Habersham County – 2020 Switch Upgrade
Form 470 #200001868
Questions and Answers Document
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The switches identified in "Attachment A, Site specific equipment", are these switches standalone or are they being stacked with existing HPe stacks?
They will be added to existing stacks.

What grade of fiber is used at each site to uplink the IDF to the MDF?
The links are already established between the network closets. Added stacking switches will be added to existing stacks. Added chassis switches will be uplinked to existing fiber switches per the RFP (page 12 section 3.1 of the RFP).

What type of termination is used in the Fiber-Housing?
The links are already established between the network closets. Added stacking switches will be added to existing stacks. Added chassis switches will be uplinked to existing fiber switches per the RFP (page 12).

Would HCBOE entertain a switch capable of supporting IEEE 802.3bz standard of 1Gbps, 2.5Gbps, and 5Gbps over ethernet?
Vendors can submit more than one proposal but please make each a completely separate proposal with separate pricing sheet. Also refer to section 4.0 functional equivalents in the RFP (page 12).

Please confirm that Layer 3 routing is not required on these switches?
The switches listed in Attachment A do require support for Layer 3 routing protocols.

Am I permitted to quote two solutions, ie. I could bid Aruba/Cyberpower and then also bid another switch and power manufacturer?
Yes but please make each a completely separate proposal with separate pricing sheet.

Do you award all three phases (Switches, power and installation) to one partner or as an example someone could win the switch and power part and someone else wins the services part?
We reserve the right to award it to two different vendors if it is in our best interest, but one vendor is preferred.

What is driving the upgrade to new infrastructure?
Replacing old equipment with new equipment that is faster and more secure.

Are there any specific issues you are trying to resolve by this upgrade?
No.

What are IT staff capabilities for supporting various manufacturers i.e. Aruba, Cisco, Meraki, Fortinet etc.
Current staff are most familiar with Aruba brand of switches

Will the work be done during off peak hours and vacation time or will this be a hot cut?
It really depends on when funding is received in respect to the school calendar at that time. It may be necessary to perform work after 3pm if school breaks are not available.

What will be the timeframe in which this project will need to be started and finished i.e. during summer vacation, over 8 weeks, from M-F, working 9AM- 5PM etc.
Please see section 7.01 on page 6 of the RFP.

Will the equipment be delivered to a central location for staging and burning and then delivered to various school buildings from there? If so, will the SD be able to provide the shipping or does the shipping cost needs to be borne by the bidder?
The district has a shipping dock and receiving area that could be used as a central location for delivery of all of the hardware and assembly or staging before delivery to the schools. The costs of all shipping should be included in the response (please refer to page 9 of the RFP, "Associated Charges").

What layer 2 and layer 3 protocols are presently in use that need to be accommodated by the new equipment? Layer 3 routing protocols. Please refer to the RFP.

Will the SD receive, inventory, and label the equipment on their own before handing over to the bidder for deployment and implementation?
The district has a shipping dock and receiving area that could be used as a central location for delivery of all of the hardware and assembly or staging before delivery to the schools. District could supply inventory tags for equipment as it is deployed to the receiving schools.

Will the SD be able to provide the rack elevations of current and new equipment once the bill of materials is finalized?
Existing racks will be used for installation of new equipment (Part III Section 1.0 of the RFP).