

FARGO BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMO #78 – 2024-25

February 24, 2025

RE: Award of Bid – E-Rate Wireless Network Equipment

FROM: Jarrod Finseth, Director of Information Technology
Bill Westrick, Chief Operating Officer
Dr. Rupak Gandhi, Superintendent

BOARD FOCUS: Action Required

Sealed proposals were received on February 13, 2025, for E-Rate Wireless Network Equipment. The Request For Proposal (RFP) for this bid is in association with money available from the federal E-Rate program. This is the final year of the current E-Rate funding program. The district has \$16,824.00 in remaining funds to be applied to this bid.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) E-Rate program makes telecommunications and information services more affordable for schools and libraries. As indicated in the RFP, Board approved contracts will be contingent upon E-Rate approval by the FCC and purchases do not need to start until July 1, 2025.

There were three vendor responses that met the criteria for the RFP. A scoring rubric was included in the RFP document to inform vendors of the scoring method used to evaluate all bids.

Scoring Rubric:

A: 30% Price

B: 25% Compatibility/Integration with Existing Network

C: 20% Completeness/Meeting Overall Requirements

D: 15% Vendor Demonstrated Ability

E: 10% Regional Vendor (within 150 miles of Fargo)

Vendor	Price	A-30	B-25	C-20	D-15	E-10	Total
Marco	\$84,990.00	30	25	20	15	10	100
Corporate Technologies	\$100,512.24	26	25	20	15	10	96
RED8 LLC	\$116,095.50	22	25	20	14	0	81

After reviewing the technical capabilities, the Information Technology Department recommends accepting the Marco bid of \$84,990.00, with a budget cost share of \$16,824.00.

RECOMMENDATION: Accept the Marco bid in the amount of \$84,990.00, for network upgrades, and issue a purchase order accordingly.