RFP #19-0620E4-105
Connected Communities - Public Wi-Fi for Students
(Re-bid of RFP #19-0619E5-073 Connected Communities)

Proposals to be opened
at: 11:00 AM local time
on: Monday, April 8, 2019

John Palamara, Buyer
jpalamara@buffaloschools.org
816 City Hall
65 Niagara Square
Buffalo, New York 14202

Name of Bidder: ________________________________
Address: __________________________________________
__________________________________________
__________________________________________
Contact Person: ________________________________
Phone Number: ________________________________
Fax Number: ________________________________
E-mail: __________________________________________

ADVERTISE:
Website 3/19/19
Buffalo News 3/17/19
NYS Contract Reporter 3/15/19
Rockets 3/14/19
Criterion 3/16/19
Greetings Partners,

In an effort to determine the efficacies of our distribution of procurement opportunities, the Buffalo Public Schools would request that you indicate the method or source in which you have obtained knowledge of this and any other procurement opportunities from us.

Below, please indicate the method/source from which you obtained this RFP.

Thank you.

_____ New York State Contract Reporter

_____ Buffalo News classifieds

_____ Buffalo Rockets

_____ Buffalo Criterion

_____ Buffalo Public Schools Purchasing Dept. web page

_____ Buffalo Public Schools Twitter Account

_____ Buffalo Public Schools Facebook page

_____ Email notification from Purchasing Department staff

_____ Third Party Municipal Bid Aggregator (BidNet, Govcb.com, etc.)

Please indicate source: _______________________________________

_____ Other – please indicate source: ____________________________

NAME OF COMPANY ___________________________________________
Dear valued partner,

If you choose not to bid, please complete the questionnaire below and return it via email or fax (716-851-3605) to the Purchase staff listed on the cover of the RFP. The purpose of gathering this information is to permit the District an opportunity to analyze no-bid rationale and is greatly appreciated.

➢ If you decline to provide the information requested below, your company may be considered unresponsive and not interested in receiving future invitations to bid and shall be removed from consideration for future opportunities.

Thank you,
Michael Yeates
Director of Purchase

* * * * * No Bid Questionnaire: * * * * *

A no bid is submitted in reply to the Buffalo Board of Education RFP 19-0620-105 Connected Communities.

Date Due: April 8, 2019, for the following reasons:

_____ Item/service not supplied by our company.

_____ Bid specifications (give reason(s), e.g., too restrictive, not clear, etc.): _____________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____ Profit margin on municipal bids too low.

_____ Past experience with BPS (give specifics, e.g., payment delay, bid process, administrative problems, etc.)

_____________________________________________________________________________________

_____ Insufficient time allowed to prepare and respond to bid request.

_____ Bid requirement too large _____ or too small _____ for our company.
______ Priority of other business opportunities limit time/other resources available to deliver or perform according to bid specifications.
______ Other reason(s), please specify: ___________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________

Please remove our company from your Bidder List files ________.

Please keep our company on the Bidder List for this requirement ________.

Please add/ensure our company is included on Bidder List for the following products/services:

__________________________________________
__________________________________________

__________________________________________
__________________________________________

Company Name and Address: ________________________________

__________________________________________
__________________________________________

Phone: (____) ________________________

(Signature) ________________________ (Typed/Printed Name & Title)

If you are “NO-BIDDING” this opportunity, please return this document (pages 3 & 4) only. There is no need to include the rest of the RFP.
RFP TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Supplier Default – Failure of the supplier to comply with any of these provisions may be considered reason for rejection of proposal.

1. The issuance of this Request for Proposals (RFP) constitutes only an invitation to submit a response to the Buffalo Public Schools (District). It is not to be construed as an official and customary invitation to bid, but as a means by which the District can facilitate the acquisition of information related to the purchase or implementation of services.

2. Any and all information presented herein, including drawings, specifications, instructions, policies, engineering guides, questionnaires, methodologies, etc., which is a part of this RFP package, or disclosed during the selection process, is the property of the District, and shall not be duplicated or disclosed except to those employees of the recipient who have a need to know in order to prepare the response.

3. The District neither makes nor assumes any contractual obligations by issuing this RFP, receiving and evaluating supplier response, or making preliminary supplier selection. Providing a response as provided herein shall neither obligate nor entitle a Responder to enter into a contract with the District.

4. This RFP does not commit the District either to award a contract or to pay for any costs incurred in the preparation of a submission. Responders shall bear all costs associated with submission preparation, submission and attendance at presentation interviews, or any other activity associated with this RFP or otherwise.

5. The District reserves the right to determine, in its sole and absolute discretion, whether any aspect of the submission satisfactorily meets the criteria established in this RFP, the right to seek clarification from any Responder(s), and the right to cancel and/or amend, in part or entirely, the RFP, at any time prior to a written contract.

6. Responses should be directed to John Palamara, Buyer, at Room 816 City Hall, 65 Niagara Square, Buffalo, New York 14202 no later than the time and date stated on the cover sheet, for the opening of the RFP with title, date of opening and RFP number marked on envelope. Late submissions may be deemed disqualified and may be returned unopened. Submittal of RFP by fax or e-mail is not acceptable.

7. The District is not obligated to respond to any submission submitted nor is it legally bound in any manner whatsoever by the submission of a response.

8. Upon submission, all responses become the property of the District. The District reserves the right to use the information and any ideas presented in any submission in response to this RFP, whether or not the submission is accepted.

9. The District will designate one representative who will act as the primary contact for this project. The representative will be responsible for conferring with any and all parties necessary to resolve unanticipated issues or requirements that might occur during the course of the RFP. Questions concerning this RFP should be directed to Eric Stockmeyer via e-mail at estockmeyer@buffaloschools.org by 3/27/19 @ 3:00 PM Local Time. All answers will be posted on the department webpage by end of business day on 3/29/19.
1.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1.1 TIMELINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/17/2019</td>
<td>RFP Advertised</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/19/2019</td>
<td>RFP Posted to Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/25/2019</td>
<td>Pre-Bid Conference 10:00 a.m. Room 807-A City Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/27/2019</td>
<td>All Questions Submitted by 3:00 PM EDT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/29/2019</td>
<td>All Questions and Responses posted to website by 3:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/8/2019</td>
<td>Proposals due in Room 816 City Hall by 11:00 AM local time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/9-4/15/2019</td>
<td>Proposal review process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/16-4/25/2019</td>
<td>Vendor Presentations (if called for)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/26/2019</td>
<td>Board Recommendation Uploaded to BoardDocs (BPS staff)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/1/2019</td>
<td>Award of Contract</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The dates specified on the timeline of this RFP are subject to change with any District changes given to vendors via addendum or written vendor notices.

1.2 DEFINITIONS

- “District”: Buffalo Public Schools (BPS)/Buffalo City Schools/Buffalo Board of Education and any or all of the departments within the organization.
- “Vendor”, “Bidder”, “Proposer”: An individual, partnership, or corporation from whom the “District” is soliciting a proposal.
- “Contractor”: The individual, partnership, or corporation whose proposal is accepted and who is awarded
- “Contract”, “Agreement”: The legal document the District issues to bind the Contractor to provide the product and/or service described in the Request for Proposal.
- “Request for Proposal (RFP)”: A competitive negotiation process to procure the best value for the District.

1.3 REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL PARAMETERS & DISCLAIMERS

All Request for Proposal responses must be date stamped in the Buffalo Public Schools Purchasing Department no later than 11:00 AM local time on Monday, April 8, 2019. Proposals received after this date will not be considered. See LATE BIDS section below.

Vendors must allow one (1) additional business day for proposal package delivery from the District Mailroom to the Purchasing Department. (the majority of USPS deliveries do go through the District Mailroom while other carriers typically deliver to the office designated on the envelope) Proposals may also be hand-delivered, by vendor, in a sealed envelope to the Purchasing Department at the location indicated below.

- The Proposal is to be submitted in a sealed envelope. The company name, RFP number, and the date and time the proposal is due must be indicated on the front of the envelope or package.
- Proposals submitted should consist of one (1) original hard copy with longhand signatures in all appropriate fields, marked on the cover page “ORIGINAL”, one (1) paper copy, and one
(1) electronic copy of signed original on a USB storage device (Thumb or Flash drive) shall be submitted in your sealed proposal package.

- The original proposal shall be signed and dated by an official authorized to contractually bind the vendor. **Unsigned proposals may be rejected.**
- **Submittal of RFP by fax or e-mail is not acceptable.**
- The District may negotiate with any Vendor who, in its judgment, may serve its interests. The District reserves the right to terminate negotiation with any Vendor at any time.
- Elaborate proposals in the form of brochures or other presentations beyond that necessary to present a complete and effective proposal are not desired unless specifically requested.
- This proposal shall be binding upon the Vendor for 180 calendar days following the RFP opening date. Any proposal on which the Vendor shortens the acceptance period may be rejected.
- Under penalty of perjury, the signer of any Proposal submitted in response to this RFP certifies that its Proposal has not been arrived at collusively or otherwise in violation of Federal or New York State antitrust laws. A signed Non-Collusive Bidding Certificate must be included with the proposal response.
- Disputes must be received in writing by the Buffalo City School Bid Protest Committee, 801 City Hall, Buffalo, NY 14202 within five business days of receipt of Intent to Award. The District’s decision on protest is final.
- A proposal may be withdrawn after its submission by written or facsimile request signed by the proposer or authorized representative, prior to the time and date specified for proposal submission. Proposals may be withdrawn and resubmitted in the same manner if done prior to the submission deadline. Withdrawal or modification offered in any other manner will not be considered.

**1.4 PROPOSAL AND VENDOR INFORMATION**

Qualified vendors are encouraged to submit a proposal for providing the goods and / or services described. If the vendor plans to subcontract any of the work described in the **Scope of Work** the vendor complete all proposal requirements for the subcontractor. If a vendor plans a joint venture with another company, the vendor shall specify accordingly and complete all proposal requirements for each company involved in the joint venture.

All proposals should clearly state/include the following:

1. Name and address of company.
2. A Project Manager who shall be the single point of contact for the contract should be identified and Curriculum Vitae attached.
3. Details of how each item under Section 3: Scope of Work will be addressed. This should take the form of a list that addresses each item.
4. A fixed fee for the requested services, inclusive of travel and other costs necessary to complete the contract services.
   - A single year list of expenses must be included.
   - A list of each year’s expenses for a five year contract must be included.
5. A project timeline with clear objectives, deliverables, and completion criteria.
6. Documents supporting your company’s experience with any projects of similar magnitude.
7. Vendor’s references if requested in the RFP.
8. Disclosure of any information to the extent possible of any proposed takeover; both for takeovers of this company by another company, or any takeovers of other service providers by this company.
9. Bidder status: Bidders must disclose any relevant conflicts of interest and / or pending lawsuits.

1.5 EVALUATION PROCEDURES

Review of Proposals
Proposals will be reviewed by a team comprised of the Information Technology Department with representation from the Office of Strategic Alignment and Innovation, and Elementary and Secondary principals. Firms with unacceptably low qualifications will be eliminated from further consideration.

The District reserves the right to retain all proposals submitted and use any idea in a proposal regardless of whether that proposal was selected.

Vendors may be required to make one presentation, at the District’s discretion, including a question and answer session before all review team members. Questions and specific requests to be addressed during the presentation will be forwarded to those vendors chosen to present.

Evaluation Criteria

* Experience delivering services to similar districts
* Level of proposed customer service
* Evidence of management of appropriately sized implementations
* Ability to meet all of the criteria presented under Section 3 Scope of Work
* Ability to meet proposed timeline for implementation
* Support service guarantees
* Cost
2.0 PURPOSE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

2.1 PURPOSE OF THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Buffalo Public Schools (BPS or District) is requesting proposals from qualified firms to create a public wireless (Wi-Fi) network within two of its Community Schools neighborhood zones as described in this Request for Proposal (RFP). The primary purpose of the District Community Wireless Project (Connected Communities) is to promote community engagement and economic development within the District by providing dependable and free Internet access to Buffalo Public Schools students and their families with two Strong Community School Zones.

Buffalo Public Schools Strong Community Schools are public schools that emphasize family engagement, and are characterized by strong partnerships and additional supports for students and families designed to counter environmental factors that impede student achievement. While some of the specific attributes of Strong Community School programming may vary based on the needs of the respective community, all Buffalo Strong Community Schools share the following characteristics:

• A rigorous academic program with strong supports to prepare all students for college, careers, and citizenship, that supplements quality curriculum with expanded learning opportunities, keeps students engaged, and ensures high levels of accountability;
• A full range of school-based and school-linked programs and services based on a needs assessment of the community that address the comprehensive needs of students and their families and that work with families as essential partners in student success;
• Partnerships that demonstrate collaboration with the local community by engaging families and other community stakeholders and drawing on a broad set of resources by incorporating local and State government agencies, non-profit service providers, institutions of higher education, and the philanthropic and business communities to extend the impact and depth of services and programs.

A critical component of education is efficient access to technology, media, and information resources. The Buffalo Public Schools’ vision of learning through technology emphasizes the importance of all students having equitable access to and use of technology. The primary focus of Strong Community Schools is to engage disconnected communities and invite them back as critical partners to learning and student achievement. The District aims to ensure that all groups of students and their families benefit from effective technology use and are given the most current and applicable technologies.

The focus of Buffalo Public Schools Strong Community Schools is to make the school the epicenter for family and community engagement. Community Schools embody the belief that focusing on the whole child as they enter the school doors will serve to increase academic outcomes. The two zones identified as part of this project have historically shown an absence of Internet connectivity and have high concentrations of poverty and crime. Despite these barriers, these two zones are full of Strong Community Schools that are equipped with one-to-one technology and have started to make gains in increased family and community engagement.

The Connected Communities project will provide no-fee access to the Internet as an extension of the Buffalo Public Schools network, applications, and services. This extension of the BPS network will initially operate within the coverage areas of the Community Schools’ zones articulated above and will be...
able to accommodate needs of students and parents of the surrounding communities. It must be noted, however, that any solution proposed must be saleable to other neighborhoods in the City of Buffalo.

2.2 PROPOSALS

All proposals and contracts awarded as a result of this or any RFP are subject to the District’s terms and conditions as stated in this RFP. The submission of any other terms and / or conditions by a Vendor may be grounds for rejection of the Vendor’s proposal.

2.3 REFERENCES

Proposer must provide a list of at least three client references and their contact information. References will be contacted at the sole discretion of the District.

2.4 RIGHT TO REJECT PROPOSALS

Submission of a proposal indicates acceptance by the firm of the conditions contained in this RFP unless clearly and specifically noted in the proposal submitted and confirmed in the contract between the District and the firm selected. The District reserves the right, without prejudice, to reject any and / or all proposals.

2.5 REQUEST FOR PRESENTATION

Vendors may be required to make one presentation, at the District’s discretion, including a question and answer session before all review team members. Questions and specific requests to be addressed during the presentation will be forwarded to those vendors chosen to present.

2.6 FINAL SELECTION

The Board of Education and its representatives will select a firm based upon the recommendations of the review team. It is anticipated that a firm will be selected by 4/25/2019. Following notification of the firm selected, it is expected that a contract will be executed between both parties by (TBD). The selected firm must be prepared to begin work upon execution of BPS contract. The contract will not necessarily be awarded to the proposal with the lowest cost projection.

2.7 TERM OF CONTRACT

All equipment and licensing for the system must be procured and on-site by June 30, 2019. Maintenance, support, administration, and management of the Wi-Fi network will begin no later than July 1, 2019 with the option of four consecutive 1-year renewals. July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021, July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022, July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023, July 1, 2023-June 30, 2024.

3.0 SCOPE OF WORK

The objective of the Connected Communities program is to provide dependable and free Wi-Fi access to students, their families, and surrounding communities in two Strong Community School zones.

Although no estimate can be provided as to the expected service loads, it will be incumbent upon the vendor to provide user and packet prioritization to ensure guaranteed adequate bandwidth for system use.
Proposed plans providing the required minimum coverage, will rate highly. It is acceptable for a response to utilize a tie-in to the BPS network. Since this is a community schools supported project, the scope must go beyond personal cellular “hotspots” and reach further into neighborhoods.

The proposing firm shall include plans to assume maintenance, support, administration, and management of the Wi-Fi network, and to comply with a potential, to-be-negotiated Service Level Agreement. Management capabilities of the Wi-Fi network must include software utilities to administer and manage user sessions, as well as the ability to create, and utilize a management portal page. The management utilities should also include the ability to set connection time limits for clients (if necessary), to help maintain network use integrity. Network management capabilities should also include the ability to track and report anonymous use statistics. These statistics will support the ability to analyze and track system performance and provide metrics for system improvements. Please note, all data produced will be provided to Buffalo Public Schools on a regular, ongoing basis.

While the scope of this project is specific to two District locations, this project may be used as a measure for future wireless initiatives, which may involve further additional hot zones. It is imperative that the proposed system is scalable, and that the proposal includes that expansion path.

Currently, BPS operates a data network using Avaya (Nortel) switches, Aruba wireless access points and controllers, along with associated Aruba AirWave management system, and ClearPass authentication system in 71 buildings. Each building has a main distribution frame (MDF) and a varying number of intermediate distribution frames (IDF), with typically 6 pairs of multi-mode and single-mode fiber. The MDF will generally, but not necessarily, contain the building wide area network (WAN) connecting point. For the WAN, BPS is using a dark fiber network, currently lit as a 10-gigabit ring from Fibertech/Lightower/Crown Castle, using Cienna switches, in seven (7) hub sites to which all buildings connect at 1 GBps. These sites are located at PS #19, 89, 93, 94, 97, 241 Main Street, and City Hall.

Additionally, BPS has two data centers at PS 94 and PS 97 and District Internet Access is provided through these data centers. The District has an e-rate project plan to upgrade the fiber ring to 40 gigabit and each building connection at 10 gigabit. The initial use for this community connectivity is for data/internet, but future use may expand to other services. BPS has access rights only to existing operating school and administrative building sites. BPS has not taken any steps to secure access to city street light poles for this project. Seeking permission to use of city street light poles and right of way in any proposal would be initiated by the bidder. BPS has access rights only to existing operating school and administrative building sites. BPS has not taken any steps to secure access to city street light poles for this project. Seeking permission to use any city buildings or infrastructure other than district operated facilities and right of way in any proposal would be initiated by the bidder.

Within the RFP response, the Proposer must demonstrate:

- A thorough understanding of the Buffalo Public Schools and of this project’s goals
- An articulation of the technical solution including, but not limited to:
  - system design and technical specifications
  - equipment and licensing
  - inventory and storage
  - Internet service identification and/or provisions for
  - installation
  - service level agreements as appropriate
  - warranty
- system monitoring and support
- ongoing costs that may or may not impact the program

- A complete plan for the project implementation and scope of services including timelines.
- An expenditure plan including budgets
- An articulation of all members of the prospective vendor’s team who will participate in this project
- A plan to engage parents and families in the affected Community School Zones with educational and developmental opportunities coordinated with the new Internet connectivity.
- A program of paid student internships and student mentorship for BPS students in these neighborhoods
  - A paid internship model, which is designed for youth with prior interest or leadership experience in IT, will provide youth with exposure to IT careers otherwise not accessible to teenagers and/or young adults, opportunities to develop and refine their 21st century skills, and engagement in ongoing professional development workshops in a variety of IT fields. In addition, the internship should provide the opportunity for youth to work closely with trained staff who will serve in an instructional role throughout the duration of the experience
  - The student experience should be at minimum six to eight weeks and accommodate a representative number of students from the affected schools
- An impact study to measure the efficacy of this community effort with an eye toward potential expansion to other neighborhoods in Buffalo and potentially other similar urban communities

As stated, the system is expected to provide a strong signal to the outdoor areas of the entire coverage area in two Community School zones: East Zone and West Zone.
East Zone:
- PS 037 Marva J. Daniel Futures Preparatory School 295 Carlton Street Buffalo, NY 14204
- PS 059 Dr. Charles R. Drew Science 1 Martin Luther King Jr. Park Buffalo, NY 14211
- PS 092 New BUILD Community School 340 Fougeron Street Buffalo, NY 14211
- PS 097 Harvey Austin School 1405 Sycamore Street Buffalo, NY 14211
- PS 309 East Community High School 820 Northampton Street Buffalo, NY 14211

The East Zone is roughly illustrated in the above polygon and is for illustrative purposes only. The polygon encompasses approximately 2.1 square miles and 2100 BPS students.
West Zone:
- PS 003 D’Youville Porter Campus School 255 Porter Avenue Buffalo, NY 14201
- PS 030 Frank A. Sedita Academy 21 Lowell Street Buffalo, NY 14213
- PS 076 Herman Badillo Bilingual Academy 315 Carolina Street Buffalo, NY 14201

The West Zone is roughly illustrated in the above polygon, and is for illustrative purposes only. The polygon encompasses approximately 1.6 square miles and 3,400 BPS students.
## 4.0 EVALUATION CRITERIA

### Proposal Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Understanding of project goals</td>
<td>15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technical solution</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completeness of Project Plan and Timeline</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposer qualifications, experience, demonstrated ability, and references and contracts from previous clients</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completeness of vision for student internships, family engagement and efficacy study</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost Proposal</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5.0 GENERAL PROVISIONS

DISTRICT’S RESERVED RIGHTS

The District reserves the right to:

- Reject any or all proposals received;
- Withdraw the RFP at any time, at the agency’s sole discretion;
- Make an award under the RFP in whole or in part;
- Disqualify any bidder whose conduct and/or proposal fails to conform to the requirements of the RFP;
- Seek clarifications and revisions of proposals;
- Use proposal information obtained through site visits, management interviews and the District’s investigation of a bidder’s qualifications, experience, ability or financial standing, and any material or information submitted by the bidder in response to the agency’s request for clarifying information in the course of evaluation and/or selection under the RFP;
- Prior to the bid opening, amend the RFP specifications to correct errors or oversights, or to supply additional information, as it becomes available;
- Prior to the bid opening, direct bidders to submit proposal modifications addressing subsequent RFP amendments;
- Change any of the scheduled dates;
- Eliminate any mandatory, non-material specifications that cannot be complied with by all of the prospective bidders;
- Waive any requirements that are not material;
- Negotiate with bidders within the scope of the RFP in the best interests of the District;
- Conduct contract negotiations with the next responsible bidder, should the agency be unsuccessful in negotiating with the selected bidder;
- Utilize any and all ideas submitted in the proposals received;
- Unless otherwise specified in the solicitation, every offer is firm and not revocable for a period of 60 days from the bid opening; and,
- Require clarification at any time during the procurement process and/or require correction of arithmetic or other apparent errors for the purpose of assuring a full and complete understanding of an offerer’s proposal and/or to determine an offerer’s compliance with the requirements of the solicitation.
- To request best and final offers from one or more proposers.
BUFFALO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LAW

The New York State Freedom of Information Law as set forth in Public Officers Law, Article 6, Sections 84-90, mandates public access to government records. However, bids submitted in response to this RFP may contain technical, financial background or other data, public disclosure of which could cause substantial injury to the Bidder’s competitive position or constitute a trade secret. Bidders who have a good faith belief that the information submitted in their bids is protected from disclosure under the New York Freedom of Information Law must clearly identify the pages of the bids containing such information by typing in bold face on the top of each page, “The bidder believes that this information is protected from disclosure under the state freedom of information law”. The BPS assumes no liability for disclosure of information so identified, provided that the BPS has made a good faith legal determination that the information is not protected under applicable law or where disclosure is required to comply with an order or judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction.

CERTIFIED CHECK, ETC. (EXCEPT AS HEREINAFTER NOTED)

If the gross total amount quoted is $100,000 or more, a certified check must be submitted with your bid. No bid will be considered unless it shall be accompanied by a certified check, banker's check, draft, or money order which shall be payable to the order of the BPS for five percent (5%) of the amount of the bid. Said certified check, banker's check, draft, or legal tender and the amount thereof will be retained as liquidated damages by the BPS if the successful bidder shall fail to enter into a contract and give security for the performance as hereinafter provided.

BID BOND

In lieu of certified check, banker's check, draft, money order, or legal tender, bidders may furnish proposal or bid bonds, the amount thereof to be for not less than Twenty-five percent (25%) of the amount of the bid and shall be executed by the Bidder as principal, and as surety by a duly incorporated Surety Company authorized to do business under the laws of the State of New York. Such proposal or bid bond shall be conditioned for entering into contract by the Bidder and to furnish security for the performance thereof as hereinafter provided.

TAXES

Bids submitted on these specifications shall not be made subject to any Federal, State, or County Taxes.

SUBCONTRACTORS (PURSUANT TO SECTION 408 OF THE CITY CHARTER)

The successful bidder shall submit a list of proposed subcontractors to the BPS for its approval and obtain written consent thereto prior to the execution of the Form of Agreement. The subcontracting of any part of the work or services under this contract to any person, firm or corporation by whom a proposal was submitted to the BPS for the same contract shall be absolutely prohibited.
CERTIFICATION OF EFFECTIVE INSURANCE

Prior to the signing of the contract, the Contractor shall furnish the BPS, for approval, a certified copy of each kind of insurance policy herein required of the Contractor, together with certificate of insurance, evidencing that the required insurance is in effect irrespective as to whether the Contractor or the BPS is the named insured.

THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER MUST SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING INSURANCE.

1. **WORKERS' COMPENSATION CERTIFICATE** to cover Contractor as named insured for his liability under the law. Certificate shall contain a provision providing that it shall not be cancelled or changed by the Contractor or Insurance Company without ten (10) days prior written notice to the Buffalo Board of Education.

2. **PUBLIC LIABILITY AND PROPERTY DAMAGE LIABILITY** insurance to cover Contractor as named insured and including there under as hereafter required. (Certified copy of POLICY must be submitted.)
   A. Contractual Liability Endorsement covering the BUFFALO PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND THE CITY OF BUFFALO.
   B. Cancellation Notice - Each insurance policy and certificate of insurance shall contain a provision providing that it shall not be cancelled or changed by the contractor or insurance company without ten (10) days prior written notice to the BPS.

**POLICY LIMITS**

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<tr>
<th>Coverage</th>
<th>Limit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bodily Injury</td>
<td>$500,000 per person</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$1,000,000 per accident</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property Damage</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
</tr>
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(Above limits are the minimums required, they may be changed by the BPS if the contract calls for higher limits.)

**INDEMNITY OF THE BUFFALO PUBLIC SCHOOLS/BOARD OF EDUCATION**

The Contractor shall indemnify and save harmless the Buffalo Public Schools, its officers and employees from all claims, suit actions, damages, losses, and costs of every name and description to which the Buffalo Public Schools may be subjected or put by reason of injury to the person or property of another, or the property of the Buffalo Public Schools, resulting from the negligence or carelessness, active or passive, of the Contractor, or the joint negligence, active or passive, of the Contractor and the Buffalo Public Schools, his or their employees, agents or subcontractors, in the performance of any work under this contract, or in the delivery of materials and supplies. The whole, or so much of the money is to become due under this contract as shall be considered necessary by the Buffalo Public Schools, may be retained by it until all suits or claims for damages shall have been settled or otherwise disposed of, and evidence to that effect furnished to the satisfaction of the Buffalo Public Schools.
POST SELECTION PROCEDURES

Upon selection, the successful bidder will receive a proposed contract from the District. All terms set forth in the selected bidder's technical proposal will be final. The selected bidder may be given an opportunity to reduce its cost proposal in accordance with the District's right to negotiate a final best price. The contents of this RFP, any subsequent correspondence during the proposal evaluation period, and such other stipulations as agreed upon may be made a part of the final contract prepared by the District. Successful bidders may be subject to audit and should ensure that adequate controls are in place to document the allowable activities and expenditure of District funds.

BOND FOR PERFORMANCE

The successful bidder simultaneously with his delivery of the executed contract may be required to file, with the BPS, an executed performance bond on the form attached to the contract documents and having a surety thereon such Surety Companies as are approved by the Superintendent of Insurance of the State of New York, in the amount of One Hundred Percent (100%) of the amount of the bid.

Every bond given for the performance of any contract made by the BPS shall contain a provision that the person, co-partnership, association or corporation entering into such contract with the BPS will pay for all materials used and services rendered in the execution of such contract, and any person, co-partnership, association or corporation furnishing materials or rendering services in and about the execution of such contract may maintain an action to recover for the same, the obligors such as though said person, co-partnership, association, or corporation where named therein, provided that such action be brought within one (1) year after the cause of such action accrues. The obligors in any such bond shall be liable and may be sued accordingly.

Notice of the commencement of such action and all proceedings shall be given to the President of the Buffalo Board of Education and in default of such action no recovery shall be had in such action.

FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS RFP, A PERFORMANCE BOND WILL NOT BE REQUIRED.
**THE BUFFALO PUBLIC SCHOOLS WILL REQUIRE THE EXECUTION OF A FORMAL CONTRACT BY THE SUCCESSFUL RESPONDENT**

The Contractor shall not assign, transfer, convey, sublet or otherwise dispose of this contract, or his right, title or interest therein, or his power to execute the same, to any other person, company or corporation, without the previous consent in writing of the BPS. Any such purported action without such consent shall be null and void. The assignment of this contract to any person, firm or corporation by whom a proposal was submitted to the BPS for the same contract is absolutely prohibited.

**INVOICE REQUIREMENTS**

Invoices must be appropriately detailed to allow District personnel to verify that specific goods and/or services have been received/completed per the Contract’s Scope of Services and Purchase Order specifications and provide a clear, consistent and accurate document trail required by the District’s Audit department.

All invoices, along with required back up documentation, must be submitted in PDF format to the following email address - INVOICES@sp.buffaloschools.org. In situations where backup material is required (i.e. required reports, attendance sheets or receipts for reimbursements) these documents must be sent with the invoice. Do not send an invoice without the required back up. These documents should be referred to in the description of goods or services section of the invoice.

All invoices must contain a valid Buffalo Schools Purchase Order # (PO#). Vendors should not commence work without a PO#. Contact the District Designee in Section 3 with any problems obtaining a PO#. Invoices not containing a valid PO# cannot be processed for payment. All Invoices must contain the following standard information; your organizations name and contact information, Invoice Date, Invoice #, Terms – for early payment discounts, a Buffalo City School District PO# and a current Remit Address.

The description of goods or services section of the invoice must be consistent with both the Contract’s Scope of Services and the Purchase Order and include what service was performed, where it was performed, when it was performed and the cost for these services. Documentation required to support any charges based on staff time or reimbursements (e.g. attendance data, invoice receipts) must be submitted with the invoice (e.g. time sheets, subcontractor invoices, receipts).

For contracts that have a multi-line Purchase Order, the invoice must indicate which Purchase Order line number the invoice charges are to be applied against.

A separate invoice is required for each PO#. Do not include charges against more than one PO# on any one invoice.

Do not include sales tax on any invoice. As a governmental entity, the District is tax exempt.

Invoices should not be submitted prior to completion of services or receipt of goods.

The Buffalo Public Schools offers an "electronic payment" option in lieu of issuing checks. To obtain more information on electronic payments, contact Stephen Galante at SGalante@buffaloschools.org.
RESTRICTED COMMUNICATION

Restricted Communication Period (Cone of Silence) – as per New York State finance law, article 9, section 139-j, during the period of time from the earliest posting or distribution of this RFP until the Board approval a vendor shall contact only the representative named in item 9 (above) regarding this RFP. Any contacts during this period between a vendor and any Board of Education member, officer or employee is a violation of this provision. The District will not respond to any inquiries or questions by any vendor during this period unless it was properly put forth during and within the indicated question and answer period.

PROTEST

A bid Protest Committee has been established to consider any protest regarding the award of any contracts as a result of this bid. Any persons conceiving themselves to be injured or aggrieved by the result of an award must submit their written protests in duplicate to the following addresses:

(1) BID PROTEST COMMITTEE
    c/o 801 CITY HALL
    BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14202

(2) FINANCIAL CONTROLLER
    c/o 815 CITY HALL
    BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14202

Protests must be submitted within five (5) business days after a purchase contract is awarded. The committee is obligated to consider protests within thirty (30) days of receipt of said protest. The Bid Protest Committee is comprised of one (1) member of the Board of Education and two (2) District staff.

LATE BIDS

For purposes of Bid openings held and conducted by the Buffalo Board of Education, a Bid must be received in such place as may be designated in the Bid Documents, at or before the date and time established in the Bid Specifications for the Bid opening.

For purposes of Bid openings held and conducted by the Buffalo Board of Education, the term late Bid is defined as a Bid not received in the location established in the Bid Specifications at or before the date and time specified for the Bid opening. Any Bid received at the specified location after the time specified will be considered a late Bid.

A late Bid shall not be considered for award unless: (i) no timely Bids meeting the requirements of the Bid Documents are received or, (ii) in the case of a multiple award, an insufficient number of timely Bids were received to satisfy the multiple award; and acceptance of the late Bid is in the best interests of the Authorized Users.

Delays in United States mail deliveries or any other means of transmittal, including couriers or agents shall not excuse late Bid submissions. Similar types of delays, including but not limited to, bad weather, or security procedures for parking and building admittance shall not excuse late Bid submissions. Determinations relative to Bid timeliness shall be at the sole discretion of the Buffalo Board of Education.
BIDDER’S CHECKLIST

1. If your firm is MWBE Certified by any Municipal or Government agency, please include a copy of the certification establishing agency approval, date of certification and expiration of certification

☐ MWBE CERTIFICATION ENCLOSED

2. Please review each of the following items as their inclusion is necessary if a bid submitted to the Buffalo Public Schools exceeds a total of $9,999.99.

☐ Demonstrated ability to meet all of the requirements of this RFP
☐ Legible Cost Proposal with all inclusive rate
☐ Bidder’s Affirmation of Understanding of regarding Restrictions on Contact
☐ Bidder Disclosure of Prior Non-Responsibility Determinations
☐ Non-Collusive Bidding Certification
☐ Certificate of Authority
☐ A copy or statement of the company’s equal employment opportunity policy
☐ A commitment by the company to make a good faith effort to utilize minority groups and females in the conduct of its business (sample page following)
☐ A breakdown of employees by job category, race, and gender

IF BID EXCEEDS $99,999.99, THE FOLLOWING IS APPLICABLE:

☐ Bid security of EITHER a certified check (aka official check) in the amount of 5% of the bid total OR a bid bond of 25% of the bid total bid exceeds $99,999.99

If submitting a check as bid security, please (print) fill in the following information:

Name of bank or institution drawn on: __________________________
Check Number: __________________________
Value of check: __________________________
Name of bid: __________________________
Bid number: __________________________
Company Name __________________________
Procurement Anti-Lobbying Law

I. Information and Forms

The Buffalo Board of Education (the “District”) adopts New York State Finance Law §§139-j and 139-k, which imposes certain restrictions on communications between District staff and any Bidder during this procurement process. A Bidder is restricted from contacting, or having a third party contact, District staff with the intent to influence governmental procurement. The only communication regarding this RFP should be with the designated contact person(s) as indicated in the RFP/Bid and in the matter proscribed by the solicitation and New York State Finance Law §§139-j, during the restricted period. This restricted period for contact will begin once the RFP is advertised and last through the time a final award is issued by the Buffalo Board of Education. Any communications you have with the District regarding the RFP or as pertaining to the RFP will be documented. Failure to comply with these restrictions may result in your ineligibility for an award with respect to this RFP. Your acknowledgement to these restrictions on contact is required.

Bidder’s Affirmation of Understanding of regarding Restrictions on Contact pursuant to State Finance Law §139-j

The Bidder affirms that it understands and agrees to comply with the terms of this solicitation and only engage in permissible Contacts as outlined by State Finance Law §139-j (3) and §139-j (6) (b).

By: ________________________________  Date:____________________

Name: ________________________________

Title: ________________________________

Contractor Name: _______________________________________________________

Contractor Address: _______________________________________________________
____________________________________________________

Designated Contact for this RFP:

All inquiries concerning this procurement should be addressed to the following:

**Eric Stockmeyer**
Department of Information Technology
807 City Hall
Buffalo, NY  14202
(716) 816-3507
estockmeyer@buffaloschools.org
All questions should be submitted in writing, citing the particular proposal section and paragraph number and in line with the specifications of this solicitation regarding the question and answer timeline. Prospective Bidders should note that all clarifications and exceptions, including those relating to the terms and conditions of the agreement, are to be resolved prior to the submission of a proposal. Answers to all questions of a substantive nature will be given to all prospective Bidders in the form of a formal addendum, which will be annexed to and become part of the resultant agreement.

II. Bidder Disclosure of Prior Non-Responsibility Determinations

Background:
New York State Finance Law §139-k(2) provides that a Governmental Entity shall obtain specific information regarding prior non-responsibility determinations with respect to State Finance Law §139-j. This information must be collected in addition to the information that is separately obtained pursuant to State Finance Law §163(9). In accordance with State Finance Law §139-k, an Bidder must be asked to disclose whether there has been a finding of non-responsibility made within the previous four (4) years by any Governmental Entity due to: (a) a violation of State Finance Law §139-j or (b) the intentional provision of false or incomplete information to a Governmental Entity. A violation of State Finance Law §139-j includes, but is not limited to, an impermissible Contact during the restricted period (for example, contacting a person or entity other than the designated contact person, when such Contact does not fall within one of the exemptions). As part of its responsibility determination, State Finance Law §139-k(3) mandates consideration of whether a Bidder fails to timely disclose accurate or complete information regarding the above non-responsibility determination. In accordance with law, no Procurement Contract shall be awarded to any Bidder that fails to timely disclose accurate or complete information under this section, unless a finding is made that the award of the Procurement Contract to the Bidder is necessary to protect public property or public health safety, and that the Bidder is the only source capable of supplying the required Article of Procurement within the necessary timeframe. See State Finance Law §§139-j (10)(b) and 139-k(3).

III. Instructions

The attached form is to be completed and submitted by the individual or entity seeking to enter into a Procurement Contract.

IV. Bidder Disclosure of Prior Non-Responsibility Determinations

1. Has any Governmental Entity made a finding of non-responsibility regarding the individual or entity seeking to enter into the Procurement Contract in the previous four years? (Please circle):
   
   No
   Yes

If yes, please answer the next questions:

2. Was the basis for the finding of non-responsibility due to a violation of State Finance Law §139-j (Please circle):
   
   No
   Yes

3. Was the basis for the finding of non-responsibility due to the intentional provision of false or incomplete information to a Governmental Entity? (Please circle):
4. If you answered yes to any of the above questions, please provide details regarding the finding of non-responsibility below.

Governmental Entity: ____________________________________________________________

Date of Finding of Non-responsibility: _____________________________________________

Basis of Finding of Non-Responsibility: _____________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

(Add additional pages as necessary)

5. Has any Governmental Entity or other governmental agency terminated or withheld a Procurement Contract with the above-named individual or entity due to the intentional provision of false or incomplete information? (Please circle):

No   Yes

6. If yes, please provide details below.

Governmental Entity: ____________________________________________________________

Date of Termination or Withholding of Contract: _______________________________________

Basis of Termination or Withholding: _______________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

(Add additional pages as necessary)
State Finance Law §139-k(5) provides that:

New York State Finance Law §139-k(5) requires that every Procurement Contract award subject to the provisions of State Finance Law §§139-k or 139-j shall contain a certification by the Bidder that all information provided to the procuring Governmental Entity with respect to State Finance Law §139-k is complete, true and accurate.

The Governmental Entity reserves the right to terminate this contract in the event it is found that the certification filed by the Bidder in accordance with New York State Finance Law §139-k was intentionally false or intentionally incomplete. Upon such finding, the Governmental Entity may exercise its termination right by providing written notification to the Bidder in accordance with the written notification terms of this contract. The Bidder affirms that it understands and agrees to comply with the procedures of the Government Entity relative to permissible Contacts as required by State Finance Law §139-j (3) and §139-j (6) (b). I certify that all information provided to the Governmental Entity with respect to State Finance Law §139-k is complete, true and accurate.

By: ____________________________ Date:__________________

Name: __________________________

Title: __________________________

Contractor Name: __________________________

Contractor Address: __________________________
NON-COLLUSIVE BIDDING CERTIFICATION

By submission of this bid, each Bidder and each person signing on behalf of any Bidder certifies\(^1\), under penalty of perjury, that to the best of his knowledge and belief:

1. The prices in this proposal have been arrived at independently without collusion, consultation, communication, or agreement, for the purpose of restricting competition as to any matter relating to such prices with any other Bidder or with any competitor; and

2. Unless otherwise required by law, the prices which have been quoted in this proposal have not been knowingly disclosed by the Bidder and will not knowingly be disclosed by the Bidder prior to opening directly or indirectly, to any Bidder or to any competitor; and

3. No attempt has been made or will be made by the Bidder to induce any other person, partnership, or corporation to submit or not to submit a proposal for the purpose of restricting competition

This proposal is made without any connection with any person making any proposal for the material herein listed and it is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud, and also, that no Office or Member of the Buffalo Board of Education, City of Buffalo, is directly interested therein, or in the supplies to which it relates, or any portion of the profits thereof.

If the Bidder is a corporation, the execution of the non-collusive certification on the form of proposal shall be deemed to have been authorized by the Board of Directors of the Bidder and such authorization shall be deemed to include the signing and submission of the proposal and the inclusion therein of the certificate as to non-collusion as the act and deed of the corporation.

No proposal shall be considered for an award nor shall any award be made to a Bidder where the proposal does not include the statements as to non-collusion as set forth in the form of proposal herein; provided however, that if in any case the Bidder cannot make the foregoing certification, the Bidder shall so state and shall furnish with the proposal a signed statement which sets forth in detail the reason. No award shall be made unless the Buffalo Board of Education determines that such disclosure was not made for the purpose of restricting competition. It should be noted that the fact that a Bidder has published price lists, rates or tariffs covering items being procured or has informed prospective customers of the proposed or pending publication of new or revised price lists for such items, or has sold the same items to other customers at the same price as being proposal, does not constitute, without more, a disclosure to any other Bidder or to any competitor within the meaning of the non-collusive certification included in the form of proposal.

Respectfully submitted,

BY ___________________________________________

(signature)

___________________________________________

(print)

TITLE ___________________________________________

FIRM NAME ___________________________________________

ADDRESS ___________________________________________

DATE ______________ PHONE _______________________

\(^1\)In the case of any joint proposal (which for these purposes shall include any proposal where the Bidder has consulted with a subcontractor in making the proposal), each party or subcontractor thereto shall sign this non-collusion certification as to its own organization or corporation.
CERTIFICATION OF AUTHORITY

The Individual signing this document certifies that he/she is authorized to contract on behalf of the vendor/contractor.

The individual signing this document certifies that the vendor/contractor is not involved in any agreement to pay money or other compensation for the execution of this agreement other than to an employee of the vendor. Exceptions require full disclosure.

The individual signing this document certifies that the prices quoted have been arrived at independently, without consultation, communication, or agreement for the purpose of restricting competition.

The individual signing this document certifies that the prices quoted in this proposal have not been knowingly disclosed by the vendor prior to an award to any other vendor or potential vendor/contractor.

The individual signing this document certifies that the vendor/contractor is properly certified/credentialed to perform the scope of work as outlined.

The individual signing this document certifies that the vendor/contractor is not currently involved in any legal dispute that could terminate or adversely affect performance up to and including all final reports and recommendations both written and verbal.

The individual signing this document certifies that he/she has read and clearly understands all of the information contained in the Request for Proposal.

BY

__________________________________________
(Signature)

__________________________________________
(Print)

__________________________________________
TITLE

__________________________________________
DATE
To whom it may concern:

This is to certify that _____________________ is an equal opportunity employer. This corporation shows no discrimination regarding race, creed, gender, religion, or ethnic origin in the conduct of its business.

__________________ has in the past, and will continue in the future to make every effort to utilize minority businesses in the normal operation of our business.

Signed

Name, Title
Company Name
# EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

## EMPLOYER INFORMATION REPORT

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<th>JOB CATEGORIES</th>
<th>Total # of employees</th>
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<th>Asian</th>
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<td>Formal on site in training</td>
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Buffalo Public Schools