

# MEMORANDUM

**TO: Mary Tarango**

**FROM: Dianne Lindstrom, PSFA BDCP Broadband Project Manager**

**DATE: Mar 23, 2022**

**RE: Statewide Education (SEN) Consortium Participation**

Created for: 21st Century Public Academy

21st Century Public Academy has been working with PSFA's Broadband program (BDCP), as one of 56 entities, pursuing a Statewide Education Network (SEN) Consortium project for better internet service.

The goal in creating the SEN Consortium and completing the E-rate-eligible procurement was to lower costs, improve quality and security of internet, and share resources for up to 56 member entities participation in the first phase. All public schools in the state are eligible to participate through subsequent phases. This approach will also help participants by having PSFA take on the responsibilities of procurement, vendor contracting and E-rate application for all participating schools' internet access.

We are pleased to present the results of the procurement and request that you take this to your board for consideration and approval. The RFP's evaluation committees have examined all the options provided in the proposals received and PSFA presented their recommended choice to the Public School Capital Outlay Council (PSCOC) for approval. On Monday, March 14, 2022, PSCOC approved the motion to allow PSFA to enter into contract negotiations with the highest ranked vendors.

The next step is to present the proposal outcomes to each school board or governing body for approval in order to move forward with implementation award and/or potential E-rate funding application.

The scope of this memo is to provide a summary narrative outlining what is to be expected for your school related to the overall cost, the net cost (after E-rate funds have been applied), what is being provided by being a part of the SEN Consortium, and how that compares to current internet speeds and costs.

**Proposed cost with SEN Phase 1.**

The Public School Capital Outlay Council (PSCOC) has decided to fully fund the school's portion of the SEN monthly costs for one year (Phase 1). **Your cost is \$0.00 each month for one year. The cost model thereafter is under development, and after the E-rate discount a modest contribution may be required of your school. This likely will not exceed the current cost of Internet access to the school (after the E-rate discount is applied).**

**Existing & Proposed Bandwidth & Term verification for SEN Phase I Participation:**

Is the current bandwidth for your school: 300 Mbps? If this is not correct, please email Dianne Lindstrom, [dlindstrom@nmopsfa.org](mailto:dlindstrom@nmopsfa.org), with the correct current bandwidth.

Is the current monthly cost for your school: \$ 845? If this is not correct, please email Dianne Lindstrom, [dlindstrom@nmopsfa.org](mailto:dlindstrom@nmopsfa.org), with the correct monthly cost (total cost, pre-E-rate, including taxes).

We'd appreciate if you could forward us a copy of your existing agreement so we can confirm the expiration date of your current internet access services.

**Proposed bandwidth for SEN Phase 1.**

The proposed bandwidth for your school (from the SEN RFP responses) is 300 Mbps/Gbps. The vendor who proposed serving your school is UPN.

**Timeline:** Many parts of the timeline are not able to be determined until all contracts have been negotiated and approved by the PSCOC, but it is anticipated that the new internet service will be turned on by November 1, 2022. The commitment being considered is for a 36-month term. Your existing (transitional) Internet service will continue until the switchover to the SEN service can take place.

**Dependencies:** This project is dependent on PSCOC approval of the contracts that PSFA negotiates. This includes the commodity internet contract, the backbone contract, and the last mile contracts (your service provider is one of these).

**To approach your school board, the SEN Advisory Committee recommends:**

“It is requested that the board make and approve a motion to:

- approve the continued participation in the SEN Consortium by signing this letter

(the letter must be signed by the Superintendent and the School Board President), and

- approve from «Lastmile\_supplier» a 36 month agreement, for the proposed internet service apportioned bandwidth monthly cost of \$0.00, with a target start date of November 1, 2022, and
- allow PSFA to apply for E-rate funding on behalf of the school for the eligible internet service.”

Thank you for your attention to these items. Once you have board approval, please provide documentation of the approval to Stacy Lucero at PSFA, [slucero@nmgsfa.org](mailto:slucero@nmgsfa.org), not later than one week after the board meeting.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Regards,

Dianne Lindstrom, PSFA BDCP Broadband Project Manager

**Superintendent Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**School Board President Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:**  
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