

PITTSBURGH PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
8 South 12th Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15203

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
**RFP 08-02-2024 NETWORK ATTACHED
STORAGE**

DUE: Before 2:00 p.m. on Friday August 23, 2024

INTRODUCTION

Pittsburgh Public School District (PPSD) is requesting proposals from qualified firms interested in providing Network Attached Storage (NAS) equipment with white glove installation and configuration.

BACKGROUND

In general, Pittsburgh Public School District seeks a firm that can provide a Network Attached Storage system capable of storing data, backups and virtual machine files.

This system must work alongside our current NAS to provide redundancy and fault tolerance.

Respondents should possess and use their extensive knowledge and experience with the IT Storage Industry to recommend a creative solution that will meet or exceed the district's requirements. The project requires the design, implementation, and support of a full ZFS stack NAS including professional support of ZFS software and hardware. Preference will be afforded to the vendor that provides a comprehensive, cost-effective solution for current specifications, future capacity requirements, and ongoing service and support.

PROPOSAL DELIVERY

One (1) original and one (1) identically formatted digital copy (USB flash storage only) copy of the proposal shall be submitted for consideration to the Pittsburgh Public Schools under sealed cover before 2:00 pm on August 23, 2024. The district recommends that all proposals be hand delivered to assure acceptance within the timeline. Offeror assumes the risk of any delay in the U.S. Mail. Whether sent by mail or by means of personal delivery, the Offeror assumes responsibility for having the Proposal deposited on time at the place specified. Please include the title NETWORK ATTACHED STORAGE on the outside of your sealed envelope along with your company name and address.

Send proposals to: David Moore
Pittsburgh Public Schools
8 South 13th Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15203

The format of the proposals shall follow the format provided in this RFP. All respondents must respond to each & every feature and identify whether they comply or do not comply and identify any & all exceptions. Proposals shall include one pricing scheme for Network Attached Storage. Incomplete submissions may be subject to disqualification. All questions shall be submitted in writing via e-mail to dmoore1@pghschools.org and will be shared with all potential RFP respondents.

This request for proposal does not commit Pittsburgh Public Schools to award a contract, to pay for any costs incurred in the preparation of a proposal, or to procure or contract the services or supplies. Pittsburgh Public Schools reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals received, to negotiate with any qualified source, or to cancel in part or in its entirety the Request for Proposals if it is in the best interest of the Pittsburgh Public Schools. The district may require the firm selected to participate in negotiations, and to permit such price, technical or other revision of their proposals as may result from said negotiations. The selected firm's proposal will be submitted to the Bid Committee for consideration of award. The decision of the committee is final.

PROJECT TIMELINE

EVENT	DATE
RFP RELEASED	August 2, 2024
LAST DAY FOR QUESTIONS	August 12, 2024
ANSWERS POSTED ONLINE	August 15, 2024
PROPOSALS DUE	August 23, 2024
EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS	August 26, 2024, to August 29, 2024
LEGISLATIVE SESSION	September 25, 2024
CONTRACT SIGNED	October 31, 2024

KEY DECISION CRITERIA

20%	Cost - Based on Five (5) Year Support Contract
40%	System Capabilities and Reliability
20%	System Design and Implementation
20%	Technical Expertise and Experience

QUALIFICATIONS

Before awarding any contract, Pittsburgh Public Schools reserves the right to require the vendor to submit evidence of qualifications, as it may deem appropriate. This evidence may be about financial, technical, and other qualifications and relevant experience and skills of the vendor.

SCOPE OF SERVICES REQUIRED

All respondents must respond to each feature and identify whether they comply or do not and identify all exceptions. Any additional expenses to provide any feature listed must be detailed. The format of the proposals shall follow the format provided below. Incomplete submissions may be subject to disqualification.

A. SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

1. Full ZFS stack with RAIDZ capability.
2. Hardware and software support for platform.
3. Minimum of redundant 100GbE connectivity.
4. Full NVMe flash storage solution.
5. Minimum capacity of 800 TiB.
6. Ability to expand Network Attached Storage system with additional drives or expansion shelves.
7. Single management system that ties new and existing Network Attached Storage systems together.
8. Dual controller system with seamless failover in case of network, hardware, or power failure.
9. Ability to host NFS, iSCSI, SMB, and AFP network shares.
10. Support for configuring file and share permissions based on Active Directory users and groups.
11. Ability to create and schedule ZFS snapshots.
12. Ability to create and schedule ZFS replication tasks to local or remote systems.

Response Sheet (Attach Quote with Response Sheet)

Requirement	Meets Req Yes or No	Optional Details
Full ZFS stack with RAIDZ capability.		
Hardware and software support for platform.		
Minimum of redundant 100GbE connectivity.		
Full NVMe flash storage solution.		
Minimum Usable capacity of 800 TiB.		
Ability to expand Network Attached Storage system with additional drives or expansion shelves.		
Single management system that ties new and existing Network Attached Storage systems together.		
Dual controller system with seamless failover in case of network, hardware, or power failure.		
Ability to host NFS, iSCSI, SMB, and AFP network shares.		
Support for configuring file and share permissions based on Active Directory users and groups.		
Ability to create and schedule ZFS snapshots.		
Schedule ZFS replication tasks to local or remote systems.		
On-Site white glove installation\setup		
Professional support ZFS hardware\ software		