the drop ceiling or wall mounted where necessary. We do not want any access points hidden in the ceiling going forward.

Q: Is there a management VLAN for the access points?

A: Yes

Q: Is the management VLAN stretched across the district?

A: No, the current management VLAN is local to each school.

Q: What model switches are currently installed?

A: Avaya/Extreme 3549GTS-PWR+ and Avaya/Extreme 3650GTS-PWR+

Q: What is the port availability on the switches?

A: This varies from site to site and will be discussed with the awarded vendor.

Q: How many SSIDs are broadcasted?

A: Most buildings have 2-3 SSIDs. The High School has 5.

Q: Do you require an on-premise controller or cloud-managed?

A: We prefer to have an on-premise controller, however we are open to design options.

Q: What problems are you experiencing with the current wireless?

A: Roaming between AP does not happen seamlessly. Devices may require a complete signal loss before connecting to a closer AP. Client sessions sometimes drop during the change. Lack of AP density needed for growth.

Q: Is outdoor wireless coverage needed?

A: We have not had any requests for outdoor wireless but would be interested in hearing any design solutions for outdoor coverage on EHMS and EHHS fields.

Q: Is wireless coverage in stairwells needed?

A: We do not have any requirements for coverage in stairwells.

Q: Is there a UPS in every closet?

A: Most closets do not have a UPS backup. Future plans may include outfitting every closet with some type of UPS backup.

Q: Are all interior walls concrete?

A: Most are concrete block but some may have folding partitions or drywall.

Q: Are additional switches required to be included in proposal?

A: No, but the vendor can include pricing for the two models listed above.

Q: What is the wireless device count at each school?

A: Approximately 100 wireless devices at each elementary, 700 at EHHS and 600 at EHMS.

Q: What are the device types?

A: Mostly Windows laptops, iPads are primarily at the elementary level, a small number of Chromebooks at one school.

Q: What model Meraki access points are being used?

A: MR16, MR18, MR32 and MR42

Q: Do you require spare replacement access points?

A: A small number of spares can be included in this proposal.

Q: Spares at each site or just somewhere within district?

A: Spares are not needed at every site. We can keep spares in a central location.

Q: Can we have a class room count broken down by building?

A: The awarded bidder will be provided with this information

Q: Can we have a common area list with max occupancy broken down by building? (Libraries, auditoriums, cafeterias, gyms)

A: The awarded bidder will be provided with this information

Q: Would we be allowed to set up a small batch of test APs to check coverage and validate design proposal at the schools prior to the RFP due date?

A: No, unfortunately we are unable to do this but will allow further discussion and proof of concept with the awarded bidder

Q: Can we be provided maps showing where all the current APs are located?

A: The awarded bidder will be provided with this information

Q: Is electronic submission accepted? (Envelope only stated on RFP)

A: The district requires that all proposals be sent in a sealed envelope

Q: Has it been approved by East Hartford Public Schools to provide floor plans with locations defined for each device including IDF/switch locations? Do you have the ceiling heights for the locations as well?

A: The awarded bidder will be provided with this information