



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM

DATE: January 25, 2007

SUBJECT: Motion to participate in Regional Wide Area Network (WAN) Consortium Project organized by Intermediate Unit 5.

CATEGORY: Technology

INITIATED BY: Jeff Smith, Technology Manager

DESCRIPTION:

Vince Humes, on behalf of IU5, and in collaboration with IU6, and IU28 have voted to accept the bid provided by Sting Communications to implement a Wide Area Network which will provide broadband network services to at the least educational facilities in the Northwest Region of Pennsylvania. Our participation in this broadband network will also facilitate broadband access to all participating school entities statewide, including universities. The Erie County Technical School now needs to enter into contract with this consortium effort, in order to continue to participate and be provided with the deliverable services.

RECOMMENDATION:

Motion to participate in the WAN Consortium Project.

Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit #5

WAN Consortium

Benefits

- Internet and WAN contract administration
- Internet and WAN E-Rate filing
- Two days of Technology Solutions and Services (TSS) staff time¹
- One domain name registration²
- Use of Wildpackets network monitoring system³
- Technical support for ISA servers and Sonicwall firewalls⁴
- Websense Filtering Consortium
- Access to our MSDN library⁵

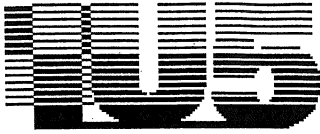
¹ This is a \$1,000 value. You can use this time for whatever your needs are excluding programming. Use is limited to the specific skills of the TSS staff.

² We will register one domain name for your district. The duration of the registration will be the same as the length of the consortium Internet contract. Registration is limited to available domain names.

³ This service provides the network monitor station only. There are additional charges if you need TSS staff to analyze your network.

⁴ This service includes upgrading software and configuration changes. It does not include support contracts with the manufacturers. Those contracts are still the responsibility of the district. Sonicwalls must be under a maintenance contract for TSS to provide this service.

⁵ To use this service you must come to the IU or call us. We can't send the CDs to your location.



NORTHWEST TRI-COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT

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<http://www.iu5.org>

November 29, 2006

Dr. Aldo Jackson
Erie County Technical School
8500 Oliver Road
Erie, PA 16509

Dear Dr. Jackson,

The Regional WAN Project is ready to move to the next phase. Sting Communications (Sting) has been selected as the provider for the Regional WAN Project, Internet, and Internet 2 transport. Sting was the lowest bidder that met or exceeded the specifications of our RFP. Not only was Sting the lowest bidder, they are providing a leading edge technology that will service the region well beyond the five years of our initial contract.

There will be a Regional WAN Project kickoff meeting at the Intermediate Unit on December 19, 2006, from 10:00 a.m. until approximately 11:30 a.m. This meeting will review all aspects of the Regional WAN Project, the costs of participation, and the next steps that must be taken to participate in the Regional WAN Project, e-Fund, and E-Rate. I would encourage you to bring your business managers and technology coordinators to this meeting. The Regional WAN Project is an extremely important project from the local and state perspective. We are at a juncture in the project that requires your utmost attention and action to ensure we are compliant with all program rules and that we meet required deadlines for participation.

The deadlines are critical to the success of the Regional WAN Project, the e-Fund grant, and E-Rate. In order to receive any e-Fund grant dollars you must participate in the Regional WAN Project. The E-Rate program requires us to file all paperwork related to the Regional WAN Project by February 7, 2007. In order to complete the paperwork to include your district, we must have a signed contract from your district. If your school board must approve the contract, please get their approval at your December or January board meeting. We will provide you with all of the relevant information regarding the Regional WAN Project at the December 19th, meeting, so you can make an informed decision. If you need information prior to this meeting, please contact me immediately.

Due to the very restricted timeline for contract signing and considering the region we live in, if you require board approval of the Regional WAN Project contract, I would encourage you to have an alternative plan in the event your regularly scheduled board meeting is cancelled. The E-Rate window closes on February 7th, with no exceptions. If we do not have a signed contract from your district by January 31, 2007, we will have to file E-Rate without including your district.

The following are critical dates for the next phase of the Regional WAN Project:

- December 19, 2006 WAN Kickoff Meeting
- January 2007 Districts sign Regional WAN contract
- January 31, 2007 All signed Regional WAN contracts returned to the IU
 - *Please send signed contracts as soon as possible*
- February 7, 2007 E-Rate form 471 filed for the consortium

There are several items that are needed from your district to be in compliance with all e-Fund grant and E-Rate program rules. The following table lists the items we need from your district:

Item	Received
Letter of Agency	
Form 479	
Copy of Current Technology Plan	
Copy of Technology Plan approval letter from PDE	

These items are needed in the event that our consortium would be audited. When audited, there is a very short period of time we have to respond and must have these items on file. It is important to realize in the event we are missing this information from just one consortium member, the funding of the entire consortium may be at risk. Your help in obtaining this information is greatly appreciated.

The Regional WAN Project is exciting and opens up new opportunities for students, teachers, administrators, and our communities. At this point, we can only imagine all the possibilities! The infrastructure deployed to meet our needs will bring benefits to businesses and student families. What a wonderful example of how public education is the cornerstone to success!

I look forward to the Regional WAN Project meeting on December 19, 2006 and having the opportunity for the entire Tri-County education community to discuss the positive opportunities this network will have on education, business, and our communities as a whole! Please R.S.V.P with Karen Sheldon at 814-734-8391 or karen_sheldon@iu5.org.

If you need any additional information before the December 19th, please do not hesitate to contact me or Vince Humes 814-734-8390.

See you on December 19th!

Sincerely,



Dr. Marjorie Wallace
Executive Director

**Northwest Pennsylvania Regional Wide Area Network Contract
Between Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit #5 and Erie County Technical School**

WAN Service Agreement

Term

- Choose contract term

- ☐ 5 Year Contract payable in 60 monthly terms July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2012
- ☐ 4 Year Contract payable in 48 monthly terms July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2012
- ☐ 3 Year Contract payable in 36 monthly terms July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2012

Services

- The base monthly cost is **not to exceed \$2,790.00** (before e-rate) and includes the following services:
 1. 100 Mbps connectivity from the school district hub-site to the Regional Wide Area Network (WAN). The WAN will interconnect all participating school districts to each other, to the IU and to the Northwestern Pennsylvania Regional Wide Area Network for the exchange of educational content and administrative services. WAN services will be provided by Sting Communications.
 2. 5 Mbps guaranteed Internet (port and transport) provided by Sting Communications. Any district may purchase additional dedicated Internet at a monthly cost of \$60.00 per 1 Mbps per month.
 - a. Amount of additional Internet: 0Mbps. Price of additional Internet: \$0.00.
 3. Internet2 transport provided by Sting Communications.
 4. Sting managed services package, including leased network edge device at the school district hub-site as part of the service.
 5. Content materials, programs, and/or equipment acquired under the IU's e-Fund grant. Access to and use of these products will be optional. Specific services are outlined in the e-Fund grant application and are dependent upon agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Education. For some materials, an additional fee may apply.
 6. Administrative management services to be provided to the consortium by the IU.

Contingencies

- The costs listed in this agreement are dependent upon final approval of a contractual agreement between each IU in the Northwestern Pennsylvania Regional WAN consortium and Sting Communications. The pricing in this agreement assumes that all districts identified as seeking WAN services in the RFP of September 1, 2006 will purchase services as stated in this agreement. If fewer districts participate, the monthly costs may change. In such a case, new cost data will be provided to the district for consideration at the earliest opportunity.
- The costs listed in this agreement assume that the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the Northwestern Pennsylvania Consortium will reach mutually acceptable terms for spending the e-Fund grant, which has already been awarded.
- If the provider (Sting) is not able to deliver services by the start date specified in the term selected above, the district only will pay for services beginning the month the service is installed. If the provider delivers the network but the school is not ready, the school is still responsible for payment.

Amendments

- After negotiations with Sting and the Pennsylvania Department of Education are complete, the IU may submit an amendment to this contract reflecting the final terms. Any such amendment must be agreed to and signed by both parties.

Billing

- Each district will be invoiced monthly for the costs due. Invoices will be paid within 30 calendar days.

- The costs in this agreement are before E-Rate. The IU will file an E-Rate application on behalf of the school districts and will discount the bill by the appropriate E-Rate discount as soon as the consortium E-Rate application is approved.

Assurances

This contract constitutes the entire Agreement between the parties. No agent, representative, employee or officer of the School District or the Intermediate Unit has authority to make, or has made, any statement, agreement or representation, oral or written, in connection with this Agreement which in any way can be deemed to modify, add to, or detract from or otherwise change or alter the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

This Agreement shall be governed by and interpreted and enforced in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and decisions of the Pennsylvania courts.

In signing this contract you are attesting that, as of the start of the WAN services, your District is complying with the terms of the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).

District: Erie County Technical School

Billing Person: _____

Address: _____

Agreed to by,

Director: Dr. Aldo Jackson

Director's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Board Approval Date: _____