



**Sterling Community School**  
251 Sterling Road  
Sterling, CT 06377

"Our mission is to foster a safe and  
engaging learning environment"

Telephone: (860) 564-2728  
Fax: (860) 564-1989  
Website: [www.sterlingschool.org](http://www.sterlingschool.org)

Susan Rourke, Interim Superintendent  
Cory Luba, IT Director

---

# INVITATION FOR PROPOSALS

## 2021 - 2022 Firewall

Sterling Community School is seeking proposals for the purchase of a new firewall and necessary maintenance and support contracts.

**Please return proposals to:**

Sterling Community School  
ATTN: Mr. Cory Luba  
251 Sterling Road  
Sterling, CT 06377

By Friday, April 8th, 2022

## **Overview**

Sterling Community School has approximately 350 students and 75+ faculty and staff members. The school currently has a 100 Mbps WAN broadband speed which is burstable to 1 Gbps (1000 Mbps) when needed. This is connected to a SonicWall NSA 3600 firewall. General bandwidth utilization during school averages between 50-125 Mbps and at night averages 5-10 Mbps. Peak utilization is as high as 600 Mbps, however this figure may be higher.

Our current connection utilizes a SFP to RJ45 connector which is connected to the Sonicwall unit. The SonicWall likewise is connected via Ethernet to our Meraki MS224-48FP switch. Current licenses are due to expire by December, and the district is interested in the purchase of this for the 2021 - 2022 school year to provide additional AV protection and the ability to utilize IPS/IDS, DPI, and SSL Inspection without it slowing down our current solution.

## **New Firewall**

Sterling Community School is currently seeking bids for FortiGate 100F/200F or equivalent firewall manufacturers with the ability to perform IPS/IDS, DPI, SSL Inspection, AV, and Content Filtering for the entire building while also being able to handle the burstable 1 Gbps internet connection. The bids should reflect a minimum of 3-5 years of maintenance and support through the manufacturer and all bids should include options which are user-friendly for configuration, reporting, and ideally are designed for education.

The school intends to utilize SFP for the entire handoff from the ISP and SFP+ to connect to our Meraki MS224-48FP switch. As far as additional requirements:

- Ability to setup/configure QoS to properly prioritize VOIP, RTT Applications, and other applications as needed.
- Should support the ability to perform SSL Inspection/Decryption
- LDAP Support to associate traffic to an individual user
- AV protection against common websites/threats.
- Ability to route traffic to and from multiple external IPs.
  - Route Staff/Students out separate IP Addresses
  - Host multiple websites with our available IP range, on separate IP Addresses.
- Ability to support 1 Gbps with all AV/Firewall features enabled.
- Must have a 3-5 year maintenance/support contract with the manufacturer.

District personnel will install and configure the firewall, although the ability to separately quote block-time for support would be greatly appreciated during our migration.