

Franklin County School District

Request for Proposals for Internal Connections

2025 Internal Connections Upgrade

41 First Street
P. O. Box 605
Meadville, Mississippi 39653

Telephone
601-384-2340

Fax
601-384-2393

<http://www.franklincountyschoolsms.com>

INTRODUCTION

Franklin County School District (FCSD) serves approximately 1,200 students at one elementary school, one middle school, one high school and a career and technical center. The school district has approximately 200 employees located at two campuses.

1.0 Objective

FCSD is seeking proposals from qualified vendors to replace and/or upgrade existing core switches and related network infrastructure for the Franklin County School District as described in this Request for Proposal ("RFP"). Addresses and locations are specified in Appendix "A". The purpose of this RFP is to obtain quotes/bids to replace 12 core switches, and related ancillary parts and equipment all of which are supported through and dependent on Internal Connections funding provided by E-Rate.

2.0 Background

The FCSD network infrastructure consists of Aruba/HP hardware.

2.1 Scope of Service

New switches will replace switches currently in place. **Work must be done between the dates of June 2, 2025 and July 20, 2025. Once work on the project begins, the vendor shall have ten (10) contiguous work days (excluding weekends) to complete the project. The entire project must be completed and in service by 3:00 p.m. on July 20, 2025.**

- 1) Vendor is responsible for configuring all devices. FCSD technical staff shall be consulted prior to making any and all changes to any FCSD networking equipment.
- 2) The vendor shall be physically on site to install and configure all components.
- 3) The vendor shall Unbox, assemble & install all components, mount in rack on-site & configure and setup hardware on-site as follows. Configuration shall meet current configuration of switches being replaced.
- 4) Vendor shall work with FCSD staff to keep disruption of educational activities to an absolute minimum.

5) All work not found in conformance with the intent of the proposal shall be repaired promptly at no additional charge to FCSD.

6) Any additional and/or replacement wiring, patch panels, terminators and/or patch cables not specified in this RFP, shall be supplied by the vendor at no cost to FCSD.

7) Vendor is responsible for all project management; this is to be a turn-key solution with involvement of FCSD staff limited to specification of network security parameters, VLAN definition, and installation of any needed services on FCSD-owned servers.

8) All components must be an exact match or equivalent of the hardware listed in this RFP, AND must be 100% COMPATABLE with the existing switches.

Specifications Overview

Qty.	Part #	Description
5	HR4H3E	HPE Foundation Care Exchange - Extended Service - 5 Year - Service - 24 x 7 x 4 Hour - Service Depot - Exchange
3	HR5J1E	HPE Foundation Care - Extended Warranty - 5 Year - Warranty - 24 x 7 x 4 Hour - Service Depot - Exchange
4	HR5S6E	HPE Foundation Care Exchange - Extended Service - 5 Year - Service - 24 x 7 x 4 Hour - Service Depot - Exchange
12	Q9Y80AAE	Aruba Central
24	J4858D	Aruba 1000Base LC SX 500m MMF Transceiver
3	J4859D	Aruba 1000Base LC LX 10km SMF Transceiver
12	J9150D	Aruba 10G SFP+ LC SR 300m MMF Transceiver (Stack)
1	J9151E	Aruba 10G SFP+ LC LR 10Km SMF Tansceiver
6	J9281D	Aruba 10G SFP+ to SFP+ 1m DAC Cable
18	JL085A#ABA	Aruba 6300M X371 12VDC 250W Power Supply INCLUDED: Power Cord - U.S. localization
6	JL086A#ABA	Aruba X372 54VDC 680W AC Power Supply INCLUDED: Power Cord - U.S. localization
2	JL485A	Aruba 25G SFP28 LC SR 400m MMF Transceiver (Up Link)
8	JL486A	Aruba 25G SFP28 LC LR 10km SMF Transceiver (Up Link)

5	JL658A	Aruba 6300M 24 Port SFP+ 4SFP56 Switch
3	JL662A	Aruba 6300M 24G CL4 PoE 4SFP56 Switch
4	JL663A	Aruba 6300M 48G 4SFP56 Switch
10	JL669A	Aruba 6300M Fan Tray
1		Installation and Configuration, (See 2.1 Scope of Service)

2.3 Warranties

All warranties by Vendor and manufacturer on both products and labor must be specified in the proposal. The Vendor's warranties shall commence with acceptance of/or payment for the work in full. Minimum acceptable warranty on hardware, parts, and labor; Extended Service - 5 Year - Service - 24 x 7 x 4 Hour - Service Depot – Exchange

2.4 Service

The Vendor must provide terms of service should repair become necessary for any work and materials needed that are not covered under warranty. Vendor must provide estimated response time for service.

3.0 Evaluation Methodology

Each proposal will be evaluated based on criteria and priorities as defined by FCSD, who will choose the submission that, taken as a whole, and in FCSD's sole opinion, is in the best interest of the school district. Proposals should address the evaluation criteria itemized below.

The evaluation criteria include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following:

- . Price for all parts, labor, design, project management, programming, and shipping and handling.
- . The proposal's alignment with the desired solution as described in section 2, above.
- . The Vendor's overall performance record, including responsiveness and reputation based upon feedback from available references.
- . The perceived quality of the Vendor's response, including completeness, accuracy and appropriateness.
- . Stability/risk of Vendor, including assessment of risk that they may not be able to fulfill responsibilities.
- . Vendor location for base of operations and support personnel.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

4.0 Response Submission

Responses to this RFP must be submitted and delivered to Franklin County School District

as "sealed bids" no later than 3:45 p.m. on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 ("Final Submission Date"). Proposals must include a digital copy on flash drive. Acceptable digital formats include Word, RTF or PDF. It is the sole responsibility of the respondents to ensure that their responses arrive in a timely manner. FCSD will reject all late arrivals. Envelopes containing responses to this RFP shall be so marked as to be easily identified as containing RFP proposals. The outside of the envelope shall be identified as follows:

"Internal Connections Upgrade"

Internal Connections Bid 2025
(2025-2026 E-Rate Funding
year)

SPIN # xxxxxxxxxxxx
Franklin County School District
Attn: Jack Hollingsworth
41 First Street
P.O. Box 605
Meadville, MS 39653

Proposals sent by USPS should be sent to P. O. Box 605.
Proposals sent by carriers such as UPS, FEDX, etc. should be sent to 41 First Street.
FCSD will not be responsible for late deliveries.

Oral, telephone, electronic mail or fax bids shall not be considered, nor will modifications of proposals by such communication be considered. The completed proposal shall be without erasures or alterations. Delivery of the proposals will be considered authorized by the service provider to make a contract, if awarded.

Responses to this RFP shall be itemized to include quantity, description, item numbers, model numbers, and cost of all products and services bid along with a grand total.

Any questions should be made in writing via e-mail to Jack Hollingsworth, jhollingsworth@fcsd.k12.ms.us, Director of Technology. All questions and answers will be posted on the FCSD website. <https://www.franklincountyschools.ms.com/rfps>

FCSD will not be liable for any cost incurred by the respondents in preparing responses to this RFP or negotiations associated with award of a contract.

4.2 Bid Opening Procedure

All bids will be opened at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, March 20, 2025. All bidders and other interested persons are invited to be present. Bid opening will take place at the Franklin County School District Central Office at 41 First Street, Meadville, Mississippi.

Vendors are welcomed to attend, but attendance is not mandatory. Lack of attendance will NOT be construed to indicate lack of interest nor will it reflect negatively on Vendor during review of proposals.

4.3 Omissions

Omissions in the proposal of any provision herein described shall not be construed as to relieve The Vendor of any responsibility or obligation to the complete and satisfactory delivery, operation, and support of any and all equipment or services. FCSD may at its discretion and at no fee to FCSD, invite any Vendor to be available for questioning during the Response evaluation for the purpose of clarifying statements in the response.

4.4 Right to Reject

FCSD reserves the right to accept or reject all proposals or sections thereof and when the rejection is in the best interest of FCSD and reserves the right to award without further discussion.

FCSD reserves the right to waive minor irregularities of any proposal and to negotiate the terms of any proposal.

4.5 Basis of Award

FCSD will award a contract based on the following terms:

- 1) E-rate approval by USAC.
- 2) Must have current USAC SPIN.
- 3) References of at least three (3) installations of similar application size and complexity. (All references should include: a contact person, dates of work, mailing address and telephone numbers.)
- 4) Proof of certifications and qualifications for all engineers and installers associated with this project.
- 5) Issuance of a Purchase Order will be contingent upon USAC acceptance and funding of the project.

4.6 Insurance Requirements

Within ten (10) days after notification of award, The Vendor shall furnish to the Franklin County School District a Certificate of Insurance showing compliance within the following limitations:

- 1) The Vendor agrees to comply with the provisions of Worker's Compensation Laws of the State of Mississippi.
- 2) It shall be stated on every policy or Certificate of Insurance, as the case may be, that "The insurance company agrees that the policy shall not be canceled, changed, or allowed to lapse until ten (10) days after the Franklin County School District has received written notice as evidenced by the return receipt of registered mail, and it is agreed further that as to lapsing, such notice will not be valid if mailed more than fifteen (15) days prior to the expiration date shown on the policy. "
- 3) The Vendor shall maintain other insurance (with the limits shown below) that shall protect The Vendor and the Franklin County School District from any claim for property damage or personal injury, including death, which may arise out of operations under this contract, and the Vendor shall furnish the Franklin County School District with certificates and policies of such insurance as follows.

Below is a list of the insurance coverage that must be procured by The Vendor at his own expense. The Vendor agrees to follow instructions indicated in each case:

The Franklin County School District Protective Liability Insurance:

.. Personal injury, including death, limits of \$1,000,000.00 for each person and \$1,000,000.00 for each accident.

Vendor's Public Liability Insurance:

.. Personal injury, including death, limits of \$1,000,000.00 for each person and \$1,000,000.00 for each accident.

.. Property Damage limits of \$100,000.00 for each accident
and \$500,000.00 for the aggregate.

Governing Law

All RFPs and related documents submitted to the Franklin County School District by the Vendor are governed under the laws of the State of Mississippi.

APPENDIX A

Addresses for locations

**Franklin County Lower Elementary
481 Hwy. 98 East
Meadville, MS 39653**

**Franklin County Upper
Elementary
409 Hwy 98 East
Meadville, MS 39653**

**Franklin County Middle School
236 Edison Street
Meadville, MS 39653**

**Franklin County High School
Or Special Services Department
P.O. Box 666
340 Edison Street South
Meadville, MS 39653**

**Franklin County Career and Technical Center
P.O. Box 155
129 Vo-Tech Lane
Meadville, MS 39653**