

ST. TAMMANY PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

321 N. Theard Street
Covington, LA 70433

September 25, 2025

ADDENDUM 2

RFP #205 WIRELESS NETWORK 2025 – 2026

Below are the questions submitted to questions@stpsb.org during the question period and the responses from STPSB for RFP #205 Wireless Network 2025 – 2026

The following questions were received on September 15, 2025 at 9:19 PM from Leeston Leblanc, leeston.leblanc@uniti.com

Q1. Can you provide all school maps that will be receiving cabling and wireless access points?

A1. Will be sent in separate email and the password will be emailed separately.

Q2. Can you break out how many access points are at each school today?

A2. Please see the attachment in the email. (See Attachment 1 of this Addendum)

Q3. Page 17 of the RFP states language about installing a 2" conduit for whiteboards/interactive panel. This was not discussed at the pre-bid meeting. If this is needed, where does the 2" conduit need to land, and can you list out how many classrooms there are per school this is needed.

A3. Our general network performance specs were included for reference. No whiteboard/interactive panels were requested as part of the RFP therefore, this section is not applicable.

Q4. Page 18 states language about using a patch panel with a 1-meter patch cable under the copper section and top of page 8 states that patch panels are not required with the new cabling. Can you clarify?

A4. New racks or patch panels are not required with the new cabling. Page 18 and page 8 of the RFP are correct. Page 8 states NEW racks or patch panels are not required with the new cabling. There are existing racks and patch panels.

Q5. Please verify that no fiber is not requested in this RFP or boring/aerial CAT6 is requested.

A5. No request for fiber was included in the RFP. No request for boring or aerial was included in the RFP. However, your design may require some of these types of runs so the specifications were included in the RFP.

Q6. The RFP states on page 12 that maintenance is requested for 3 and 5 years. What is your expectation for maintenance during this timeframe?

A6. Our expectation for maintenance during this time frame would be ongoing support services that you would propose for section 8 page 11 of the RFP.

Q7. Do you have a preference on EMT or PVC for the requested outdoor conduit? I seen both at the site walk.

A7. On our walk through you mentioned you saw both, but you are unable to determine what those conduit actually contain. EMT is listed in the General Network Performance Specs multiple times. The specific use of EMT or PVC would be dependent on your design proposal.

The following question was received on September 16, 2025 at 1:21 PM from Jayson Ramsey, jayson@ntsca.com

Q1. Just received this RFP yesterday(09/15/2025), There was a mandatory site walkthrough for 09/15/2025, has this event been extended to a different day, Also failure to participate in site walkthrough would disqualify a vendor from submitting a bid?

A1. The RFP advertisement began on 09/03/2025. The MANDATORY site survey did occur on 09/15/2025 as scheduled in the RFP.

The following questions were received on September 18, 2025 at 10:03 AM from Andrew Blackwell, andrew@radwifi.us

Q1. How many APs do you currently have?

A1. Please see the RFP page 2.

Q2. Can you please provide floor plans of buildings requiring new wireless access points?

A2. Maps will be sent in separate email and the password will be emailed separately.

Q3. Can you please provide a recent RF site survey (Ekahau, Sidos, or Hamina) containing current locations of wireless access points & RF signal strength?

A3. There is no RF site survey so this cannot be provided.

The following questions were received on September 18, 2025 at 12:46 PM from Ashley Irizarry, ashley@dofcreations.com

Q1. Will the St. Tammany Parish School Board release a running list of all questions and their corresponding answers to all bidding vendors who attended the Pre-bid meeting?

A1. Once the questions deadline passes there will be an addendum issued with all questions and responses.

Q2. Will the St. Tammany Parish School Board provide the patch panels? If so, will they be keystone or punchdown type?

A2. STPSB does have existing patch panels, and the types vary. PG 7-8 of the RFP: New racks or patch panels are not required with the new cabling.

Q3. In areas without a suspended ceiling grid or attic access for ceiling mounting, would wall mounting for access points be an acceptable alternative?

A3. Wall or ceiling mounts are acceptable. PG 7 of the RFP: Specifications of Wireless Infrastructure - Access Points (APs) – wireless access points, wall and ceiling mountable. PG 9 of the RFP: The proposer shall provide the appropriate access point mounting (bracket and clip), as needed, for a ceiling grid or wall installation.

Q4. The "General Network Performance Specs" section appears to reference new backbone cabling for MDF to IDF connections, specifically using CAT6A for runs under 300 feet. Does this project include a full backbone replacement or upgrade, or is the scope limited to the wireless access point cabling and conduit only as described in other sections of the RFP?

A4. The General Network Performance Specs were listed as a reference. This project does not include new backbone cabling. PG 2 of the RFP: STPSB is seeking a complete system from installation of wiring of the access points with two CAT6 cables per point. PG 16 of the RFP: Please find our General Network Performance Specs below for reference. PG 7 of the RFP: Specifications of Wireless Infrastructure - Access Points (APs) – wireless access points, wall and ceiling mountable. Two CAT 6 cables back to the nearest IDF wiring closet must be included with access point installation (the IT Department will dictate which IDF each access point needs to be wired to). Existing cables will not be reused.

Q5. The RFP states that conduit is required for exterior cable runs and any exposed cabling below the ceiling. Is the St. Tammany Parish School Board requesting a per-foot cost for conduit, or a total build-out cost?

A5. PG 13 of the RFP: Please include conduit pricing for each type and length of conduit.

Q6. The RFP states that "Current cabling will not be reused; new cabling must be installed." Does this also apply to existing conduit, raceways, or cable chases? Can existing infrastructure be utilized for the new cable runs?

A6. PG 2 of the RFP: Conduit is required for any exterior cable runs and any exposed cabling below the ceiling to configuration of any and all wireless system components. PG 13 of the RFP: As a reference below you will find a list of schools and the estimated type and length of conduit needed. Conduit prices and lengths may vary. Please include conduit pricing for each type and length of conduit. PG 19 of the RFP: As to ensure the safety of our children, all cables that are exposed must be enclosed in conduit or installed within a wall. Where conduit is exposed on walls and terminated to an outlet, the conduit and outlet must be securely attached to one another. Conduit is required between buildings and for exterior cabling. CAT6 lines enclosed in ceilings do not need conduit but must be run in cable trays or J-Hooks through the buildings structure. Conduit must be used to make the transition from attic/ceiling to MDF/IDF backboard. All POE cables, (Wireless, Camera, and Access Control) must be run and supported in a separate cable tray or J-Hook. Category 6 specifications do not allow data cables to be run parallel to power cables, nor enclosed in or strapped to the same metal conduit. All cable runs must be labeled on both ends and copper cables must not exceed 300'.

Q7. What is the anticipated timeline for the project, from the start of installation to

completion?

A7. PG 2 of the RFP: An Erate application will be involved in this purchase, and the installation will begin no earlier than July 1, 2026. PG 11 of the RFP: Section 5 – Proposal Designs and Assessments – Include timelines and project management. STPSB does not have a proposed timeline for the complete installation for all schools and admin facilities, but it is expected that the project will be completed as quickly as possible.

PG 11 of the RFP: Section 9 – Implementation and Training - Include a proposed timeline. Each vendor must outline their specific plan to accomplish the proposed timeline.

Q8. Will the existing network remain operational during the new system's installation to minimize disruption?

A8. Yes, the existing system will remain active.

Q9. Given the potential for the new cabling to exceed the current port capacity, can the St. Tammany Parish School Board provide more details on the scope and sequence of the project, including the process for the network cutover?

A9. Switches and additional ports are not in the scope of this RFP. The specifics of the network cutover will be determined by the proposed timeline. PG 11 of the RFP: Section 5 – Proposal Designs and Assessments – Include timelines and project management. STPSB does not have a proposed timeline for the complete installation for all schools and admin facilities, but it is expected that the project will be completed as quickly as possible. PG 11 of the RFP: Section 9 – Implementation and Training - Include a proposed timeline. Each vendor must outline their specific plan to accomplish the proposed timeline.

Q10. The RFP states that "all POE cabling must be run and supported by cable tray or J-hooks." Given that the document also mentions "The ceiling types vary for each school. Most are drop ceilings, but some are solid," are there any specific locations or schools without suspended ceilings that would require the use of cable trays?

A10. Ceiling heights and types vary. PG 19 of the RFP: CAT6 lines enclosed in ceilings do not need conduit but must be run in cable trays or J-Hooks through the buildings structure.

Q11. Does STPSB intend to **replace or augment** the existing ClearPass and Airwave servers, or should vendors integrate with these existing systems?

A11. PG 2 of the RFP: The St. Tammany Parish School Board (STPSB) is interested in the total scope of services offered by the vendors who have a focus on providing secure wireless solutions. STPSB is seeking a complete system from installation of wiring of the access points with two CAT6 cables per point. Conduit is required for any exterior cable runs and any exposed cabling below the ceiling to configuration of any and all wireless system components. STPSB is seeking a vendor that has broad and demonstrated experience in wireless access in school systems similar to STPSB. PG 7 of the RFP: Section 4 - Product Information - Provide any product information such as access points, antennas, POE devices, power requirements, access point controllers, security controllers/software, tracking controllers/software, locating devices and servers if needed to run software in the solution proposed. Our current solution

is with Aruba. STPSB will evaluate all complete solutions that are proposed, cloud or on-premise.

Q12. Should NAC and wireless management support **integration with STPSB's existing wired infrastructure** beyond basic authentication (e.g., VLAN assignment, policy enforcement)?

A12. PG 2 of the RFP: The St. Tammany Parish School Board (STPSB) is interested in the total scope of services offered by the vendors who have a focus on providing secure wireless solutions. STPSB is seeking a complete system from installation of wiring of the access points with two CAT6 cables per point. Conduit is required for any exterior cable runs and any exposed cabling below the ceiling to configuration of any and all wireless system components. STPSB is seeking a vendor that has broad and demonstrated experience in wireless access in school systems similar to STPSB. PG 7 of the RFP: Section 4 - Product Information - Provide any product information such as access points, antennas, POE devices, power requirements, access point controllers, security controllers/software, tracking controllers/software, locating devices and servers if needed to run software in the solution proposed. Our current solution is with Aruba. STPSB will evaluate all complete solutions that are proposed, cloud or on-premise. PG 10 of the RFP: All proposed solutions shall provide RADIUS and TACACS+ capabilities to provide Network Access Control for network equipment.

Q13. For what purpose is the "locally significant certificates on the AP" mentioned certificate used? Client authentication, Captive Portal HTTPS, AP authentication, etc?

A13. Locally Significant certificates offer enhanced security by allowing custom policies, restrictions, and usages for certificates, ensuring mutual authentication between controllers and aps. PG 9 of the RFP: Shall support locally significant certificates on the APs using a Public Key Infrastructure (PKI).

Q14. The RFP mentions **two CAT6 cables per AP**. Do the switches require multi-gig/PoE++?

A14. Switches are not in the scope of this project.

Q15. What is the **expected role of controllers**? The RFP notes existing Aruba Instant deployments with per-site controllers; should proposals assume **centralized controllers**, distributed controllers, or cloud-managed architectures?

A15. PG 2 of the RFP: The St. Tammany Parish School Board (STPSB) is interested in the total scope of services offered by the vendors who have a focus on providing secure wireless solutions. STPSB is seeking a complete system from installation of wiring of the access points with two CAT6 cables per point. Conduit is required for any exterior cable runs and any exposed cabling below the ceiling to configuration of any and all wireless system components. STPSB is seeking a vendor that has broad and demonstrated experience in wireless access in school systems similar to STPSB. PG 7 of the RFP: Provide any product information for the proposed wireless network solution. Provide any product information such as access points,

antennas, POE devices, power requirements, access point controllers, security controllers/software, tracking controllers/software, locating devices and servers if needed to run software in the solution proposed.

Q16. Is there a preference between **on-premises management** (like Aruba Airwave) versus **cloud-based management platforms**?

A16. PG 7 of the RFP: Section 4 – Product Information - STPSB will evaluate all complete solutions that are proposed, cloud or on-premise.

Q17. Does STPSB require **continuation of ClearPass-like guest access and captive portal functions** (with SMS/email registration, terms of use, etc.)?

A17. PG 2 of the RFP: STPSB will be using the system for both internal teacher/student/administrator) and external (guest) access to designated resources within our network.

Q18. The RFP requests **Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)**. Is this expected for **IT administrators only**, or also for **end-user/guest authentication**?

A18. Yes, only IT Administrators will be managing the system. PG 10 of the RFP: System Management - All proposed system management solutions must provide capability for Multi-Factor Authentication.

Q19. Should the system support **certificate-based authentication (EAP-TLS)** for staff/student devices, or is username/password sufficient?

A19. PG 2 of the RFP: The St. Tammany Parish School Board (STPSB) is interested in the total scope of services offered by the vendors who have a focus on providing secure wireless solutions. STPSB is seeking a complete system from installation of wiring of the access points with two CAT6 cables per point. Conduit is required for any exterior cable runs and any exposed cabling below the ceiling to configuration of any and all wireless system components. STPSB is seeking a vendor that has broad and demonstrated experience in wireless access in school systems similar to STPSB. PG 8, 9, and 10 of the RFP: Minimum Specifications. Also, on, PG 10 of the RFP: All proposed solutions shall provide RADIUS and TACACS+ capabilities to provide Network Access Control for network equipment.

Q20. Are there specific **federal/state compliance frameworks** (e.g., CIPA, FERPA) that must be reflected in system design beyond what's stated in the contract addenda?

A20. In addition to the addenda, there are several relevant locations in the RFP. PG 5 – 6 of the RFP: Contract Law and Notice sections.

Q21. Will STPSB continue to maintain **Active Directory** as the primary identity store, or should vendors plan for potential integration with other IdPs (e.g., Azure AD, Google Workspace)?

A21. Active Directory will be maintained. PG 2 of the RFP: The system must integrate with Active Directory and support Active Directory authentication and nested groups.

Q22. Should the new system integrate with the **existing wired NAC/security infrastructure**, or is wireless NAC sufficient?

A22. PG 2 of the RFP: The St. Tammany Parish School Board (STPSB) is interested in the total scope of services offered by the vendors who have a focus on providing secure wireless solutions. STPSB is seeking a complete system from installation of wiring of the access points with two CAT6 cables per point.

Conduit is required for any exterior cable runs and any exposed cabling below the ceiling to configuration of any and all wireless system components. STPSB is seeking a vendor that has broad and demonstrated experience in wireless access in school systems similar to STPSB.

PG 7 of the RFP: Section 4 - Product Information - Provide any product information such as access points, antennas, POE devices, power requirements, access point controllers, security controllers/software, tracking controllers/software, locating devices and servers if needed to run software in the solution proposed. Our current solution is with Aruba. STPSB will evaluate all complete solutions that are proposed, cloud or on-premise. PG 10 of the RFP: All proposed solutions shall provide RADIUS and TACACS+ capabilities to provide Network Access Control for network equipment.

Q23. The RFP notes **mandatory site surveys**. Will STPSB provide building maps with ceiling details (drop vs. solid) before the survey, or only during?

A23. PG 4 of the RFP: As part of the RFP response, there is a MANDATORY site survey starting on Monday September 15, 2025. The site survey will begin at 8:00am at the Information Technology Building located at 215 W. 17th Ave. Covington, LA 70433. The site visit will consist of a walkthrough of an Elementary, Middle, Jr. High, and High School. The site visit will NOT include every school in our district. Vendors are required to visit each site in the site survey. Vendors are required to supply their own transportation. No visits may take place without an I.T. representative. No consideration will be given to any claims for additional cost based on a lack of knowledge of existing conditions. PG 13 of the RFP: The maps are informational only. These maps are not to scale, nor are the building's physical orientations always correct. The maps will indicate with accuracy the location of Cisco and Extreme switches that currently supply network connections to the school.

PG 2-3 of the RFP: The ceiling types vary for each school. Most are drop ceilings, but some are solid. Ceiling heights vary between 8ft to 60ft.

Q24. Will installation be allowed during **school hours**, or restricted to evenings/weekends only?

A24. Installation hours will be discussed with awarded vendor to minimize school disruptions as much as possible. PG 9 of the RFP: Vendor must be available for after-hours installation if necessary. Attachment A - Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C.3701-3708).

Q25. How heavily will **integration with existing Aruba infrastructure** weigh in the evaluation?

A25. PG 2 of the RFP: The St. Tammany Parish School Board (STPSB) is interested in the total scope of services offered by the vendors who have a focus on providing secure wireless solutions. STPSB is seeking a complete system from installation of wiring of the access points with two CAT6 cables per point. Conduit is required for any exterior cable runs and any exposed cabling below the ceiling to configuration of any and all wireless system components. STPSB is seeking a vendor that has broad and demonstrated experience in wireless access in school systems similar to STPSB. PG 2 of the RFP: The system must integrate with Active Directory and support Active Directory authentication and nested groups. Further, the proposed system must fully integrate with the existing Cisco and Extreme-based wired network infrastructure.

Q26. Will **total cost of ownership (TCO)**, including licensing and renewals, be considered more important than **initial capital expense**?

A26. Vendor responses will be scored based on the Evaluation Criteria grid on page 12 of the RFP. Also, on PG 12 of the RFP: Please provide a complete cost summary for all hardware, software, support, installation, wiring, site analysis and training services being proposed. The vendor must supply costs and details to complete all schools and offices as a single project. In addition, the vendor must supply the cost for access points that may be added or deleted from the total solution after the individual site surveys are completed by the chosen vendor. The costs should be listed in summary format but with sufficient detail. Also, it is desired that the price includes all costs associated with maintenance for three and five years.

The following message was received on September 19, 2025 at 11:21 AM from Andrew Blackwell, andrew@radwifi.us

S1. Bid sent via USPS mail from Utah this morning. Let me know how we can help!

R1. Thank you, All instructions and requirements in the RFP must be followed.

The following question was received on September 22, 2025 at 9:26 AM from Chris Calico, chris.calico@ontivity.com

Q1. Is the RFP question due date of September 24, 2025 still the same or has that pushed back?

A1. Question due date will not change.

The following question was received on September 22, 2025 at 11:50 AM from Nick Michler, nmichler@commtech.com

Q1. Will floor plans for each school be shared with us? I think someone mentioned those getting emailed out during the site survey.

A1. Maps will be sent in separate email and the password will be emailed separately. (See Attachment of the Addendum)

The following questions were received on September 23, 2025 at 8:24 AM from Chuck Chairrson III, Charles.chiasson@cdw.com

Q1. Is plenum-rated cable required in any of these locations? If so, how much?

A1. PG 9 of the RFP: Based on the on-site requirements, all sites that require plenum-rated shall meet the UL2043 standard. PG 18 of the RFP: The use of plenum cable should be determined by building codes.

Q2. How was the estimated conduit requirement calculated? How was the size of the conduit calculated? Is there a list showing estimated number of cat6 cables per conduit in the table?

A2. The conduit chart starting on PG 13 of RFP is an estimate only. It was determined by visiting each site. The size of the conduit was based on the estimated number of cables required. No, there is not a list showing the estimated number of cables.

Q3. Is there an estimated number or conduit runs needed at each location? The total estimated feet of conduit is shown, but it is unclear how many conduit runs are included in that length.

A3. PG 2 of the RFP: Conduit is required for any exterior cable runs and any exposed cabling below the ceiling to configuration of any and all wireless system components. PG 13 of the RFP: As a reference below you will find a list of schools and the estimated type and length of conduit needed. Conduit prices and lengths may vary. Please include conduit pricing for each type and length of conduit.

Q4. What termination is needed on the access point side of the cable? Can a RJ45 modular plug be used or is a jack and patch cable needed?

A4. PG 2 of the RFP: The St. Tammany Parish School Board (STPSB) is interested in the total scope of services offered by the vendors who have a focus on providing secure wireless solutions. STPSB is seeking a complete system from installation of wiring of the access points with two CAT6 cables per point. Conduit is required for any exterior cable runs and any exposed cabling below the ceiling to configuration of any and all wireless system components. STPSB is seeking a vendor that has broad and demonstrated experience in wireless access in school systems similar to STPSB. PG 18-19 of the RFP: All copper cable must be 4 pair UTP rated as Category 6 or better, both ends must be terminated using the TIA/EIA-568-B.1-2000 cabling standard. In general, our data cables have a color code of green for cameras, yellow for wireless access points, orange or white for voice, black for access control, and blue or gray for network data cables for IDF to IDF or IDF to MDF connections. Copper must be terminated at a MDF/IDF backboard with a CAT6 or better rated patch panel using the TIA/EIA-568-B.1-2000 straight through cabling standard to a female CAT6 rated connector enclosed in the appropriate faceplate. A 1-meter patch cable must be supplied for each wired patch panel port. The use of plenum cable should be determined by building codes. As to ensure the safety of our children, all cables that are exposed must be enclosed in conduit or installed within a wall. Where conduit is exposed on walls and terminated to an outlet, the conduit and outlet must be securely attached to one another. Conduit is required between buildings and for exterior cabling. CAT6 lines enclosed in ceilings do not need conduit but must be run in cable trays or J-Hooks through the buildings structure. Conduit must be used to make the transition from attic/ceiling to MDF/IDF backboard. All POE cables, (Wireless, Camera, and Access Control) must be run and supported in a separate cable tray or J-Hook. Category 6 specifications do not allow

data cables to be run parallel to power cables, nor enclosed in or strapped to the same metal conduit. All cable runs must be labeled on both ends and copper cables must not exceed 300'.

Q5. Does the vendor need to provide patch cables at the MDF/IDF side of the cable?

A5. PG 18 of the RFP: A 1-meter patch cable must be supplied for each wired patch panel port. PG 7-2 of the RFP: New racks or patch panels are not required with the new cabling.

Q6. What is the expected timing for installation and can the installation be completed during normal business hours?

A6. Installation hours will be discussed with awarded vendor to minimize school disruptions as much as possible. PG 9 of the RFP: Vendor must be available for after-hours installation if necessary. Attachment A - Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C.3701-3708)

Q7. Can you clarify the statement in the RFP. "Vendors are required to visit each site in the site survey.". Is this mandatory or optional?

A7. PG 4 of the RFP: As part of the RFP response, there is a MANDATORY site survey starting on Monday September 15, 2025. The site survey will begin at 8:00am at the Information Technology Building located at 215 W. 17th Ave. Covington, LA 70433. The site visit will consist of a walkthrough of an Elementary, Middle, Jr. High, and High School. The site visit will NOT include every school in our district. Vendors are required to visit each site in the site survey. Vendors are required to supply their own transportation. No visits may take place without an I.T. representative. No consideration will be given to any claims for additional cost based on a lack of knowledge of existing conditions.

The following questions were received on September 23, 2025 at 3:01 PM from Douglas Lovett, douglas.lovett@lockstep.com

Q1. Could you please confirm that we are to provide a quote only for the quantity of the 325 series of 3548 access points, and not for the total number of 3592 units, which would otherwise include the 44 currently deployed 635 series access points?

A1. Page 2 of the RFP list what we currently have in place for reference. PG 2-3 of the RFP: STPSB currently has two Clearpass Servers and one Airwave Server with a total of 3,592 total Aruba access points. 3,548 Aruba access points are the 325 series and 44 Aruba access points are the 635 series. They are setup as an Aruba Instant Deployment with one controller per site but there are some exceptions where controllers are shared. STPSB also has outdoor wireless bridges that will not be replaced and are not part of this RFP. Each access point currently is wired with a single CAT6 cable. Current cabling will not be reused; new cabling must be installed. The ceiling types vary for each school. Most are drop ceilings, but some are solid. Ceiling heights vary between 8ft to 60ft. Wireless coverage is not required in outdoor areas between buildings. PG 2 of the RFP: The St. Tammany Parish School Board (STPSB) is interested in the total scope of services offered by the vendors who have a focus on providing secure wireless solutions. STPSB is seeking a complete system from installation of wiring of the access points with two CAT6 cables per point. Conduit is required for any exterior cable runs and any exposed cabling below the ceiling to configuration of any and all wireless system components.

STPSB is seeking a vendor that has broad and demonstrated experience in wireless access in school systems similar to STPSB.

Q2. Could you also provide the current deployment details for the 44 units of the 635 series? Specifically, which schools they are installed in today, and how many units are assigned to each school?

A2. No, not necessary. PG 2 of the RFP: The St. Tammany Parish School Board (STPSB) is interested in the total scope of services offered by the vendors who have a focus on providing secure wireless solutions. STPSB is seeking a complete system from installation of wiring of the access points with two CAT6 cables per point. Conduit is required for any exterior cable runs and any exposed cabling below the ceiling to configuration of any and all wireless system components. STPSB is seeking a vendor that has broad and demonstrated experience in wireless access in school systems similar to STPSB.

The following questions were received on September 24, 2025 at 1:43 PM from Norm Hill, normh@benecominc.com

Q1. "Wiring of the access points with two CAT6 cables per point" - 2 cables to every ap- will this be an aggregate port or is the intention for each cable to go to separate switches for redundancy?

A1. PG 2 of the RFP: The St. Tammany Parish School Board (STPSB) is interested in the total scope of services offered by the vendors who have a focus on providing secure wireless solutions. STPSB is seeking a complete system from installation of wiring of the access points with two CAT6 cables per point. PG 7 of the RFP: Two CAT 6 cables back to the nearest IDF wiring closet must be included with access point installation (the IT Department will dictate which IDF each access point needs to be wired to). Existing cables will not be reused.

Q2. "A device-to-AP ratio of 20:1 shall be applied to all classrooms. Offices areas, large rooms, conference rooms, common areas, cafeterias, gyms, etc. shall have a device-to-AP ratio of 15:1 to accommodate large-group testing. The exact AP count requirement shall be determined by STPSB AFTER all proposals and pricing is reviewed." Does this mean a physical ap ratio or using the multiple antennas within each ap does the ratio apply to each 2.4 and 5 ghz radio? Ie: 1 ap per average class. If a classroom has 30 students does this require a 2nd access point for that room? If a heat map provides coverage to an area does this ratio still apply?

A2. Physical AP ratio. PG 8 of the RFP: A device-to-AP ratio of 20:1 shall be applied to all classrooms. Offices areas, large rooms, conference rooms, common areas, cafeterias, gyms, etc. shall have a device-to-AP ratio of 15:1 to accommodate large-group testing. The exact AP count requirement shall be determined by STPSB AFTER all proposals and pricing is reviewed.

Q3. What is the available PoE budget on the Extreme and Cisco switches?

A3. Switches are not in the scope of this project.

Q4. Confirming no patch panel and existing switches will be utilized?

A4. PG 7-8 of the RFP: Access Points (APs) – wireless access points, wall and ceiling mountable. Two CAT 6 cables back to the nearest IDF wiring closet must be included with access point installation (the IT Department will dictate which IDF each access point needs to be wired to). Existing cables will not be reused. STPSB does not have a preferred cabling contractor but have used Lightway Resources for our cabling needs. STPSB does not have a preferred copper cable brand. New racks or patch panels are not required with the new cabling. New cabling must be yellow in color. Wiring specifications are listed in the Network Performance Specifications section of this document.

Q5. What testing methodology and performance benchmarks will be used for acceptance?

A5. It will be dependent on the solution proposed. The solution must meet the criteria outlined in the RFP. Vendor responses will be scored based on the Evaluation Criteria grid on page 12 of the RFP.

Q6. What are the specific protective enclosure requirements for gymnasium/recreational area APs?

A6. PG 9 of the RFP: Access Points in all recreational areas shall be installed within an enclosure capable of withstanding a direct hit from a hard or large ball. The cabinet shall not interfere with APs radio transmissions and must have an industrial design for durability, industrial- grade antenna connectors, and locking options.

The following questions were received on September 24, 2025 at 1:56 PM from Kristen Burdette, kburdette@cspire.com

Q1. If we provide more Access Points for the solution, will your school district supply power to support them?

A1. Yes. PG 2 of the RFP: The St. Tammany Parish School Board (STPSB) is interested in the total scope of services offered by the vendors who have a focus on providing secure wireless solutions. STPSB is seeking a complete system from installation of wiring of the access points with two CAT6 cables per point. Conduit is required for any exterior cable runs and any exposed cabling below the ceiling to configuration of any and all wireless system components. STPSB is seeking a vendor that has broad and demonstrated experience in wireless access in school systems similar to STPSB.

Q2. Since we are not providing switches, we are not going to be responsible for providing additional power, unless specified otherwise.

A2. Vendor statement – no question asked. Switches are not in the scope of this RFP.

Q3. In each school, how many IDF/MDF?

A3. The number of IDF/MDF locations vary at each site. PG 13 of the RFP: Copies of school and office maps can be obtained by contacting Jessica Johnson in the IT Department at 985-898-6410. The maps are informational only. These maps are not to scale, nor are the building's physical orientations always correct. The maps will indicate with accuracy the location of Cisco

and Extreme switches that currently supply network connections to the school. We will also supply a list of schools including addresses. Vendors are NOT allowed to approach the schools.

Q4. Can you please provide maps of each building?

A4. Will be sent in a separate email and password will be emailed separately.

Q5. In each school, how many APs are plugged into each IDF MDF?

A5. The number of APs that are plugged into each IDF MDF varies at each site and we do not have that information.

Q6. Can you provide the make /model and power of the switches that will be providing POE?

A6. We have various models of Cisco and Extreme switches. Switches are not in the scope of this RFP.

Q7. Will these be dual cable runs? Will it be Cat6 or Cat6A?

A7. PG 7 of the RFP: Two CAT 6 cables back to the nearest IDF wiring closet must be included with access point installation (the IT Department will dictate which IDF each access point needs to be wired to). Existing cables will not be reused.

Q8. It was stated that we don't need to provide patch panels...does that mean we are just terminating with modular plugs? It seems like every school had different manufacturer existing patch panels, making it impossible to propose a specific jack manufacturer.

A8. STPSB does have existing patch panels, and the types vary. PG 7-8 of the RFP: New racks or patch panels are not required with the new cabling.

Q9. Is there a certain color for the Cat6 cable?

A9. PG 8 of the RFP: New cabling must be yellow in color.

Q10. If we are terminating with jacks, what manufacturer and color?

A10. PG 7-8 of the RFP: STPSB does not have a preferred copper cable brand. New racks or patch panels are not required with the new cabling. New cabling must be yellow in color.

Q11 Is there a limit of how many cables can go to each IDF/MDF?

A11. PG 7 of the RFP: Two CAT 6 cables back to the nearest IDF wiring closet must be included with access point installation (the IT Department will dictate which IDF each access point needs to be wired to).

The following questions were received on September 24, 2025 at 3:21 PM from Dustin Porte, dustin.porte@onsceneservices.com

Q1. Will there be an alternate walk-through date with specific times to attend each location and an agenda?

A1. PG 4 of the RFP: As part of the RFP response, there is a MANDATORY site survey starting on Monday September 15, 2025. The site survey will begin at 8:00am at the Information Technology Building located at 215 W. 17th Ave. Covington, LA 70433. The site visit will consist of a walkthrough of an Elementary, Middle, Jr. High, and High School. The site visit will NOT include every school in our district. Vendors are required to visit each site in the site survey. Vendors are required to supply their own transportation. No visits may take place without an I.T. representative. No consideration will be given to any claims for additional cost based on a lack of knowledge of existing conditions. PG 12 of the RFP: Vendors that do not attend the complete premise survey will not be considered. PG 13 of the RFP: Vendors are NOT allowed to approach the schools.

Q2. Can you explain the process of removing the existing access points and chain of custody?

A2. Removal of existing access points are not in the scope of this project.

Q3. Can you explain the St Tammany Parish School Board policy and procedures on the review process in detail?

A3. This is not within the scope of the services requested within the RFP.

Q4. Can you publish the list of companies and individuals that walked the pre-bid mandated walk-through?

A4. Please see attachment in the email. (See Attachment 2 of this Addendum)

Q5. Will there be another round of questions to be submitted since the bid has been pushed back?

A5. Question due date will not change.

Q6. What is expected to be done with the current cat 6 cable routed to the old access points?

A6. This is not within the scope of the services requested within the RFP.

Q7. Does St Tammany Parish school system have an E rate coordinator that they are working with to confirm The process is in compliance and is being held to the state, federal and E rate bid guidelines?

A7. This is not within the scope of the services requested within the RFP.

Q8. As this RFP is similar to the one that was put out last year. Are there any concerns with eligibility and what was the reasoning for moving it to this year?

A8. This is not within the scope of the services requested within the RFP.

The following questions were received on September 24, 2025 at 3:37 PM from Rob Damare, rob.damare@patriotgovernmentservices.com

Q1. Permitting requirements. In light of recent Louisiana contractor law updates (Aug 2025), please confirm whether any parish/city building permits are required for this contract (e.g., conduit, core drills, exterior raceway, boring). If permits are required, who will be the permit holder (owner or prime contractor), and what inspections are applicable?

A1. This is dependent on the proposed solution. PG. 6 of the RFP: All work must adhere to all applicable city, parish, state, and federal codes. These include, but are not limited, to building and fire codes.

Q2. Demo/removal scope. Does the Scope of Work include removal of existing copper cabling, APs, mounting hardware, abandoned pathways, and/or racks/patch panels? If yes, please specify what must be removed vs. left in place and the required make-safe/cap-off/firestopping standards (especially where new conduit/boring is contemplated).

A2. Removal of existing access points, copper cabling, mounting hardware, abandoned pathways, and/or racks/patch panels are not in the scope of this project.

Q3. Inventory control & chain of custody. For any equipment removed or replaced, please define expectations for tagging, packing, storage location, custody hand-off, and required asset disposition logs (e.g., AP serial capture tied to school/site).

A3. This is not within the scope of the services requested within this RFP.

Q4. Sales tax exemption certificate. Please confirm that a signed Louisiana Department of Revenue sales-tax exemption certificate (LA R.S. 47:301(8)(c)) will be provided to the awarded contractor for eligible owner purchases and reconfirm that vendor-to-vendor purchases remain taxable unless otherwise directed.

A4. Cover instructions, page 3, #11 states "Sales tax IS NOT to be included in your proposal price. St. Tammany Parish School Board is exempt from sales tax as provided by LA R.S. 47:301(8)(c). Sales tax exemption only applies to purchases between St. Tammany Parish School Board and the contractor/vendor. Sales tax exemption does not apply to purchases made directly by the contractor/vendor to other companies on behalf of the school board. Those purchases are not sales tax exempt.

Q5. Design efficiency & pre-acceptance artifacts. The RFP requests the "most efficient design." Please confirm that, at a minimum, the selected vendor must submit per-site predictive RF designs/heatmaps (including co-channel/adjacent-channel interference projections), device-density assumptions, and placement drawings before final design approval.

A5. It will be dependent on the solution proposed. The solution must meet the criteria outlined in the RFP. Vendor responses will be scored based on the Evaluation Criteria grid on page 12 of the RFP. PG 2 of the RFP: The St. Tammany Parish School Board (STPSB) is interested in the total scope of services offered by the vendors who have a focus on providing secure wireless

solutions. STPSB is seeking a complete system from installation of wiring of the access points with two CAT6 cables per point. Conduit is required for any exterior cable runs and any exposed cabling below the ceiling to configuration of any and all wireless system components. STPSB is seeking a vendor that has broad and demonstrated experience in wireless access in school systems similar to STPSB.

Q6. Post-install validation. Will post-installation wireless validation surveys/heatmaps (active + passive) be required before facility acceptance? If so, please specify the KPIs (e.g., minimum RSSI/SNR, 5/6 GHz primary coverage, roam thresholds, latency/jitter for voice, percentage of area meeting the spec) and required deliverables (e.g., Ekahau/Hamina reports, annotated floor plans, and remediation closeout).

A6. It will be dependent on the solution proposed. The solution must meet the criteria outlined in the RFP. Vendor responses will be scored based on the Evaluation Criteria grid on page 12 of the RFP.

Q7. Copper & fiber test results. Please confirm that CAT6 test results are required for each run (delivered electronically at substantial completion) and specify the required fiber test standards/wavelengths for any single-mode links.

A7. PG 18 of the RFP: TESTING - All testing of communications wiring shall be done during the time of installation. Electronic copies of test results must be provided upon substantial completion of the job. Category 6 and 6a UTP cable, both horizontal and backbone shall be tested in accordance with TSB 67. A basic link test shall be run, which includes all level two testing. Single mode fiber optic cable link segments shall be tested in one direction at 1310 nanometers and optionally at 1550 nanometer.

Q8. AP quantities & evaluation. Because exact AP counts are to be finalized after proposal review and site surveys by the selected vendor, please confirm you want a unit-price schedule (e.g., AP + 2×CAT6 drop + term/test; hard-lid adders; lift; cage; conduit LF; boring LF) to enable add/delete without re-bid and to keep cost scoring apples-to-apples.

A8. PG 12 of the RFP: Section 11 - Cost Quotation - Please provide a complete cost summary for all hardware, software, support, installation, wiring, site analysis and training services being proposed. The vendor must supply costs and details to complete all schools and offices as a single project. In addition, the vendor must supply the cost for access points that may be added or deleted from the total solution after the individual site surveys are completed by the chosen vendor. The costs should be listed in summary format but with sufficient detail. Also, it is desired that the price includes all costs associated with maintenance for three and five years. List separately cost quotations for two additional two-year renewals. Cost must include complete solution. Please provide us a copy of your standard agreement and guarantee information. Vendors that do not attend the complete premise survey will not be considered.

	Total Cost for 3 Years	Total Cost for 5 Years	3 Year Renewal After Initial Term	5 Year Renewal After Initial Term
Complete Cost				
Renewal Cost after Initial Term				
List Components Proposed in Solution				

Please expand table if needed

Do you offer pro-rated cost for components (including maintenance, support, etc.) added after install to run consecutive with initial term contract? If so, explain how pricing is determined.

Q9. Conduit scope clarity. Where conduit quantities and methods (aerial/underground, sweeps, pull boxes/handholes) are referenced, please confirm whether those lengths are pricing estimates only and whether final conduit counts will be established post-award during escorted surveys. Additionally, please confirm acceptance of equivalent, code-compliant materials that meet STPSB standards.

A9. PG 13-15 of the RFP: As a reference below you will find a list of schools and the estimated type and length of conduit needed. Conduit prices and lengths may vary. Please include conduit pricing for each type and length of conduit.

Conduit

Site	1/2"	3/4"	1"	1 1/2"	2"
Abita Springs Elementary					
Abita Springs Middle		100.00			
Abney Early Childhood			250.00		
Abney Elementary			590.00		30.00
Alton Elementary		100.00			
Bayou Lacombe Middle			30.00	20.00	
Bayou Woods Elementary					
Bonne Ecole Elementary		60.00	80.00		
Boyett Jr. High				60.00	
Brock Elementary					
Carolyn Park Middle		80.00	20.00	130.00	

Chahta-Ima Elementary			130.00		
Clearwood Jr. High					
Covington Elementary		80.00			
Covington High					
Creeside Jr. High		130.00		170.00	
Cypress Cove Elementary					
Fifth Ward Jr. High		240.00			
Florida Ave. Elementary	180.00		100.00		
Folsom Elementary		80.00			
Folsom Jr. High		110.00		80.00	
Fontainebleau High		120.00	610.00	70.00	110.00
Fontainebleau Jr. High		100.00			50.00
Honey Island Elementary			90.00		
Lake Harbor Middle					
Lakeshore High				80.00	
Lancaster Elementary		100.00			
Lee Road Jr. High		110.00	200.00		
Little Oak Middle					
Little Pearl Elementary					
Lyon Elementary			60.00	80.00	
Madisonville Elementary					
Madisonville Jr. High		100.00			
Magnolia Trace Elementary					
Mandeville Elementary		100.00			
Mandeville High		280.00			300.00
Mandeville Jr. High					
Gayle Sloan Middle			100.00		
Marigny Elementary					
Mayfield Elementary		100.00			
L.P. Monteleone Jr. High					
Northshore High		130.00		80.00	140.00
Pearl River High		50.00			
Pine View Middle			100.00		50.00
Pitcher Jr. High		120.00	20.00		
Pontchartrain Elementary					
Riverside Elementary		100.00			

Salmen High		150.00			
Sixth Ward Elementary		240.00			
Slidell High				50.00	
Slidell Jr. High		50.00			
St. Tammany Jr. High					
Tchefuncte Middle					
Whispering Forest Elementary					
Woodlake Elementary		170.00	220.00		20.00
Treen Technology Center		100.00			
Slidell Pupil Appraisal					
Thrive					
Operation Jump Start West					
Early Childhood Development Center					
Harrison Curriculum Center		80.00			
Slidell Maintenance			40.00		
Information Technology					
Covington Maintenance					
Brooks Curriculum Center					
Central Office					
Education Center					
Slidell Annex					
Slidell Support Facility					
Central Transportation Office					

EMT is listed in the General Network Performance Specs multiple times. The specific use of EMT or PVC would be dependent on your design proposal. PG 2 of the RFP: The St. Tammany Parish School Board (STPSB) is interested in the total scope of services offered by the vendors who have a focus on providing secure wireless solutions. STPSB is seeking a complete system from installation of wiring of the access points with two CAT6 cables per point. Conduit is required for any exterior cable runs and any exposed cabling below the ceiling to configuration of any and all wireless system components. STPSB is seeking a vendor that has broad and demonstrated experience in wireless access in school systems similar to STPSB.

Q10. Vendor neutrality & authorship (conduit/pathways). Please certify that no outside vendor or its agents drafted or advised on the conduit/pathway specifications or evaluation criteria and that any existing pathway drawings/photos/notes will be released to all bidders simultaneously via the bid portal.

A10. STPSB drafted the entire RFP without participation or input from any vendors. Data and information from prior projects were used by STPSB in the creation of the RFP. This data and information was included in the RFP for all potential bidders, in order to remain open and fair. Questions are responded to as they are received and researched. Once the question period closes all questions and their associated responses will be posted as an addendum to all vendors, to remain open and fair.

Q11. Walkthrough access. Please confirm whether there will be additional escorted windows for vendors to complete field notes, and reconfirm that no campus visits may occur without an IT representative present.

A11. PG 4 of the RFP: As part of the RFP response, there is a MANDATORY site survey starting on Monday September 15, 2025. The site survey will begin at 8:00am at the Information Technology Building located at 215 W. 17th Ave. Covington, LA 70433. The site visit will consist of a walkthrough of an Elementary, Middle, Jr. High, and High School. The site visit will NOT include every school in our district. Vendors are required to visit each site in the site survey. Vendors are required to supply their own transportation. No visits may take place without an I.T. representative. No consideration will be given to any claims for additional cost based on a lack of knowledge of existing conditions. PG 12 of the RFP: Vendors that do not attend the complete premise survey will not be considered. PG 13 of the RFP: Vendors are NOT allowed to approach the schools.

Q12. Minimum AP/Wi-Fi standard. Please clarify the minimum wireless standard and radio chain required (e.g., Wi-Fi 6 vs. 6E; dual-radio vs. tri-radio; 2.5 GbE uplinks) so all vendors design to the same baseline.

A12. PG 7-11 of the RFP:

Section 4 - Product Information

Provide any product information for the proposed wireless network solution. Provide any product information such as access points, antennas, POE devices, power requirements, access point controllers, security controllers/software, tracking controllers/software, locating devices and servers if needed to run software in the solution proposed. Our current solution is with Aruba. STPSB will evaluate all complete solutions that are proposed, cloud or on-premise. Any proposal should include, but should not be limited to, the following:

Specifications of Wireless Infrastructure

Access Points (APs) – wireless access points, wall and ceiling mountable. Two CAT 6 cables back to the nearest IDF wiring closet must be included with access point installation (the IT Department will dictate which IDF each access point needs to be wired to). Existing cables will not be reused. STPSB does not have a preferred cabling contractor but have used Lightway Resources for our cabling needs. STPSB does not have a preferred copper cable brand. New racks or patch panels are not required with the new cabling. New cabling must be yellow in

color. Wiring specifications are listed in the Network Performance Specifications section of this document.

Minimum Specifications

- 802.11ac Wave 2 – Wi-Fi – Dual or Equivalent. Must also be backwards compatible to support 801.11a/b/g/n.
- Vendors may bid various options. Equivalent models must meet or exceed the specifications for the Aruba 635.

- **Minimum Specifications for Wireless Access Points:**

- o QoS features
- o Four radios: 2.4 and 5 GHz, dual-band WIDS/WIPS, and Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE)
- o 4-stream 802.11ac Wave 2, up to 2.5 Gbps.
- o Two × Gigabit Ethernet port.
- o PoE: 802.3at.
- o A device-to-AP ratio of 20:1 shall be applied to all classrooms.
- o Offices areas, large rooms, conference rooms, common areas, cafeterias, gyms, etc. shall have a device-to-AP ratio of 15:1 to accommodate large-group testing. The exact AP count requirement shall be determined by STPSB AFTER all proposals and pricing is reviewed.
- o Access points shall have a minimum of three transmitters, three receivers, and three 802.11ac spatial streams (4x4:3 MU/SU-MIMO).
- o All access points shall support dual-band, a two-radio operation such that 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz operations are supported concurrently.
- o The installed wireless access points shall support advertising a minimum of seven SSIDs simultaneously.
- o The installed solution shall support auto-channel selection for all access point radios and comply with US government Dynamic Frequency Selection (DFS) requirements.
- o The installed solution shall allow administratively defining the set of channels used for auto-assignment of both 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz operations.
- o The solution must support 40MHz-wide channels in 5GHz for 802.11n and 80MHz-wide channels for 802.11ac.
- o The installed system shall allow restricting the channels used for auto-channel assignment at both global and user-defined group levels.
- o The installed solution shall support auto-power and customized selection for access point radios.
- o The installed solution shall support load balancing wireless clients across multiple radios.
- o The installed solution must support AP enforced band steering between 2.4Ghz and 5Ghz band.
- o The system shall be able to control IP multicast.
- o APS shall handoff IP traffic to the local switch and not routed through

the controller.

- o Wireless access points shall connect to the wired network with a minimum of a 1000BASE-TX full-duplex Ethernet.
- o Wireless access points shall support auto-provisioning via DHCP attributes or DNS queries, such that wireless controllers adopt access points, and fully functional without manual configuration.
- o All access points shall comply with 802.3at Power-over-Ethernet standards.
- o System design shall prevent user loss of connectivity in the event of controller/internet failure.
- o Access points shall support over-the-air packet captures without impairment or degradation of client services.
- o Access points shall support rogue access point detection without impacting client services.
- o Access Points in all recreational areas shall be installed within an enclosure capable of withstanding a direct hit from a hard or large ball. The cabinet shall not interfere with APs radio transmissions and must have an industrial design for durability, industrial- grade antenna connectors, and locking options.
- o Access Points shall have internal antennas unless otherwise approved by the STPSB.
- o Access Points shall minimally support 802.11n simultaneously on both the 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz radios.
- o Access Points shall minimally Support 802.11ac Wave 1 on 5 GHz Radio.
- o Must include beam-forming functionality for at least 802.11 a/g/n/ac clients.
- o Must support minimally UNII-2 and UNII-2 Extended bands of 5 GHz.
- o Must incorporate radio resource management for power, channel, coverage hole detection, and performance optimization.
- o Must support Proactive Key Caching and other methods for fast, secure roaming.
- o Must support 802.11w Management Frame Protection.
- o Shall support locally significant certificates on the APs using a Public Key Infrastructure (PKI).
- o Must support the ability to serve clients and monitor the RF environment concurrently.
- o Based on the on-site requirements, all sites that require plenum-rated shall meet the UL2043 standard.
- o The wireless system must be capable of client tracking rogue location and interference reporting.
- o The proposer shall provide the appropriate access point mounting (bracket and clip), as needed, for a ceiling grid or wall installation.
- o Vendor must be available for after-hours installation if necessary.
- **Access Point Options**
 - o The selected Vendor shall make available all-new access point technologies when ratified and available to meet the needs of the STPSB for the term of the contract. Unit pricing bids for Generation 6

- o wireless access points will be considered.
 - o The selected Vendor shall make available additional access points used explicitly for large areas and outdoor access points to meet the needs of STPSB for the term of the contract.
 - o Any combination of access points may be selected for implementation.
- **System Management**
 - o All proposed solutions shall provide system management solutions comparable to Aruba Airwave.
 - o The installed system shall provide a management application that allows a single point of configuration for the entire solution, and the ability for a single point of configuration per site.
 - o The wireless management application shall support administrative access by multiple users simultaneously.
 - o The wireless controller and management application shall support finding wireless host information by MAC address and IP address.
 - o The installed solution shall have the ability to classify types of interference observed during any radio frequency monitoring.
 - o The wireless management application shall allow role-based access to user-defined groups.
 - o All proposed solutions shall provide RADIUS and TACACS+ capabilities to provide Network Access Control for network equipment.
 - o All proposed system management solutions must provide capability for Multi- Factor Authentication.
- **Hardware Functionality, Information, Monitoring, and Security:**
 - o Adherence to current industry (Wi-Fi, IEEE, UL) standards for performance.
 - o The use of commercial equipment and quality cabling will be expected.
 - o Provide STPSB the wireless survey simulation tools that will be used to place access points.
 - o Provide STPSB specifics on the use of directional antenna for covering specific areas.
 - o Of particular interest will be how all the devices work together to provide additional features that could not be obtained using disparate equipment.
 - o Hardware and system survivability and redundancies will be evaluated.
 - o Supplied locations where information can be obtained on proposed equipment independent of the vendor, such as web, newsgroups and mailing list and how well information on the proposed equipment is communicated in the proposal.
 - o How well did the proposal cover the monitoring and security equipment capabilities?
 - o The depth of features of the monitoring portion of the proposal and the thoroughness of the security solution.
- Supply – how quickly can equipment be on site

- **Technology:**
 - o How well the technology has kept up with current standards and the proposed equipment's ability to be upgraded to new wireless standards on the horizon.
 - o Expected end of life, end of service, and end of sale dates will be important.
 - o The ability of the devices to cover the interior of buildings without affecting the neighboring spaces.
 - o Attention will be given to the tools and methods used to do the site surveys after the RFP is awarded.
- **Training, Support, References, and Experience:**
 - o Description of training for STPSB system representatives on configuration of devices, monitoring procedures and security tools.
 - o The vendors total support environment will be evaluated including, but not limited to, available support and response times to hardware and software problems and questions.
 - o Vendor's previous record of performance and service within a Pre-K through 12 school environments.
 - o Vendor's and equipment manufacturer's years of experience and leadership in the wireless arena will be important.
 - o Each vendor should submit recommendations for an enterprise installation.

Q13. Core/WLAN integration. Please confirm required integrations with the existing core (e.g., VLANs, multicast policies, AAA/TACACS+/RADIUS/AD nesting) and state whether STPSB intends to retain ClearPass/AirWave or will accept alternate NAC/NMS platforms.

A13. PG 2 of the RFP: The St. Tammany Parish School Board (STPSB) is interested in the total scope of services offered by the vendors who have a focus on providing secure wireless solutions. STPSB is seeking a complete system from installation of wiring of the access points with two CAT6 cables per point. Conduit is required for any exterior cable runs and any exposed cabling below the ceiling to configuration of any and all wireless system components. STPSB is seeking a vendor that has broad and demonstrated experience in wireless access in school systems similar to STPSB. PG 7 of the RFP: Section 4 - Product Information - Provide any product information such as access points, antennas, POE devices, power requirements, access point controllers, security controllers/software, tracking controllers/software, locating devices and servers if needed to run software in the solution proposed. Our current solution is with Aruba. STPSB will evaluate all complete solutions that are proposed, cloud or on-premise. PG 10 of the RFP: All proposed solutions shall provide RADIUS and TACACS+ capabilities to provide Network Access Control for network equipment.

Q14. Install window & E-rate. Please confirm the earliest service start remains July 1, 2026, and indicate whether STPSB will use SPI or BEAR for invoicing.

A14. PG 2 of the RFP: An Erate application will be involved in this purchase, and the installation will be begin no earlier than July 1, 2026. Invoicing is not within the scope of the services requested within the RFP.

Q15 a). Which bonds are required (Bid, Performance, Payment), and when each is due (at award vs. Notice to Proceed).

A15 a). Cover instructions, page 2, #7 states "A Performance Bond in the amount of fifty percent (50%) of the total amount of the order will be required from the successful vendor."

Q15 b). Performance Bond term — please confirm whether the Performance Bond must cover:

- Installation/Construction period only, or
- Installation + the initial maintenance/support term (e.g., the 3-year or 5-year term contemplated in the cost section), or
- Installation + maintenance + optional renewal periods (two additional 2-year renewals).

A15 b). Cover instructions, page 2, #7 states "A Performance Bond in the amount of fifty percent (50%) of the total amount of the order will be required from the successful vendor."

Q15 c). If maintenance/support must be bonded, may the bond amount be reduced to the annual remaining value each year, and may it be provided as separate annual bonds (one per contract year) instead of a single multi-year bond?

A15 c). Cover instructions, page 2, #7 states "A Performance Bond in the amount of fifty percent (50%) of the total amount of the order will be required from the successful vendor."

Q15 d). Bond form & surety. Please provide the required bond form (AIA or owner form) and any surety requirements (e.g., AM Best rating, Treasury-listed).

A15 d). This is the vendors responsibility

Q15 e). Apples-to-apples evaluation. To ensure consistent scoring, would STPSB like proposers to include bond cost as a separate line item or as a bond rate (%) applied to the defined bonded base? If so, please specify which portion(s) of price constitute the bonded base for evaluation (installation only vs. installation + maintenance/support).

A15 e). PG 2 of the RFP: The St. Tammany Parish School Board (STPSB) is interested in the total scope of services offered by the vendors who have a focus on providing secure wireless solutions. STPSB is seeking a complete system from installation of wiring of the access points with two CAT6 cables per point. Conduit is required for any exterior cable runs and any exposed cabling below the ceiling to configuration of any and all wireless system components. STPSB is seeking a vendor that has broad and demonstrated experience in wireless access in school systems similar to STPSB. PG 12 of the RFP: Section 11 - Cost Quotation - Please provide a complete cost summary for all hardware, software, support, installation, wiring, site analysis and training services being proposed. The vendor must supply costs and details to complete all

schools and offices as a single project. In addition, the vendor must supply the cost for access points that may be added or deleted from the total solution after the individual site surveys are completed by the chosen vendor. The costs should be listed in summary format but with sufficient detail. Also, it is desired that the price includes all costs associated with maintenance for three and five years. List separately cost quotations for two additional two-year renewals. Cost must include complete solution. Please provide us a copy of your standard agreement and guarantee information. Vendors that do not attend the complete premise survey will not be considered.

	Total Cost for 3 Years	Total Cost for 5 Years	3 Year Renewal After Initial Term	5 Year Renewal After Initial Term
Complete Cost				
Renewal Cost after Initial Term				
List Components Proposed in Solution				

Please expand table if needed

Do you offer pro-rated cost for components (including maintenance, support, etc.) added after install to run consecutive with initial term contract? If so, explain how pricing is determined.

Q16. Maintenance terms in cost form. The cost section references 3- and 5-year terms with two additional 2-year renewals. Please confirm whether maintenance renewals are contingent options and whether renewal pricing should be fixed for evaluation or indexed (and to which index).

A16. PG 12 of the RFP: Section 11 - Cost Quotation - Please provide a complete cost summary for all hardware, software, support, installation, wiring, site analysis and training services being proposed. The vendor must supply costs and details to complete all schools and offices as a single project. In addition, the vendor must supply the cost for access points that may be added or deleted from the total solution after the individual site surveys are completed by the chosen vendor. The costs should be listed in summary format but with sufficient detail. Also, it is desired that the price includes all costs associated with maintenance for three and five years. List separately cost quotations for two additional two-year renewals. Cost must include complete solution. Please provide us a copy of your standard agreement and guarantee information. Vendors that do not attend the complete premise survey will not be considered.

	Total Cost for 3 Years	Total Cost for 5 Years	3 Year Renewal After Initial Term	5 Year Renewal After Initial Term
Complete Cost				
Renewal Cost after Initial Term				
List Components Proposed in Solution				

Please expand table if needed

Do you offer pro-rated cost for components (including maintenance, support, etc.) added after install to run consecutive with initial term contract? If so, explain how pricing is determined.

Q17. Maps package. Please confirm the maps/switch-location packet (via IT) includes all schools and offices contemplated by the RFP and will be provided to all vendors upon request; also, confirm it is informational only and not to scale.

A17. PG 13 of the RFP: Copies of school and office maps can be obtained by contacting Jessica Johnson in the IT Department at 985-898-6410. The maps are informational only. These maps are not to scale, nor are the building's physical orientations always correct. The maps will indicate with accuracy the location of Cisco and Extreme switches that currently supply network connections to the school. We will also supply a list of schools including addresses. **Vendors are NOT allowed to approach the schools.**

Q18. Attachment handling for e-bids. For electronic submissions, please confirm whether the original executed 889 NDAA affidavit is required at submission or only upon award, and whether all other affidavits/attachments must be executed and uploaded with the proposal.

A18. Cover instructions page 1, item 5 states "Proposals submitted electronically via www.centralbidding.com, must provide all fully executed attachments relative to this Request for Proposal. The attachments associated with this Request for Proposal are the enclosed Proposal Information Form (page 23) Contract Provisions for Procurement Contracts (Attachment A) in the event Federal funds are used for any portion of this purchase, STPSB Contract Addendum (Attachment B), the Affidavit for Compliance with Section 889(a) of the Fiscal Year 2019 National Defense Authorization Act (Attachment C), Certification Regarding Lobbying (Attachment D), The Debarment and Suspension Certification Form (Attachment E), Non-Collusion Statement (Attachment F) and Firearm Discriminatory Act 587 (SB 234) Disclosure (Attachment G). **Proposals submitted without all of the fully executed attachments will be considered non-responsive. Vendors submitting electronically must furnish the original fully executed Affidavit for Compliance with Section 889(a) of the Fiscal Year 2019 National Defense Authorization Act (Attachment C), upon award.** Also, RFP page 3 & 4, item 1.2 states

“Vendors submitting proposals electronically via www.centralbidding.com must include all attachments completed and fully executed. The attachments associated with this RFP are the enclosed Proposal Information Form (page 23), Contract Provisions for Procurement Contracts (in the event Federal Funds are used to make any purchases from this RFP) (ATTACHMENT A), STPSB Contract Addendum (ATTACHMENT B), the Affidavit for Compliance with Section 889(a) of the Fiscal Year 2019 National Defense Authorization Act (ATTACHMENT C), the attached Certification Regarding Lobbying (ATTACHMENT D), the Debarment and Suspension Certification Form (ATTACHMENT E), 4Non-Collusion Statement (ATTACHMENT F), and Firearm Discriminatory Act 581 (SB 234) Disclosure (ATTACHMENT G). **Proposals submitted without the fully executed attachments will be considered non-responsive. Vendors submitting electronically must furnish the original fully executed Affidavit for Compliance with Section 889(a) of the Fiscal Year 2019 National Defense Authorization Act (ATTACHMENT C), upon award.**

The following questions were received on September 24, 2025 at 3:54 PM from Chris Calico, chris.calico@ontivity.com

Q1. Will the awarded contract be a lump sum or itemized contract?

A1. PG 12 of the RFP: Section 11 - Cost Quotation - Please provide a complete cost summary for all hardware, software, support, installation, wiring, site analysis and training services being proposed. The vendor must supply costs and details to complete all schools and offices as a single project. In addition, the vendor must supply the cost for access points that may be added or deleted from the total solution after the individual site surveys are completed by the chosen vendor. The costs should be listed in summary format but with sufficient detail. Also, it is desired that the price includes all costs associated with maintenance for three and five years. List separately cost quotations for two additional two-year renewals. Cost must include complete solution. Please provide us a copy of your standard agreement and guarantee information. Vendors that do not attend the complete premise survey will not be considered.

	Total Cost for 3 Years	Total Cost for 5 Years	3 Year Renewal After Initial Term	5 Year Renewal After Initial Term
Complete Cost				
Renewal Cost after Initial Term				
List Components Proposed in Solution				

Please expand table if needed

Do you offer pro-rated cost for components (including maintenance, support, etc.) added after install to run consecutive with initial term contract? If so, explain how pricing is determined.

Q2. Are there any specific rules for joint venture or teaming?

A2. This is at the vendors' discretion. The solution must meet the criteria outlined in the RFP.

Q3. Is this project Federally funded?

A3. PG 2 of the RFP: An Erate application will be involved in this purchase, and the installation will begin no earlier than July 1, 2026.

Q4. Is there a minimum percentage that must be performed by Vendor?

A4. The question is unclear and not enough information is provided in the question to answer.

Q5. Does the Owner have preferred billing milestones?

A5. PG 12 of the RFP: Section 11 - Cost Quotation - Please provide a complete cost summary for all hardware, software, support, installation, wiring, site analysis and training services being proposed. The vendor must supply costs and details to complete all schools and offices as a single project. In addition, the vendor must supply the cost for access points that may be added or deleted from the total solution after the individual site surveys are completed by the chosen vendor. The costs should be listed in summary format but with sufficient detail. Also, it is desired that the price includes all costs associated with maintenance for three and five years. List separately cost quotations for two additional two-year renewals. Cost must include complete solution. Please provide us a copy of your standard agreement and guarantee information. Vendors that do not attend the complete premise survey will not be considered.

	Total Cost for 3 Years	Total Cost for 5 Years	3 Year Renewal After Initial Term	5 Year Renewal After Initial Term
Complete Cost				
Renewal Cost after Initial Term				
List Components Proposed in Solution				

Please expand table if needed

Do you offer pro-rated cost for components (including maintenance, support, etc.) added after install to run consecutive with initial term contract? If so, explain how pricing is determined.

Q6. What are the key deliverables and milestones?

A6. PG 12 of the RFP: Section 11 - Cost Quotation - Please provide a complete cost summary for all hardware, software, support, installation, wiring, site analysis and training services being proposed. The vendor must supply costs and details to complete all schools and offices as a single project. In addition, the vendor must supply the cost for access points that may be added or deleted from the total solution after the individual site surveys are completed by the chosen vendor. The costs should be listed in summary format but with sufficient detail. Also, it is desired that the price includes all costs associated with maintenance for three and five years. List separately cost quotations for two additional two-year renewals. Cost must include complete solution. Please provide us a copy of your standard agreement and guarantee information. Vendors that do not attend the complete premise survey will not be considered.

	Total Cost 3 Years	Total Cost for 5 Years	3 Year Renewal After Initial Term	5 Year Renewal After Initial Term
Complete Cost				
Renewal Cost after Initial Term				
List Components Proposed in Solution				

Please expand table if needed

Do you offer pro-rated cost for components (including maintenance, support, etc.) added after install to run consecutive with initial term contract? If so, explain how pricing is determined.

Q7. What is the expected timeline for implementation?

A7. PG 2 of the RFP: An Erate application will be involved in this purchase, and the installation will begin no earlier than July 1, 2026. PG 11 of the RFP: Section 5 – Proposal Designs and Assessments – Include timelines and project management. STPSB does not have a proposed timeline for the complete installation for all schools and admin facilities, but it is expected that the project will be completed as quickly as possible. PG 11 of the RFP: Section 9 – Implementation and Training - Include a proposed timeline. Each vendor must outline their specific plan to accomplish the proposed timeline.

Q8. What is the budget range or funding source for the project?

A8. Budget range is not within the scope of this project. PG 2 of the RFP: STPSB invites you to submit a response for such solutions that satisfy the specifications in this request. A system that provides a solution to this challenge is highly desirable. An Erate application will be involved in this purchase, and the installation will begin no earlier than July 1, 2026.

Q9. Are there specific billing terms or payment schedules outlined?

A9. PG 12 of the RFP: Section 11 - Cost Quotation - Please provide a complete cost summary for all hardware, software, support, installation, wiring, site analysis and training services being proposed. The vendor must supply costs and details to complete all schools and offices as a single project. In addition, the vendor must supply the cost for access points that may be added or deleted from the total solution after the individual site surveys are completed by the chosen vendor. The costs should be listed in summary format but with sufficient detail. Also, it is desired that the price includes all costs associated with maintenance for three and five years. List separately cost quotations for two additional two-year renewals. Cost must include complete solution. Please provide us a copy of your standard agreement and guarantee information. Vendors that do not attend the complete premise survey will not be considered.

	Total Cost for 3 Years	Total Cost for 5 Years	3 Year Renewal After Initial Term	5 Year Renewal After Initial Term
Complete Cost				
Renewal Cost after Initial Term				
List Components Proposed in Solution				

Please expand table if needed

Do you offer pro-rated cost for components (including maintenance, support, etc.) added after install to run consecutive with initial term contract? If so, explain how pricing is determined.

Q10. Will WAN be provided at each school?

A10. Not within the scope of the services requested.

Q11. What type of cable will be provided for the APs to utilize as backbone (Cat 5, Cat 6)?

A11. The backbone is not in the scope of this project. PG 2 of the RFP: STPSB is seeking a complete system from installation of wiring of the access points with two CAT6 cables per point. PG 7 of the RFP: Specifications of Wireless Infrastructure - Access Points (APs) – wireless access points, wall and ceiling mountable. Two CAT 6 cables back to the nearest IDF wiring closet must be included with access point installation (the IT Department will dictate which IDF each access point needs to be wired to). Existing cables will not be reused.

Q12. There is a specification that all antennas be internal, our 2.4, 5, and 6 Ghz antennae are internal. But if they wish to use Wi-Fi HaLow, it is an external antenna only. What do we need to do for an exception request?

A12. PG 9 of the RFP: Access Points shall have internal antennas unless otherwise approved by the STPSB.

Q13. The specification calls for 2 x Gigabit ports, is that WAN & LAN or two dedicated LAN ports of this capability?

A13. This will be dependent on the proposed solution. PG 2 of the RFP: The St. Tammany Parish School Board (STPSB) is interested in the total scope of services offered by the vendors who have a focus on providing secure wireless solutions. STPSB is seeking a complete system from installation of wiring of the access points with two CAT6 cables per point. Conduit is required for any exterior cable runs and any exposed cabling below the ceiling to configuration of any and all wireless system components. STPSB is seeking a vendor that has broad and demonstrated experience in wireless access in school systems similar to STPSB.

Q14. Within a school, will the same SSIDs be utilized in all APs to facilitate roaming, or will each AP group be uniquely configured?

A14. This will be dependent on the proposed solution. PG 2 of the RFP: The St. Tammany Parish School Board (STPSB) is interested in the total scope of services offered by the vendors who have a focus on providing secure wireless solutions. STPSB is seeking a complete system from installation of wiring of the access points with two CAT6 cables per point. Conduit is required for any exterior cable runs and any exposed cabling below the ceiling to configuration of any and all wireless system components. STPSB is seeking a vendor that has broad and demonstrated experience in wireless access in school systems similar to STPSB.

My signature below acknowledges the receipt of Addendum 2, RFP #205 Wireless Network 2025 – 2026. This form must be signed and submitted with your proposal.

Signature

Date

LOCATION	Total WAPs
Abita Springs Elementary	60
Abita Springs Middle	43
Abney Early Childhood	22
Abney Elementary	79
Alton Elementary	26
Bayou LaCombe Middle	28
Bayou Woods Elementary	58
Bonne Ecole Elementary	69
Boyet Jr. High	59
Brock Elementary	32
Brooks Curriculum Center	8
Carolyn Park Middle	48
Central Office	20
Chahta-Ima Elementary	37
Clearwood Jr. High	57
Covington Elementary	57
Covington High	118
Covington Maintenance	2
Creekside Jr. High	51
Cypress Cove Elementary	61
Early Childhood Development Center	10
Education Center	11
Fifth Ward Jr. High	57
Florida Ave. Elementary	44
Folsom Elementary	55
Folsom Jr. High	31
Fontainebleau High	159
Fontainebleau Jr. High	72
Gayle Sloan Middle	56
Harrison Curriculum Center	19
Honey Island Elementary	53
Information Technology	6
L.P. Monteleone Jr. High	46
Lake Harbor Middle	53
Lakeshore High	73
Lancaster Elementary	98
Lee Road Jr. High	80
Little Oak Middle	71
Little Pearl Elementary	23
Lyon Elementary	58
Madisonville Elementary	91
Madisonville Jr. High	52
Magnolia Trace Elementary	56
Mandeville Elementary	55
Mandeville High	165
Mandeville Jr. High	57
Marigny Elementary	47
Mayfield Elementary	69

Northshore High	121
Pearl River High	68
Pine View Middle	59
Pitcher Jr. High	47
Pontchartrain Elementary	64
Project Team East	19
Project Team West	15
Riverside Elementary	51
Salmen High	77
Sixth Ward Jr. High	44
Slidell Annex	2
Slidell High	119
Slidell Jr. High	56
Slidell Pupil Appraisal	4
Slidell Support Facility	2
Slidell Warehouse	2
St. Tammany Jr. High	51
Tchefuncte Middle	62
Thrive Center	3
Transportation Center	4
Transportation Repair Depot	4
Treen Technology Center	9
Whispering Forest Elementary	51
Woodlake Elementary	51
Spares	5
Total	3592

Wireless Network 2025-2026 Vendor Walkthrough

Printed Name	Signature	Company	Phone	Email
✓ CHUCK CHAZSON ✓		✓ CDW-G ✓	225-975-0562	CHUCK.CHAZSON@CDW.COM
✓ JEREMY CUDRIN ✓		✓ LTC ✓	504-722-6746	JEREMY.CUDRIN@LOCKSTEPGROUP.COM
✓ JOHN DOLMETSK ✓		✓ WIFIMUM ✓	717-577-0772	JOHN.DOLMETSK@WIFIMUM.COM
✓ Robert Zeringue ✓		✓ LightWay Resources ✓	985-502-4129	admin@lightwayresources.com
✓ Leeston LeBlanc ✓		✓ Uniti Fiber LLC ✓	251-402-3530	Leeston.LeBlanc@uniti.com
✓ Joe Bohner ✓		✓ Southern Electronics ✓	504-439-0715	JBohner@Southernel.com
✓ Tommy ENZO ✓		✓ Centerline Comm ✓	251-550-3223	TENZO@PMASS.COM
✓ Chris Calico ✓		✓ Eastern ✓	504-583-3419	Chris.calico@ontivity.com
✓ Dustin Frilot ✓		✓ IPSC ✓	985-662-4690	dfrilot@ipsc.biz
✓ Mark Peters ✓		✓ IPSC ✓	985-507-8374	Mark.Peters4@yahoo.com
✓ Shannon Cockley ✓		✓ Lightway Resources ✓	985-906-4219	shannon.cockley@yahoo.com
✓ Benjamin Toups ✓		✓ DDF Creations ✓	337-298-1481	ben@dotcreations.com
✓ Olivia Simoneaux ✓		✓ Extreme Networks ✓	228-223-8952	oappel@extremenetworks.com
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✓ ~~CHUCK WALKER~~ ✓		✓ LATB ✓	(726) 841-6504	CWALK@LATB
✓ ~~DANIEL WALKER~~ ✓		✓ LATB ✓	504-241-2502	DWALKER@LATB
✓ Scott Hargis ✓		✓ G ✓	504-305-2102	SHARGIS@LATB
✓ Rob Damie ✓		✓ Patriot Government Services ✓	(504) 250-5808	Rob@patriotgovernmentservices.com
✓ Andrew Whill ✓		✓ CSPIRE ✓	225-528-6041	Andrew@getsmarter.com
✓ Stephen Owens ✓		✓ Extreme Networks ✓	601-214-7748	sovens@extremenetworks.com
✓ Dustin Porte ✓		✓ OSS OnScene Services ✓	985-630-2990	dustin.porte@OSScity.com

Daniel Walker - left after NSH

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