

# MEMORANDUM



**To:** Dr. Douglas Howell, Superintendent  
**From:** Jonathan R. Balls, Director of Business Operations  
**Date:** March 17, 2026  
**RE:** Internet Access (IA)

---

On February 12, 2026 bids were opened for IA Service. Thirty (30) vendors were invited to Bid. Bids from four (4) vendors were received. The bids were evaluated on price, proposed solution configuration and specifications, vendor qualifications, price of E-rate ineligible components and fiscal integrity of the vendor. Direct Communications received the overall highest score.

Below is the detailed bid recap for the four bids received.

	Lumen Denver, CO	Direct Communications Rockland, ID	Sparklight Phoenix, AZ	Fat Beam Coeur d'Alene, ID
Cost Per Month before E-rate 3-year term	\$2,903.32	\$1,400.00	\$2,027.00	\$1,595.00
Cost Per Month before E-Rate 5-year term	\$2,902.32	\$1,300.00	\$1,621.00	\$1,495.00

**Board Action Requested:** Motion to award a 5-year term bid contract to Direct Communications in the monthly amount of \$1,300.00. This amount represents the lowest responsible contract bid for all services as requested for the project. This amount is projected to be subsidized at 80% with federal E-rate funding AND 10% by the State of Idaho.