

Wireless upgrade summary for Jacobson Elementary

Reasons for upgrade:

1. Current AP's (qty 37) are end of life with the manufacturer - meaning no support or upgrades are available for the AP's - which are Meru 320's.
2. The Meru controller and the HS AP's - Meru 832's - therefore can not be upgraded either while the 320's are in use - all AP's have to use the same code as the controller.
3. The 320's are old technology - and can't take advantage in speed improvements made in recent years with new wifi specifications like Wave 1 (AC) that our devices could be using today.
4. Erate funding - Erate has changed - where as they will now fund 60% of wireless projects. The district then only has to cover the other 40%. There is no guarantee that eRate funds will be available in coming years. All depends on how much monies set aside for the program remains year to year.

Proposed solution

I had six vendors or manufacturers contact me in reply to our 470 application. Five of these vendors ended up coming onsite - looking over the building, seeing what we currently have in place, noted high use areas and provided quotes and recommendations. I ended up with fifteen quotes total.

Of all these - the vendor CIT which represents Aruba wireless (an HP owned company) - provided the best overall price - and I believe the best overall solution for Jacobson Elementary. Aruba is one of the top wireless vendors in the market - and CIT has over eighty employees to help support their clients. HP also will provide resources as needed directly, via a dedicated sales rep and dedicated sales engineer both located in the Twin Cities area - that can answer any technical questions and insure we receive the support needed. Aruba/HP also has the lowest year to year maintenance costs as they provide deep discounts to K-12 schools.

Vendor	Solution	Quote #	Price
CIT	Aruba	617060001312616	\$17,830.50
Procellis	Aruba	ER160006	\$39,060.90
Compunet	Extreme	AAAQ2387	\$29,988.53
Sirius	Meraki	PR119594.2	\$34,504.36
Sirius	Cisco	PR119561.1	\$41,820.28
Aercor	Aruba	DRH16000854-3	\$20,378.78
Aercor	Aruba	DRH1600854	\$26,87635
Aercor	Aruba	DRH16000854-2	\$35,571.35
Aercor	Ruckus	DRH1500728-3	\$20,077.15
Aercor	Ruckus	DRH1500728-2	\$21,120.35
Aercor	Ruckus	DRH1500728-1	\$23,145.35
Aercor	Ruckus	DRH1500728	\$29,895.33
Aercor	Ruckus	DRH1500728-4	\$22102.15
Aercor	Ruckus	DRH1500728-5	\$28,852.15
Aercor	Meru	DRH1600855	\$31,566.10

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