

BUENA PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT
Buena Park, California 90620

February 12, 2019

TO: Dr. Ramon Miramontes, Superintendent

FROM: Michael Magboo, Chief Technology Officer, Technology and Media Services

SUBJECT: **APPROVAL TO AWARD BID FOR ERATE CATEGORY 2 OF BASIC MAINTENANCE OF INTERNAL CONNECTIONS AND SOFTWARE FOR E-RATE YEAR 22 (FY2019) TO NIC PARTNERS**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Since 1997, E-rate funding has been available for all schools and libraries. In 2014, the FCC modernized the E-rate program with its first goal to Ensuring Affordable Access to High-Speed Broadband in Schools and Libraries. There are two levels of funding commitments: Category 1, which covers data and Internet connections, and Category 2, which covers internal connections and hardware. The Buena Park School District has been and is currently utilizing E-rate funding at the 80% level (this is the result 75.4% of students serve receive free and reduced lunch) for all Category 1 commitments. The Buena Park School District is eligible for approximately \$794,163.00 in Category 2 commitments. Category 2 commitments cover a period of five years. This funding was determined by using the Schools and Libraries (E-rate) Category 2 Budget Lookup Tool. The District has not accessed its Category 2 commitments.

Buena Park School District has a large installment of Cisco switches, controllers, servers, gateways, routers, and wireless access points that provide the District's network communications needs. As these devices mature, the cost of maintaining and keeping both firmware and software current increases. District staff and CSM Consulting (the District's E-rate consultants) have developed an infrastructure support pathway that will enable the District to utilize the Category 2 funding for support level agreements covering service and software maintenance for all of the Cisco equipment over the next two years.

The board approved permission to solicit bids on October 22, 2018. The District received a total of three bids.

**Service Provider
Name:
E-rate Eligible
Cost:**

NIC Partners	Giakom	Vector USA
\$287,025.00	\$325,907.54	\$352,619.76

CURRENT CONSIDERATIONS

Upon review of the bids submitted for Bid for E-rate Category 2 of basic maintenance of internal connections and software for E-rate year 22 (FY2019) the District certified that NIC Partners was the lowest E-rate eligible bid.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

E-rate funding for Category 2 projects for the Buena Park School district is at \$153.47 per student, for a District total of \$794,163.00. This funding is the pre-discount amount. Since 75.4% of students served receive free and reduced lunch, the Buena Park School District schools are eligible for 80% of the pre-discount amount. Only the schools and certain District equipment will be eligible for any E-rate Category 2 funding. Funding for this will occur in the 2019-2020 fiscal year. Funding for service level agreements will be for one year with an option to continue for another year. The contract and service level agreements will cost up to \$287,024.00, with the District costs being approximately \$57,405.00 for FY 2019/20.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Buena Park School District Governing Board award Bid for E-rate Category 2 of basic maintenance of internal connections and software for E-rate year 22 (FY2019) to NIC Partners, subject to E-rate funding for E-rate year 22.

****STRATEGIC PLAN: Provide a Safe and Positive Learning Environment**