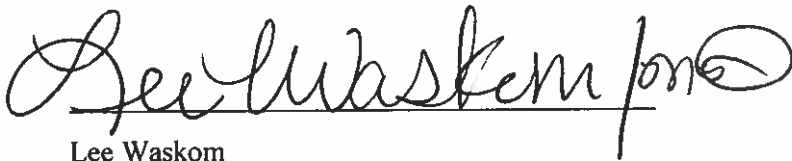


ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Notice is hereby given that the Natchitoches Parish School Board will receive the following:

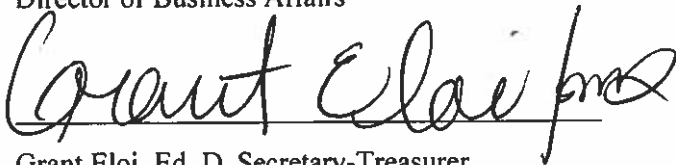
June 15, 2021, 2:00 p.m. - Broadband Provider

Bids/Proposals will be accepted until the date and time specified and will be publicly opened and read aloud at that time in the School Board's Central Office, 310 Royal Street, Natchitoches, Louisiana, 71457-5709. Please find bid-related documents and place electronic bids, is desired, at WWW.CENTRALBIDDING.COM. For questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814. Bids/Proposals received after the date and time of opening will not be considered. Facsimile transmissions will not be considered. Additional information may be obtained upon request by contacting Michelle Demery, Purchasing Coordinator, at 318-352-2358, Ext. 1155, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. The Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids.



Lee Waskom

Director of Business Affairs



Grant Eloi, Ed. D. Secretary-Treasurer

Natchitoches Parish School Board

Natchitoches Parish School Board

Purchasing Department
310 Royal Street
Post Office Box 16
Natchitoches, Louisiana 71458-0016

Telephone: 318-352-2358, Ext. 1155

Fax: 318-352-8138

INSTRUCTIONS FOR BIDDERS

NATCHITOCHEES PARISH SCHOOL BOARD'S HIGH-SPEED INTERNET

Bid No. BP2021

The Natchitoches Parish School Board will receive formal bids on providing and installing high-speed internet for all Natchitoches Parish schools.

BID OPENING: Bids will be accepted until 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, June 15, 2021, and will be publicly opened and read aloud at that time in the School Board's Central Office, 310 Royal Street (P.O. Box 16), Natchitoches, Louisiana 71457-5709 (71458-0016). Bids will be received after the date and time of the opening will not be considered. Facsimile transmissions will not be accepted.

ELECTRONIC BIDDING: Bidders can find bid-related documents and place electronic bids at WWW.CENTRALBIDDING.COM. For questions relating to the electronic bidding process, please call Central Bidding at 225-810-4814.

BID FORM: The enclosed form **MUST** be used for submission of bids; failure to do so could result in bid disqualification.

BID ENVELOPE: All bids shall be tightly sealed in opaque envelopes and shall be properly identified as to contents and day and time of bid opening.

AWARDING OF BID: After opening, bids will be presented to the Natchitoches Parish School Board at its meeting on July 6, 2021. Upon approval by the Board of the lowest responsible bids meeting specification, successful bidders will be issued purchase orders and bid tabulations will be issued to all bidders.

INSURANCE CERTIFICATE: A certificate of insurance stating workers' compensation and employer's liability as required by Louisiana law must be submitted by all successful bidders.

REJECTION OF BIDS: The Natchitoches Parish School Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

INFORMATION: Information regarding items or service for which bids are requested may be obtained by contacting Michelle Demery, Purchasing Coordinator, at the numbers and address above.

Natchitoches Parish School Board's High-Speed Internet Initiative

Project specifications outlined below will provide interested telecommunications companies with the information they will need to present an insightful, calculated bid proposal for this project.

The intent of this project is to provide schoolteachers, school administrators, and children under eighteen (18) years old who live within the boundaries of Natchitoches Parish with high-speed internet access.

Our intent is an indication of the scope and complexity of this project.

At project completion, a FTTH (Fiber To The Home) G-PON (Gigabit Passive Optical Network) network will be the means that high-speed internet is accessed by its users.

Our expectations are that your bid proposal will provide the following:

- 1.) A materials list submitted for our approval.
- 2.) A project map to detail fiber-cable depth, road bore elevations, placement of cable in the ROW, positioning of all handholes, pedestals, and electronic/splitter cabinets.
- 3.) A parish-wide construction schedule broken out into four phases with anticipated completion dates for each phase.
- 4.) The name/names of the construction company providing for this work along with two recent references.

Specifications are broken out into six areas.

- 1.) Material Specifications
- 2.) Construction Safety
- 3.) Construction Specifications
- 4.) Grounding and Bonding
- 5.) Network Maintenance
- 6.) Service Expectations

Material Specifications:

- 1.) The fiber cable will consist of an armored, loose-tube, gel-free, single-mode cable designed for direct-bury applications.
- 2.) Splice and distribution kits are to be manufactured by TYCO or equivalent.
- 3.) Handholes are to be a minimum of Tier 15.
- 4.) Handholes are to be constructed of a polymer concrete material with the handhole and lid not to exceed 150 lbs.
- 5.) Distribution pedestals are to be manufactured by Charles Industries or equivalent and designed for fiber management and splice tray usage.
- 6.) Splitter Cabinets and splitters are to be manufactured by Clearfield, Charles Industries or equivalent.
- 7.) Customer premise routers and hot spots are to be manufactured by Calix, Adtran or equivalent.

Construction Safety:

- 1.) The Contractor is solely responsible for the safety of the public and workers in accordance with all applicable rules, regulations, building codes and ordinances.
- 2.) All work shall comply with the requirements and recommendations of the product manufacturers. Where questions arise regarding which requirements and recommendations apply, the more stringent shall prevail.
- 3.) All excavations must comply to OSHA regulations and protected at the end of the work shift. Excavations should be surrounded with barricades and caution tape prior to leaving the job site.

Construction:

- 1.) A detailed map of the area under construction will be provided to the NPSB a minimum of one week before construction commences.
- 2.) Applying for City, Parish, DOTD, RRWC, and COE Permits are the responsibility of the designated contractor.
- 3.) Requesting a LA One Call utility locate is the responsibility of the designated contractor.
- 4.) Fiber cable will be placed at a minimum of five feet (no aerial construction).
- 5.) Pedestals will be placed at the recommended depth and handholes will be placed with the top of the handhole even (never below) with the surrounding ground. All APs will be filled with 6" of washed pea gravel.
- 6.) Remove excavation materials and other construction debris from the site in a timely manner and dispose of legally.
- 7.) Ensure that any construction related back-fill work is completed within a ninety-day post construction period.

Grounding and Bonding:

- 1.) At all APs (Access Points), a 5/8" x 8' copper-clad steel ground rod will be driven within two inches of the ground surface.
- 2.) All ground rods will be connected by a purpose-made grounding clamp to the ground-bar with #6 bare copper wire.
- 3.) At all cable ends the cable sheaths will be attached to the ground bar.

Network Maintenance:

- 1.) All requests for cable locates from the LA One Call center will be satisfied in a timeframe designated by LA One Call regulations.
- 2.) A same-day response to service outages with a repair technician on-site within a twenty-four-hour window is expected.

Service Expectations:

- 1.) At the end of this project everyone on the network should experience 100M speeds, and a network round trip latency at or below 100 MS when measured between the customer premises and a remote server