

TO: DR. WANDA BAMBERG, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

FROM: ANNE HAZZAN, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF FINANCE
 DR. ARCHIE BLANSON, DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT
 CYNTHIA BINGMAN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
 TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

RE: E-RATE YEAR 17 (7/1/14 – 6/30/15) INTERNAL CONNECTION PROJECTS
 FOR MIDDLE SCHOOLS

The “E-Rate” program of the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD) of the Universal Service Support Mechanism provides discounts to assist most schools and libraries in the United States to obtain affordable Telecommunications and Internet Access. Four service categories are funded: Telecommunications Services, Internet Access, Internal Connections and Internal Connections for Basic Maintenance. Discounts range from 20% to 90% of the cost of eligible services, depending on the level of poverty, defined by the SLD as students eligible to receive Free and Reduced Lunch and the urban/rural status of the population served.

Aldine ISD’s discount rate varies between 80% to 90% based on campus eligibility. This means Aldine pays 10% to 20% of the eligible portions and all of the ineligible portions of awarded projects if funded by the Schools and Libraries Division (SLD).

Applying for funding through E-Rate is similar to applying for a competitive grant. These monies are not guaranteed. In case Aldine does not receive funding, we budget local funds for essential services. The total grant value potential is **\$6,928,078.56**. If all projects are awarded, Aldine’s estimated matching funds would be **\$1,050,525.49**.

Requests for proposals (RFP) were sent to over 400 vendors on October 9th, 2013 by mail and over 350 by e-mail and a newspaper ad was listed in the Houston Chronicle on October 21st and October 28th, 2013.

The following proposal contracts will begin July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 unless funding is delayed. In this case, the contract will commence when funding is approved.

Summary of Year 17 E-Rate - Vendor Selection						
RFP Description	Company	Disc.%	SLD's Portion (estimate portion)	Aldine's Portion (estimate portion)	Total Project Cost	
IC-01-Y17 Aldine Middle School Infrastructure Upgrade	AT&T	90%	\$453,531.50	\$50,392.39	\$503,923.89	**
	Fisk Electric	90%	\$1,726,041.73	\$280,211.12	\$2,006,252.85	
	Genesis BCS	90%	\$1,614,117.74	\$232,276.77	\$1,846,394.51	
	Solid IT Networks	90%	\$1,599,985.75	\$220,376.12	\$1,820,361.87	*

Summary of Year 17 E-Rate - Vendor Selection

RFP Description	Company	Disc. %	SLD's Portion (estimate portion)	Aldine's Portion (estimate portion)	Total Project Cost	
IC-02-Y17 Drew Academy School Infrastructure Upgrade	AT&T	90%	\$146,993.50	\$16,332.61	\$163,326.11	**
	Fisk Electric	90%	\$558,622.13	\$115,782.91	\$674,405.04	
	Genesis BCS	90%	\$619,992.86	\$98,086.80	\$718,079.66	
	Solid IT Networks	90%	\$506,615.84	\$86,872.84	\$593,488.68	*
IC-04-Y17 Hambrick Middle School Infrastructure Upgrade	AT&T	90%	\$263,281.01	\$29,253.45	\$292,534.45	**
	Fisk Electric	90%	\$622,967.10	\$181,586.11	\$804,553.21	*
	Genesis BCS	90%	\$368,554.10	\$105,930.36	\$474,484.46	**
	Solid IT Networks	90%	\$757,117.24	\$139,332.09	\$896,449.33	
IC-05-Y17 Hoffman Middle School Infrastructure Upgrade	AT&T	80%	\$196,752.16	\$49,188.04	\$245,940.20	**
	Fisk Electric	80%	\$669,944.38	\$252,525.29	\$922,469.67	
	Genesis BCS	80%	\$690,725.18	\$219,411.64	\$910,136.82	
	Solid IT Networks	80%	\$657,986.14	\$199,248.13	\$857,234.27	*
IC-06-Y17 Lewis Middle School Infrastructure Upgrade	AT&T	90%	\$255,636.49	\$28,404.05	\$284,040.54	**
	Fisk Electric	90%	\$822,720.71	\$155,036.12	\$977,756.83	**
	Genesis BCS	90%	\$493,286.38	\$82,442.75	\$575,729.13	**
	Solid IT Networks	90%	\$889,139.98	\$125,091.58	\$1,014,231.56	*

Summary of Year 17 E-Rate - Vendor Selection						
RFP Description	Company	Disc.%	SLD's Portion (estimate portion)	Aldine's Portion (estimate portion)	Total Project Cost	
IC-07-Y17 Plummer Middle School Infrastructure Upgrade	AT&T	90%	\$229,024.58	\$25,447.18	\$254,471.76	**
	Fisk Electric	90%	\$809,123.19	\$145,004.31	\$954,127.50	
	Solid IT Networks	90%	\$768,739.82	\$107,612.49	\$876,352.31	*
IC-09-Y17 Stovall Middle School Infrastructure Upgrade	AT&T	90%	\$275,913.42	\$30,657.05	\$306,570.47	**
	Fisk Electric	90%	\$890,443.65	\$229,634.81	\$1,120,078.46	
	Genesis BCS	90%	\$1,024,250.11	\$183,765.22	\$1,208,015.33	
	Solid IT Networks	90%	\$832,118.44	\$129,738.22	\$961,856.66	*
			\$5,877,553.07	\$1,050,525.49	\$6,928,078.56	

All proposals received were evaluated by the Instruction Technology Specialist for the proposed campus and the Technology Services Department. Each proposal was evaluated by six individuals with a scoring range of 0 – 100 and a total possible score of 600 with price weighing higher than any other single factor.

* I recommend Solid IT Networks for Aldine Middle School Upgrade, Drew Academy School Upgrade, Hoffman Middle School Upgrade, Lewis Middle School Upgrade, Plummer Middle School Upgrade, Stovall Middle School Upgrade and Fisk Electric for Hambrick Middle School Upgrade. The proposal contracts will begin July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015 unless funding is delayed. In this case, the contract will commence when funding is approved.

** Did not meet RFP specifications.

Recommendation: I join Mrs. Hazzan, Dr. Blanson and Mrs. Bingman in recommending the proposals for E-Rate Year 17 be awarded as outlined above.