

**PHENIX CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Request for Proposal (RFP)
SALT WATER AQUARIUMS**

Bid Opening Date & Time: Thursday, December 10, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. (Eastern Time)

I. MISCELLANEOUS

<p>A. The Phenix City School District/Board of Education intends to award a contract to purchase SALT WATER AQUARIUMS with the most responsive bidder offering a proposal that is deemed the most acceptable and advantageous to the Phenix City School District.</p>
<p>B. The Phenix City School District will accept sealed bids to provide the specified products beginning no earlier than December 3, 2015.</p> <p>If the vendor proposes state contract or government contract/schedule pricing, the awarded contract with Phenix City School District MUST be a standalone contract for the requested period that is not dependent on the renewal of any other contract.</p>
<p>C. Vendors with questions regarding bid specifications must submit their questions in writing to Angel Wilson, at angel.wilson626@gmail.com, not later than December 3, 2015. Questions received by any other manner will not be accepted.</p>
<p>D. Any changes, additions, or modifications to the bid request and any questions and answers (Q&A) related to this solicitation will be posted to the Phenix City School District website at www.pcboe.net/stembids.</p> <p>It is the responsibility of the vendor to check the website periodically and before submitting a bid for any changes to the bid request.</p>
<p>E. Sealed bids must be submitted in two (2) printed copies and must arrive prior to the bid opening scheduled for Thursday, December 10, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. (Eastern Time), at the Phenix City School District Board of Education, P.O. Box 460, 1212 9th Avenue, Phenix City, AL 36868.</p> <p>The envelope/container must be marked “Bid No. GF-1604 SALT WATER AQUARIUMS” on the front and “SEALED BID DO NOT OPEN” on the seal. If mailed or hand delivered, address to Attention: Randy Wilkes at the address listed above.</p> <p>Any late bids will not be opened or considered. No faxed or electronic bids will be accepted.</p> <p><i>Failure to provide the information requested in this RFP in the requested format is reason for disqualification, without consideration.</i></p>
<p>F. Specifications or qualifications are not intended to eliminate any reputable manufacturer, brand or bidder. Reference to manufacturers, brand names, suppliers catalog numbers, specification of qualifications, etc., is intended to set quality and features standards and does NOT exclude bids from others. Any bid containing the referenced products/services “or equivalent” will be accepted as long as the standards are met. When quoting equivalent products/services, the bidder should provide information substantiating the standards have been met.</p>
<p>G. Vendors must complete and submit the Bid Response Form included with this document, as a minimum, for submitting their bid pricing and company information, as well as all other requested documentation.</p> <p>The Vendor’s bid may include additional quote pages in the vendor’s preferred format. However, all pricing must be entered in the Bid Response Form, as a minimum, to enable the District to compare pricing from all bidders using the same form. Reference statements, such as “See Page XX,” “Refer to Page XX,” etc. must not be entered in the Bid Response Form. If proposing additional options or services, the vendor should provide pricing, as a minimum, using the Bid Response Form format.</p>

<p>H. Bid price is to be all-inclusive (including taxes, fees, licenses, delivery, etc.) with no allowable additional costs to Phenix City School District. Prices shall be good for the length of this contract and all extensions. Any sites added to the district during the term of this contract and all extensions will be covered by the awarded contract at the same rates.</p>
<p>I. Price quotations are to include the furnishing of all materials, equipment, maintenance and training manual, tools, and the provision of all labor and services necessary or proper for the delivery of the products and/or services to Phenix City School District.</p>
<p>J. If a bid differs in any way from the bid specifications, the vendor must list the differences on the Bid Response Form in the Exceptions to Specifications and/or Comments section telling exactly where and how the bid deviates from said specifications. If no exceptions are listed, it will be presumed the vendor proposes to meet all specifications in every respect; and if awarded the contract, performance on this basis will be required.</p>
<p>K. The final awarding of this bid will be made by the Phenix City School District/Board of Education based on a recommendation from the Superintendent.</p>
<p>L. The Phenix City School District reserves the right to reject any and all bid proposals, waive any technicalities, and award all or part of the contract in a manner that is in the best interest of Phenix City School District, if deemed necessary.</p>
<p>M. Phenix City School District will review all proposals for service utilizing guidelines outlined by the Alabama State Bid Law.</p>
<p>N. It is the bidder's responsibility to comply with all local, state and federal laws applicable within the context of this bid.</p>
<p>O. Phenix City School District is exempt from all sales and use taxes under the provisions of Title 40, Chapter 23, Section 4 (15), Code of Alabama, 1975.</p>
<p>P. Contracts over \$10,000 require compliance with Equal Employment Opportunity Regulations, The Clean Air Act, The Clean Water Act and Environmental Protection Agency Regulations.</p>
<p>Q. The Phenix City School District is an equal educational opportunity agency and prohibits discrimination in any of its educational programs, including employment, on the basis of sex, race, religion, national origin, color, age or any handicapping condition. The Board of Education complies fully with the provisions of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the appropriate Department of Education regulations.</p>
<p>R. Vendor must have been in continuous business for a minimum of three (3) years.</p>
<p>S. Phenix City School District reserves the right to cancel the contract with the vendor for nonperformance at any time during the contract period. Nonperformance will be considered a breach of contract and includes, but is not limited to; failure to supply good quality products, failure to provide products for the full term of the contract, incompatibility of proposed products with existing district network equipment, poor delivery, poor billing and customer service, and failure to maintain status as an authorized representative of these products. If the contract is cancelled for nonperformance, Phenix City School District will re-award the contract to the vendor that received the next highest point value in the bid evaluation (if multiple bids were received). If no other bids were received the district will seek products/services from another cost effective provider.</p>
<p>T. Alabama Act No. 2012-491 now requires school boards to include the following clause in all contracts or agreements: "By signing this contract, the contracting parties affirm, for the duration of the agreement, that they will not violate federal immigration law or knowingly employ, hire for employment, or continue to employ an unauthorized alien within the state of Alabama. Furthermore, a contracting party found to be in violation of this provision shall be deemed in breach of the agreement and shall be responsible for all damages resulting therefrom."</p>

U. This bid and any resulting contract does not restrict Phenix City Schools from purchasing these or other SALT WATER AQUARIUMS products from other vendors.

V. All requirements specified in this RFP and the vendor's bid response become part of any awarded contract.

Failure to provide any of the information requested in this solicitation, in the requested format, or to meet any of the criteria outlined herein is reason for disqualification without consideration.

II. REQUIREMENT SPECIFICATIONS

- A. Description of Requirements:** Phenix City School District is seeking unique, state-of-the-art SALT WATER AQUARIUMS to adorn the new Phenix City School Stem Center in Phenix City, Alabama.
- a. The Salt Water Aquariums, located in room 103, will be custom designed, shatterproof, acrylic tanks. All the systems are created as free-standing systems, with 2 going against walls and the large Saltwater tank will be a walk around tank in the middle of the room.
 - b. The vendor will build and paint the cabinetry for the two smaller tanks and be responsible for building the metal stands for structural integrity on the larger system.
 - c. Hecht Burdeshaw Architects. Inc. and their clients, under direct supervision of Bidder, will supply the wood craftsman to create the floor-to-ceiling encasement of river tank.
 - d. The aquarium's decorative stand will measure approximately 30" - 36" tall off the ground allowing more comfortable viewing of aquariums while both standing and sitting.
 - e. The canopies will give easy access to the aquariums for feeding and maintenance while being virtually childproof.
 - f. The stands and canopies will match the tank's unique shape giving each unit an elegant, integrative appeal.
 - g. The filtration systems for the 3 saltwater systems in Room 103 will lie away from the patrons viewing, underneath each system and their lighting components will be encased in the canopies above each tank.
 - h. Bidder will provide Phenix City Schools with all equipment that is necessary to help with the care of their aquatic species.
 - i. The aquariums' life support system is accessed unobtrusively through the inside of each tank by intricately created overflow systems built into the rear corners, middle of or back of the tanks, and will consist of only the most efficient and reliable equipment existing in the field today.
 - j. The filtration process begins by passing water through their respective, unobtrusive overflow systems built into the tank, directly into the external wet-dry filter underneath each of the three Saltwater Tanks.
 - k. This state-of-the-art wet-dry filter with its large sump area enables the aquarium to have a constant level of water while normal evaporation will occur in this sump only. In addition, the trickle filter efficiently removes the natural buildup of NH₃ and NO₂ while subsequently saturating the water with oxygen. Built in to this filter is a chemical chamber filled with activated carbon and other polymeric absorbents which remove tank pollutants and maintain crystal clear water. Next, the pump will drive the water from the wet-dry into a canister mechanical filter which will extract suspended debris from the water down to 20 microns in size. For the three Saltwater Systems only, to aid in the removal of numerous noxious dissolved organic molecules that accumulate in captive marine systems, a venturi protein skimmer will be placed in line. As fine air bubbles rise against the flow of aquarium water waste molecules with hydrophilic and hydrophobic ends attach themselves to the air-water interface on the air bubbles and collect as a thick foam in the waste cup. To maintain the necessary dissolved oxygen levels and properly filter the water an aquarium must have its contents pass through the filtration system a minimum of 6 - 8 times an hour. Therefore, the water will be returned to all aquariums via a large, external water pump GPH rated to meet these requirements.
 - l. Above the SALT WATER AQUARIUMS will hang an efficient lighting system to illuminate the aquarium. Depending on the size of system and depth of tank, options include high intensity metal halide lighting using 14,000 kelvin bulb which adds a clear blue hue to the aquarium allowing the fish to show off their vibrant colors. Standard fluorescent bulbs, compact fluorescents and LED lighting may also be used in the displays. All lights will be placed on automatic control using digital timers.
 - m. In Room 103, the Saltwater Tank room, the vendor will use their artistry to create 3 different museum-style, sculptured rock and coral backdrops completely covering the centered overflow boxes for the large center of room tank and back walls of the two smaller corner tanks. These saltwater systems backdrops will include an array of the highest grade of skeleton coral including, but not limited to blue ridge, red pipe organ, brown stem cluster coral, staghorn, lettuce, finger and table coral, arranged purposefully on a bed of yellow or black beach sand. Various sea fans and decorative rocks from the quarries of the mid-west including sandstones, petrified woods, lace rock, colored sodalite, jaspers, and quartz, intermingled with the corals listed above will be utilized to create these unique underwater worlds.
 - n. Leave approximately 1 month time on site to create the three environments.
 - o. The vendor will create a beneficial bacteria colony within the filter, prior to the systems installation, enables the tank to be immediately stocked with an initial load of exotic marine animals without a cycling period. The color, shapes, sizes and variety of species of saltwater animals available are innumerable.
 - p. The vendor will create a predator tank in the large Saltwater system using shark, lionfish, groupers, large angelfish, moray eels etc....

- q. The two smaller systems will house the more diminutive species from the Caribbean and from the waters of Hawaii i.e., Royal Grammas, cardinalfish, Centropyge dwarf angelfish, fire-fish, clownfish, tangs etc..
- r. The vendor will provide PCIS with all supplies for the maintenance of these systems, salt mix, carbon, and saltwater dry and frozen food as needed.

B. The following table identifies the specific requirements, by location:

ROOM 103 - SALTWATER SYSTEM'S MATERIALS:

- 3 - Custom Acrylic Tanks
 - Custom Metal Structural Stand large tank
- 2 - Custom Wood/Painted stand & canopy
- 3 - Custom wet-dry trickle filters
- 3 - Venturi protein skimmers
- 2- IWAKI 100 RLT water pumps
- 2- IWAKI 70 RLT water pumps
- 4 - Lifeguard 25 sq. ft. mechanical Filters
 - PVC pipe, fittings, valves, & hoses
 - Automatic timers
 - Electrical cord
 - Coralife Marine salt mix for all systems
 - LED Lighting - all systems
 - Golden or White sand base
 - Complete displays of coral and rocks
 - Initial Supply of Frozen and Dry food
 - Complete Marine fish Stocking all aquariums
(approximately 75 – 100 fish)

Service

- Complete systems design & installations
- Cabinetry Design and Consultation
- On site creation of rock & coral backdrops
- Multiple Deliveries of Fish
- Follow-up care for the first six months

Tank

- A 550 gallon racetrack shaped acrylic aquarium measuring 96" long x 36" deep x 36" tall.
- A 100 gallon ¼ of a pie bowed front acrylic corner aquarium with 27" legs x 30" tall.
- A 150 gallon pentagon shaped acrylic corner tank with 36" legs x 30" tall.

C. All items quoted shall be new, packed in manufacturers original containers, and shall meet or exceed the specifications as written. All items are to be quoted F.O.B. to the customer's specified location. The title and risk of loss of the goods will not pass to the Board, departments, or local schools until receipt and acceptance takes place at the F.O.B. point.

All items quoted shall be delivered within sixty days after vendor receipt of purchase order.

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| D. Vendor Warranty. There must be a minimum one (1) year warranty on all items quoted and the bidder shall state the manufacturers standard warranty period offered with each item quoted. |
| E. During the contract period and any/all extensions, if quoted products become end-of-life or obsolete before the product is ordered for delivery, the vendor will be required to deliver the approved replacement/substitution product in place of the quoted product upon approval from the Superintendent. |
| F. The vendor must provide a reference list of at least three (3) customers where the vendor is currently providing the proposed products to a customer with a similar number of sites. The reference list shall include the contact name, phone number, mailing and email address, the products and services provided, and the number of supported sites per customer reference. |

Failure to provide any of the information requested in this solicitation, in the requested format, or to meet any of the criteria outlined herein is reason for disqualification without consideration.

III. BASIS OF AWARD

In keeping with State and Federal guidelines, a contract will be awarded to the most cost effective provider who submits a complete and accurate submittal that meets the stated requirements. Price of the eligible products and services will be the primary factor, but not necessarily the sole factor, in evaluating the bids. Other factors of consideration may be but are not limited to price of the ineligible products and services; compatibility; quality of product/services; prior experience, including past performance, personnel and company qualifications, including technical excellence; management capability, including schedule compliance; environmental objectives; and flexibility of leasing terms and arrangements. Phenix City School District does not guarantee award of a contract and reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

These factors as well as others may be utilized in weighing the RFP responses as follows:

This bid will NOT be awarded on an item-by-item basis.

IV. REQUIRED CONTENTS OF BID AND ATTACHMENTS

The following checklist is only a guideline and may not be all inclusive; it is the responsibility of each vendor/bidder to read and comply with the Request for Proposal in its entirety.

- A) Completed Bid Response Form (All pages)
- B) Signed Compatibility Certification
- C) Specializations &/or Certifications (or a brief description of qualifications) & Reseller Status, as appropriate
- D) References

Failure to provide any of the information requested in this solicitation, in the requested format, or to meet any of the criteria outlined herein is reason for disqualification without consideration.

**PHENIX CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
SALT WATER AQUARIUMS
Bid Opening Date & Time: December 10, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. (Eastern Time)**

BID RESPONSE FORM

Name of Firm: _____

Address of Firm: _____

Representative's Name (Type or Print): _____

*Authorized Signature: _____

Date: _____ Telephone: (____) _____

E-mail: _____

Number of Years in Business: _____

***Signature certifies the proposed products and services meet all requirements outlined in this solicitation and the vendor will comply with all specified requirements unless exceptions are noted below.**



EXCEPTIONS TO SPECIFICATIONS AND/OR COMMENTS
(Attach additional pages if needed)

Compatibility Certification

TO: The Phenix City School Board of Education, Phenix, AL

This is to certify that the proposed products are compatible with the Phenix City School District existing SALT WATER AQUARIUMS identified in Section II.A of this RFP.

VENDOR:

Name of Firm: _____

Printed Name, Signature and Title of Authorized Representative of the Vendor

Printed Name: _____

*Signature: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____