



**January 16, 2026**

**Addendum #1  
FOR IMMEDIATE ATTENTION**

**ADDENDUM NO. 1 TO ALL BIDDERS:**

Reference – Request for Proposal:

RFP #021-0-2026/HM

For Delivery To:

E-Rate Category 2 Core Switch Equipment

Bid Submittals Due:

Newport News Public Schools

February 16, 2026 at 10:00 AM EST

**Responses to Offerors questions are as follows:**

1. Infrastructure & Access
  - a. Firewall Access: Section III.A.4 tasks the Contractor with assisting in the routing protocol transition. Will the Contractor be granted direct administrative access to the Fortinet firewalls, or will an NNPS firewall engineer perform those specific changes on the firewalls?  
ANSWER – NNPS will handle the changes on the firewall but we can provide any information required including a read-only account.
  - b. Network Access: Will NNPS provide District-managed laptops for logical access during the migration, or should the Contractor plan to use company-owned devices?  
ANSWER – The contractor should have their own devices.
  - c. As-Builts: To ensure an accurate migration, can NNPS share existing "as-built" network diagrams showing current connectivity between the core, branches, and firewalls?  
ANSWER – Yes
  - d. The pricing sheet references a quantity of two (2) Cisco 9410R switches, which appears to allocate one switch per data center. However, the RFP's Statement of Needs requests a stacking solution per site, ideally functioning as a single virtual device. This typically implies two switches per site (total of four).
    - i. Is Cisco 9410 listed as a specific requirement or just as an example configuration. Is the expectation to provide a fully functional stacked core per data center, which may require additional switches beyond what is shown in the pricing sheet?  
ANSWER – The device is listed as a preferred example, but alternative solutions and vendors are welcome as long as they meet the needs outlined in the RFP. In the case of the Cisco 9410 (or equivalent) it would be expected that there would be a single chassis per data center for a total of two chassis.
    - ii. Additionally, the Cisco 9410 is showing copper line cards, is that a requirement for core switches?  
ANSWER – The solution must support copper media.



2. Physical & Cabling Requirements

- a. Rack & Power: Can NPPS confirm that the existing data center racks have sufficient space and power for the new equipment to run in parallel during migration?

ANSWER – Yes

- b. Patch Cables: Is the Contractor required to provide all new fiber and copper patch cables, or does NPPS intend to reuse the cables currently connected to the Brocade ICX 7750 switches?

ANSWER – We will reuse any patch cables we can and NNPS will utilize our own supply of patch cables as needed.

- c. Cabling Responsibility: If new cables are required, should the costs be itemized in Attachment A, or will NPPS provide them? If existing cables are used, can NPPS verify that cables are long enough to reach where the new switch might be installed?

ANSWER – NNPS can provide patch cables as needed.

3. Logical Connectivity & Phasing

- a. Branch Connectivity: Regarding the 50 branch locations, are the interfaces between branch and core currently configured as point-to-point Layer 3 links with dedicated IPv4 and IPv6 address (e.g., /30 or /31 for IPv4 and /64 or /127 for IPv6)?

ANSWER – Yes

- b. Migration Strategy: Does NNPS prefer a single-cutover approach for each data center, or a phased (link-by-link) migration over several weeks to minimize operational risk?

ANSWER – A single migration would be preferred but we are open to options as presented. Offerors may propose a single solution or present multiple options that they believe meet the requirements of this RFP.

4. Post-Installation Technical Support (One-Year Requirement)

- a. Support Model: Regarding the "One (1) year of post-installation technical support," is NNPS looking for a dedicated engineer (on-site or remote) for a set number of hours, or an as-needed "break-fix" troubleshooting model?

ANSWER – NNPS leans more towards the as-needed type model; however, offerors may propose a solution that they believe meets the requirements of this RFP best.

- b. SLA & Response Times: Please define the required Service Level Agreement (SLA). Specifically, what are the expected response times for "Priority 1" outages, and is support limited to business hours or 24/7/365?

ANSWER – Please refer to the 470 and RFP. Offerors must propose a solution that they believe meets the requirements of the RFP. In the response, the offeror should consider listing their response times for Priority 1 outages and the various type of support options they offer. The offeror should provide a turn-key solution to the district.

- c. Scope of Support: Does this support cover only the remediation of the initial configuration, or does it include ongoing operational changes (e.g., configuring new VLANs, routing updates, or firewall policy changes) throughout the year?



ANSWER – Remediation of the initial configuration, for example if we find something is not working properly after the migration, but finding it is delayed. The support sought by NNPS covers the duration of this project and the subsequent implementation.

d. Hours & Caps: To ensure an apples-to-apples comparison between offerors, does NPPS have a target number of support hours per month that should be included in the Firm Fixed Price?

ANSWER- Please refer to the 470 and RFP. Offerors must propose a solution that they believe meets the requirements of the RFP. Offerors may want to consider listing the per hour price versus a total turn-key price they believe will meet the needs of the solution requested in the RFP.

5. Administrative Requirements

a. Pricing Sheet: Can NPPS provide "Attachment A" with the exact part numbers in one column and description in another column to ensure we are requesting correct part numbers from the vendor.

ANSWER – No. Please see the “Attachment A” that was released with the RFP. It is the responsibility of the offeror to review the requested solution (or equivalent) and provide a response should they wish to bid on this opportunity.

b. Licensing Term: The technical requirements specify 5 years for hardware but mention 3 years for software licenses. Should licensing and manufacturer support be quoted for a 5-year term to align with the hardware warranty?

ANSWER – Please see the “Attachment A” that was released with the RFP. This document lists the products and/or services (or equivalent) requested by NNPS.

6. All other provisions of the RFP shall remain unchanged.

Sincerely,

*Heather M. Medina*

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Name of Firm

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Signature/Title

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Date