

West Aurora School District 129

Request for Information: HCI



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Introduction

1.0 West Aurora School District 129 seeks proposals for Hyperconverged Infrastructure solutions.

1.1 The District currently utilizes physical and virtual servers (using Hyper-V) at two locations, the primary data center at 1877 W Downer Place in Aurora, IL as well as the secondary data center at West Aurora High School at 1201 W New York St, Aurora, IL.

1.1.1 Physical Servers, primary data center: 7

3 Dell R630 Cluster Nodes

Dual Xeon E5-2670 Processors @ 2.3 GHZ

256 GB Memory

10 GB Intel X520 network adapters

1 Lenovo RD350 Domain Controller

1 Lenovo RD350 SCCM

1 Dell DL4300 Rapid Recovery Backup server

Admin Backup Server data protected

15.5 TB Compressed to 8.7 TB

1 HP DL380 PRTG Server

1.1.2 Virtual Server's, primary data center: 41

1.1.3 Physical Servers, secondary data center: 5

3 Dell R630 Cluster Nodes

Dual Xeon E5-2670 Processors @ 2.3 GHZ

256 GB Memory

10 GB Intel X520 network adapters

1 Lenovo RD350 Domain Controller

1 Dell DL4300 Rappid Recovery Backup server

West Backup Server data protected

16.3 TB Compressed to 11 TB

1.1.4 Virtual Server's, secondary data center: 24

1.2 The District uses 2 Compellent SC4020 SAN's

Current Disk space Used not allocated on physical servers listed and virtual servers

17.5 TB

Current Total SAN disk space used between both SC 4020's including snapshots

43.5 TB

Background

2.0 West Aurora School District serves the west side of Aurora, as well as parts of North Aurora, and Montgomery. West Aurora High School, the district’s only high school, graduated its first class in 1870, the district itself was founded in 1838 and assumed the name “West Aurora 129” in 1902.

2.1 The drivers for this RFP are as follows:

- 2.1.1 The district is reaching the end of the lease period on the current equipment and wishes to buy that gear and use it to establish a failover storage environment at West Aurora High School.
- 2.1.2 While user storage has largely been moved off site into Google’s cloud, the district needs to maintain local storage for users.
- 2.1.3 The district also seeks to upgrade its backup solution as a part of this project. Backup Solution must follow the 3-2-1 Rule and be able to connect, manage, and control retention policy times with cloud backups.

2.2 District 129 IT staff

2.2.1 The district’s IT staff is comprised of 11 people, one of which manages and maintains the server and on prem storage environment.

2.2.1.1 Staff composition:

- 2.2.1.1.1 Director of technology, Systems manager, network manager, IT operations manager, network technician, low voltage technician, field support technicians (5x)

2.3 District IT facilities

- 2.3.1 The districts primary business systems (student information system and ERP systems) are not hosted on prem.
- 2.3.2 The district is comprised of 20 locations, 18 of which house students. The schools are connected to the district’s primary data center by 1Gbps WAN connections (elementary schools and transportation office) and 10Gbps connections (middle and high schools, district office).
- 2.3.3 The district’s primary data center is located at the district office.

Contact Information and Definitions

3.0 In the following document, the terms “WASD,” “SD129,” “The District,” etc., shall mean West Aurora School District 129.

3.1 “Proposer” shall mean organizations proposing Firewall solutions to West Aurora School District 129.

3.2 Contact information: contacts via email may be sent to RFI2020@sd129.org.

Timeline

Selection Process Step	Estimated Date(s)
RFI Published	11/19/19
Vendor evaluation period	11/19/19-12/30/19

Final Date for question submittal/Vendor Meetings	12/21/19
Final date to publish responses to questions	1/15/20
Information and quotes due	2/21/20
Vendor demonstration meetings/POC's	2/24/20-4/13/20
Final vendor selection/Estimated approval	5/18/20
Implementation start	7/1/20

Scope of Work/Solution Requirements

- 4.0 The purpose of this Request for Information is to solicit vendors for information on a storage solution that will meet West Aurora School District 129's IT current storage needs and support growth in storage needs for 5 years.
- 4.1 Proposals should include at least 80TB, but pricing for 100TB should be provided as well.
- 4.2 The solution should include physical storage devices as well as software and training for the use of the devices.
- 4.3 The device must meet the following general requirements:
- 4.3.1 RPO can be up to 24 hours but will not exceed 24 hours
 - 4.3.2 RTO should not exceed 2 hours for critical applications, 24 hours for file storage and other applications
 - 4.3.3 Provide high availability
 - 4.3.3.1 RTO: 4 hours
 - 4.3.3.2 RPO: 24 hours
 - 4.3.4 Support the district's revised data center strategy:
 - 4.3.4.1 Active and passive data centers in physically diverse locations (1 mile apart) connected by a 10Gbps network supporting synchronous data replication
 - 4.3.4.2 Ability to use district's existing equipment in the passive data center
- 4.4 Backup solution
- 4.4.1 Vendors should propose a backup solution as a part of the response. The district's current system no longer supports its needs. Backups will be stored on SANs that will not be a part of the HCI solution.
- 4.5 Installation and services
- 4.5.1 Approved vendor will provide onsite implementation and support, as well as providing training for WASD 129 staff.
 - 4.5.2 All costs related to the installation of the equipment (including all necessary labor, materials, etc.) will be the responsibility of the vendor.
- 4.6 Maintenance and Support
- 4.6.1 Vendor must have the ability to provide 24/7, 4 hour response
 - 4.6.2 Vendor must be able to provide next business day hardware replacement services.
- 4.7 Training

4.7.1 Vendor must provide forty (40) hours of training for four (4) WASD staff members

4.8 Warranty

4.8.1 Vendor must be able to provide replacement hardware within 24 hours in case of a hardware failure.

Technical Requirements

5.0 Technical Requirements:

- 5.1 Hypervisor support: While the district currently uses Hyper V, it is willing to entertain other hypervisors as suggested by vendors.
- 5.2 Server OS: Microsoft 2012R2 and Later, Linux, Ubuntu.
- 5.3 Backup solution requirements: Backup Solution must follow the 3-2-1 Rule and be able to connect, manage, and control retention policy times up to 1 year with the local and cloud backups.
- 5.4 Networking support: **Top of Rack Switches to be replaced**
 - Dell N4032F's 10 GB ports
 - Data Center Core switches not being replaced
 - HP5900's 10 GB and 40 GB ports
- 5.5 Power requirements: 120V
- 5.6 Space requirements: Please specify space required

Vendor Requirements

- 6.0 WASD policy requires that all contractors, consultants or vendors providing services to the district, on district property while students are present, submit to a background check initiated by West Aurora. Such a background check may include fingerprinting. Any contract awarded pursuant to this request for proposals is contingent upon compliance with this policy and the satisfactory completion of the background check as determined by West Aurora.
 - 6.1 Section 2.0 applies to any and all subcontractors used by the vendor.
 - 6.2 All vendors doing business with West Aurora shall provide all persons equal opportunity without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, age, gender identity or disability.
 - 6.3 Vendor must be an authorized reseller of the product being proposed to West Aurora.

Submission Requirements

7.0 Company Qualifications and Experience

- 7.1 Provide a brief history of the company, including the number of years in business providing the services specified in this solicitation.
- 7.2 Provide a list of key staff expected to be assigned to this project, including their roles and responsibilities.
- 7.3 Provide three (3) references from K-12 school district in Illinois, similar to WASD 129, for which your company has provided services similar to those solicited in this request for proposals. Provide the following for each organization:

- 7.3.1 Name and address of the organization
 - 7.3.2 Name and title of the primary contact with telephone number and email address.
 - 7.3.3 Description of the services and product you provided to the district, and the dates that you provided them.
- 7.4 RFI Questions and clarifications
- 7.4.1 Providers shall aggregate their requests for clarification and submit them via email to West Aurora's consulting organization e2e Exchange, as specified in the FCC form 470.
 - 7.4.2 Contact should be no later than 5pm EDT on 10/19/2018.
 - 7.4.3 All requests for clarification and West Aurora's responses will be supplied in writing to all parties that have received copies of the RFP, as well as uploaded to the original Form 470, without identifying the source of the inquiry.
- 7.5 Warranty
- 7.5.1 Describe in detail the warranty for the proposed equipment, including your company's replacement policy if the device fails (how long for replacement, additional cost for replacement device, etc.)
- 7.6 Maintenance/Support
- 7.6.1 Describe the different types of maintenance/support plans provided for the equipment and software being proposed. Is there a discount for multi-year contracts? What are renewal costs extending beyond the original maintenance period?
 - 7.6.2 Describe in detail how often regular software and firmware updates are made for the proposed equipment. Are these regular updates part of the maintenance plans described above?
 - 7.6.3 Describe if direct manufacturer technical support is available, and if so provide the costs associated with this support.
 - 7.6.4 Describe in detail your company's ability to provide onsite repair of the proposed Next Generation equipment and software available to WASD.
- 7.7 Training
- 7.7.1 Describe in detail your company's ability to provide onsite and/or online training available for the equipment and software. Provide what options are available to WASD for the training (onsite, online, etc.)
- 7.8 Pricing
- 7.8.1 Attach a detail bill of materials for all services and equipment proposed. Use the provided spreadsheet to provide detailed, line items with part numbers and costs per line item.
 - 7.8.2 Proposer is expected to fix discount rates for all items proposed for the duration of the contract.
 - 7.8.3 The district reserves the right to increase or decrease the quantity if services/equipment to be purchased. Vendors are required to present a discount schedule based on quantities purchased.
- 7.9 Submission

- 7.9.1 All submissions in response to this RFP shall be made in accordance with the instructions provided in the FCC Form 470 in which this RFP is announced.

8.0 INSURANCE

8.1 GENERAL

- 8.1.1 The Contractor and Subcontractors will not commence work under the Contract until all required insurance bonds have been obtained and approved by West Aurora 129.
- 8.1.2 All such insurance and bonds will be secured only from insurance companies licensed and duly authorized by the Department of Insurance of the State of Illinois to do business in Illinois. Insurance companies will require an A.M. Best Policyholder's rating of "A" or better and an A.M. Best Financial Size Category of "IX" or better.
- 8.1.3 All policies of insurance will be endorsed to require a sixty (60) days prior written Notice of Cancellation be given to WASD 129.
- 8.1.4 Certificates of Insurance acceptable to WASD 129 will be filed prior to the commencement of the Contract. The certificates must show evidence of the coverage required herein; include a description and location of the project sites; and reflect the sixty (60) day notice of cancellation provision.

8.2 LIABILITY INSURANCE

- 8.2.1 WASD 129'S LIABILITY INSURANCE – The WASD 129 may purchase and maintain General Liability and Automobile Liability; similarly, the WASD 129 may retain the risk exposures related to these coverage's. The Contractor and Subcontractors shall not be responsible for purchasing and maintaining WASD 129's liability insurance unless specifically required by this Contract.
- 8.2.2 CONTRACTOR'S LIABILITY INSURANCE – The Contractor and Subcontractors will purchase and maintain insurance for the coverage's and in the amounts specified in the following provisions for a minimum of three (3) years after final completion of the Contract.
- 8.2.3 Commercial General Liability Insurance
 - 8.2.3.1 Commercial General Liability Insurance will provide coverage for Bodily Injury and Property Damage liability for the premises, operations, products and completed operations hazards; contractual liability assumed in this contract including.
 - 8.2.3.2 Indemnification of the Contractor or Subcontractor, independent contractors, broad form property damage liability (including products and completed operation), personal injury with employee and contractual exclusions deleted and coverage for explosion, collapse, and underground hazards.

- 8.2.3.3 The limits of liability will be written on an occurrence basis and will provide limits not less than the following:
 - 8.2.3.3.1 \$2,000,000 – Bodily Injury and Property Damage Combined Single Limit Each Occurrence
 - 8.2.3.3.2 \$2,000,000 – Personal Injury and Advertising Injury
 - 8.2.3.3.3 \$2,000,000 – Products and Completed Operations Aggregate
 - 8.2.3.3.4 \$2,000,000 – General Annual Aggregate per Project
- 8.2.4 Automobile Liability Insurance – Automobile Liability Insurance will list the ANY AUTO symbol and cover all owned, non-owned and hired automobiles, trucks, and trailers. Such insurance will include contractual liability and provide limits not less than the following:
 - 8.2.4.1 \$2,000,000 – Bodily Injury and Property Damage Each Accident
- 8.2.5 Worker’s Compensation Insurance – Workers Compensation Insurance (Coverage A), including Occupational Disease coverage in statutory limits for the State of Illinois, with Coverage B-Employer’s Liability limits not less than the following:
 - 8.2.5.1 \$2,000,000 – Each Accident Bodily Injury by Accident
 - 8.2.5.2 \$2,000,000 – Each Employee Bodily Injury by Disease
 - 8.2.5.3 \$2,000,000 – Policy Limit Bodily Injury by Disease
- 8.2.6 Umbrella Liability Insurance – Umbrella Liability Insurance will be in excess of the underlying coverage set forth in the above, and will provide coverage at least as broad as the respective policies. The WASD 129, West Aurora School District 129, shall be listed as additional insured. The limits of liability required are the full limits and are not to be less than the following:
 - 8.2.6.1 Contractor – \$5,000,000 Each Occurrence, \$5,000,000 Aggregate
 - 8.2.6.2 Subcontractor – \$3,000,000 Each Occurrence, \$3,000,000 Aggregate
 - 8.2.6.3 Coverage that is not provided by the underlying insurance, but is provided under the Umbrella Liability Insurance will be subject to a self-insured retention no greater than \$10,000 per occurrence. The Contractor and Subcontractor may use any combination of the underlying and umbrella insurance limits of liability provided the combined total limits of liability are equivalent to the total limits of liability required herein.
- 8.2.7 Additional Insured/Waiver of Subrogation Requirements – The Commercial General Liability, Automobile Liability, and Umbrella Liability policies will include the WASD 129, its directors, officers, and

employees. The policies will be endorsed as primary and noncontributory to any insurance of the Additional Insureds. If the Additional Insureds have other insurance, which is applicable to a loss, such other insurance shall be on an excess basis over valid and collectable insurance. The Commercial General Liability, Automobile Liability, Worker’s Compensation, and Umbrella Liability policies will include a Waiver of Subrogation, evidenced by endorsement, in favor of the Additional Insureds.

8.2.8 WASD 129’s-Contractor’s Protective Liability Policy – If the Contractor or any Subcontractor is unable to provide a per project aggregate or primary/non-contributory coverage to the Additional Insureds, the Contractor or Subcontractor will provide an WASD 129’s-Contractor’s Protective Liability Policy as follows:

8.2.8.1 With the Additional Insureds (i.e., WASD 129) as Named Insureds;

8.2.8.2 At limits of Liability equivalent to the combined Commercial General Liability and Umbrella occurrence and aggregate limits;

8.2.8.3 As primary and non-contributory to any insurance of the Additional Insureds;

8.2.8.4 With a 60 day written Notice of Cancellation

8.2.8.5 The original of such policy will be filed with WASD 129.

Evaluation

9.0 This Request for Proposals is a request for equipment that is covered in the FCC’s Erate program, under category two of the erate program’s funding mechanism. All parties responding to this RFP must possess FCC SPIN numbers in order to be considered.

9.1 West Aurora reserves the right to reject any or all submissions.

9.2 Evaluation Matrix: as with all erate program evaluations, pricing is always the primary consideration in terms of evaluation. The evaluation matrix is as follows:

Item	Weight
Pricing	40%
Manageability	20%
References	20%
Service and Support	20%
Total	100%

WEST AURORA SCHOOL DISTRICT 129

West Aurora, IL

CONTRACTOR'S CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH SCHOOL
DISTRICT POLICY

RE: CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEES CONVICTED OF CERTAIN OFFENSES

Pursuant to Section 5/10-21.9 of the Illinois School Code and West Aurora School District 129, the undersigned hereby certifies as follows:

1. The contractor shall not send to any school building or school property any employee or agent who is a child sex offender as defined in the Child Sex Offender and Murderer Community Notification Law and who may have any direct or indirect contact with any student.
2. The contractor shall not send to any school building or school property any employee or agent who has been convicted of any offence identified in Section 5/10-21.9(c) of the Illinois School Code and who may have any direct or indirect contact with any student.

At least quarterly, the contractor shall contact the local law enforcement authority where each employee or agent resides to determine if the employee is on the list of registered felons who have committed child sex offenses. The contractor shall also provide the District with the name and address of each employee who will perform work on school property and require that the employee submit to a criminal history background investigation.

By:

Authorized Agent of Contractor

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO

Before Me This ____ Day

Of _____, 20____.

Notary Public

WEST AURORA SCHOOL DISTRICT 129

West Aurora, IL

NON-DISCRIMINATION

No Contractor who is the recipient of the District's funds, or proposes to perform any work or furnish any goods under this agreement, shall discriminate against any worker, employee, applicant, or any member of the public because of religion, race, sex, color, or national origin, nor otherwise commit an unfair employment practice. Contractor further agrees that this article will be incorporated by the Contractor in all contracts entered into with suppliers of materials or services, contractors and subcontractors and all labor organizations, furnishing skilled, unskilled, and craft union skilled labor, or who may perform any such labor or services in connection with this contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors employed under the contract shall comply with all applicable provisions of the Illinois Human Rights Act (775 ILCS 5/1-10).

SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY CERTIFICATION

Contractor does hereby certify pursuant to Section 2-105 of the Illinois Human Rights Act (775 ILCS 5/2-105) that (he, she, it) has a written sexual harassment policy that includes, at a minimum, the following information:

- (i) the illegality of sexual harassment;
- (ii) the definition of sexual harassment under State law;
- (iii) a description of sexual harassment, utilizing examples;
- (iv) an internal complaint process including penalties;
- (v) the legal recourse, investigative and complaint process available through the Department of Human Rights and the Human Rights Commission;
- (vi) directions on how to contact the Department of Human Rights and Human Rights Commission; and
- (vii) protection against retaliation.

By:

Authorized Agent of Contractor

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO

Before Me This ____ Day

Of _____, 20____.

Notary Public