



**PALO VERDE**  
**Unified School District**

*"Improving Learning... Together"*

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**Palo Verde Unified School District**  
**Request For Proposal - 2018-WAN**  
**Questions and Answers**  
**2/9/2018**

Your current WAN is a customized private wide area network specially designed and engineered to provide Palo Verde USD with unparalleled resiliency, reliability, security and scalability not found in "Switched Metro E" service offerings. Your current WAN is designed with dedicated individual strands of fiber from your district office to all of the WCSD entities. There is no other third party traffic on the entire network. There are no third party electronics to provide failure points and decrease performance. There is no off-site telco central office or cable head end. We assume that you want to continue with a dedicated network with individual fiber strands connecting all of your district sites?

The District is accepting bids for leased lit fiber or equivalent digital transmission services. Please refer to the RFP and Addendum for technical specifications. Bidders are encouraged to provide detailed descriptions of their service offerings in response to this RFP. Evaluation of the merit of the proposed solution(s) will occur when bids are reviewed by the District after the close of this RFP.

We assume that you would like symmetrical (CIR) bandwidth to each location (10 Gb is a full 10 Gb to all sites and not shared or switched)? No throttling of bandwidth or network over-subscription?

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We assume that you require a carrier grade Service Level Agreement that provides at a minimum?:

- a. Network Availability > 99.999%
- b. End to end jitter < 5 ms
- c. End to end latency < 2 ms
- d. Bit-Error Rate < 0.1%
- e. MTTR < 4 hours

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We assume that require a Customer Web Portal to view real time the network performance matrixes such as circuit status, bandwidth utilization, latency and jitter reports?

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You request bandwidth of up to 10Gb. The State Educational Technology Directors Association (SETDA) recommends a minimum of 10 Gb per district location today. We assume that is 10 Gb to every WCS D location simultaneously?

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Do you require on-demand bandwidth increases during the term of the contract?

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Do you have an existing network diagram? If so, please attach.

We do not have a network diagram to share in conjunction with this RFP.

What is the make and model of the networking equipment you have at your Hub Site?

Please refer to the RFP for this information.

What is the make and model of the networking equipment you have at each of your schools / locations?

Please refer to the RFP for this information.

Do you currently have conduit entrances to your facilities?

Per the RFP it will be the responsibility of the bidder to become informed of all conditions under which work is to be done before submitting proposals. The job walk scheduled on Wednesday, January 31, 2018 was for the purpose of bidders to become acquainted with the sites, hardware, and entrance facilities. Should a bidder wish to visit sites for this purpose, please contact Steve Currier.

Who should we contact with additional questions about your network equipment? (sometimes Districts have us contact their equipment VAR or IT services provider)

This RFP is for a Wide Area Network and not network equipment. Per the RFP instructions all inquiries are to be submitted in writing to [scurrier@pvusd.us](mailto:scurrier@pvusd.us).

Our solutions offer free upgrades up to 100G with no additional cost or contract extensions. Will you accept proposals for speeds above what you requested in the 470/RFP?

Please refer to the FCC Form 470 and RFP for the requested specifications.

Special Construction - USAC is making special funds available to pay for fiber construction, which can lower the District's recurring costs. Are you interested in seeing options taking advantage of this program?

[Please refer to the FCC Form 470 and RFP for the requested specifications and E-rate requirements.](#)

With speeds up to 100Gbps and free upgrades on a 100% Private Fiber Network, many Districts choose to extend their contract term to achieve lower costs. What would additional term lengths your District consider?

[Please refer to the RFP and all State of California contracting code requirements for public school districts.](#)

Many Districts are issuing two 470s. One for Month-to-month services and another for their long-term needs. This helps "negotiate" with the current vendor or any provider that is able to offer short-term services in advance of switching and eases the transition timeline.

[This does not appear to be a question. Rather, it appears that the vendor is submitting unsolicited guidance on what an applicant should post on its FCC Form 470. This is against program rules; please refer to USAC guidance published at <http://www.usac.org/sl/service-providers/step02/default.aspx>.](#)

Network performance guarantees. How will the District score proposals on their Network Performance Guarantees and Service Level Agreements (SLAs)? Such as throughput, latency, packet loss

[Please refer to the RFP for the description of the evaluation process.](#)

How will the District score solutions that offer Dedicated Fiber and no shared equipment relative to solutions that have shared fiber and equipment and likely oversubscribed networks?

[Please refer to the RFP for the description of the evaluation process](#)

When do you plan on making a decision?

[Please refer to the RFP for the Schedule of Events.](#)

If construction of a new fiber network won't be complete by 7/1/2018, do you have the option to go month-to-month with your current provider?

[The District is not seeking month-to-month services with this FCC Form 470.](#)