

Prairie-Hills Elementary School District #144
3015 W. 163rd Street
Markham, IL 60428

Proposal for:
E-RATE DEPLOYED UBIQUITOUSLY (EDU) 2011 PILOT PROGRAM
WC Docket No. 10-222

Submission Date: December 17, 2010

Submitted By: Bradley R. Czernik, Manager of Information Systems
Prairie-Hills Elementary School District #144



The planned Applicant Wireless Program for Prairie-Hills Elementary School District #144 will provide wireless Internet access to students participating in the district's 8th Grade Laptop Initiative. The district has a total of 157 participants for the pilot year (2010) of this program. These students have received laptops that are owned by the district on lease until the end of the school year. The ability to provide them with wireless Internet access they might not otherwise have will serve to add value to their participation in the district's program.

The Applicant Wireless Program will extend our students ability to access online resources such as Goggle.net to retrieve homework and update assignments. It will provide the students Internet accessibility in their home and community that otherwise might not exist. In addition, it will allow them to update their system with pre-installed applications such as Symantec Anti-Virus.

The total percentage of National School Lunch Program participants in the district is at 88.793% and at Prairie-Hills Junior High the number is 89.898%. At this time the district would be looking to utilize the E-Rate Deployed Ubiquitously (EDU) 2011 Pilot Program solely at the Prairie-Hills Junior High School with those 8th grade students who are participating in the district's 8th Grade Laptop Initiative that was previously referenced.

The Prairie-Hills Junior High School could use the financial assistance of the program due to the fact that it is a public school in a low-income area with limited resources. The district has access to various computer technology and hardware such as the laptops that are being utilized. With our infrastructure in place and ready-to-go, we believe that participation in the program would help all of those involved – the students, the school, the district, and USAC.

The district is requesting \$90,432.00 for the EDU 2011 Pilot Program. Here is the break-down of costs; they could be identified as simple as everything was based on the aforementioned:

157 HP-Compaq NX6110 Laptops for the 8th Grade Laptop Initiative (currently in place)
AT&T Mobile Broadband Access quoted at \$48.00 per month (for each unit)
\$7536.00/month or \$90,432.00/year for AT&T Mobile Broadband Access (157 Laptops)

The district currently has the necessary personnel and hardware to support the laptops that would be used under the E-Rate Deployed Ubiquitously (EDU) 2011 Pilot Program. These requirements were previously identified and allocated when the program was being presented to the Board of Education. The laptops are all owned outright by the district and were purchased with funds from the Technology Department budget. In addition, the district's commitment to the program would be seen in the form of continual funding from the Technology Department.

There is definitive data showing students are motivated by participating with technology. All students participating in the program have the ability to access and use their laptops on a daily basis. The wireless access provided under the program will be valuable, as it will become another motivation for the students. This motivation will lend itself to the accountability of each student in regards to their current Gagglet.net account and required homework. The academic outcomes will eventually see the penetration of technology as scores improve as students find themselves with more resources and information.

In looking at the cost-effectiveness of our application to the Applicant Wireless Program compared to other technology, we see a great discrepancy in the cost to provide wireless connectivity to our students. Prairie-Hills Junior High School is the only school in our district that provides instruction to 8th grade students (which have been the focus of our application). Due to this, if we were to simply look at the cost of providing a wireless mesh network for all of our students, the cost would exceed \$600K to cover all necessary neighborhoods. That cost would not include the required Internet connection or any support of the wireless hardware. The only other viable technology to meet the objectives of the program is mobile broadband, which was the major reason we focused our attention there.

The district currently has a specific Internet Safety Class that covers 6th through 8th grade. All 8th graders participating in this program would have had this class as part of their curriculum. Here are some specifics on what is covered in the class:

- Safe and responsible use of social networking, websites, chat rooms, electronic mail, bulletin boards, instant messaging, et cetera.
- Recognizing, avoiding and reporting online solicitations by sexual predators.
- Risks of transmitting personal information on the Internet.
- Recognizing and avoiding unsolicited or deceptive online communication.
- Recognizing and reporting online harassment and/or cyber-bullying.
- Reporting illegal online activities and communications.
- Understanding copyright laws on written materials, photographs, music and video.

In addition, the district has every student sign our Internet acceptable use policy at the beginning of the year or when they arrive at the district. Here is the complete district policy (in blue text):

“The undersigned acknowledges that he/she has read the Acceptable Use Policy of this school district before signing this Internet Use Agreement. The signature at the end of this document is legally binding and indicates the party who signed has read the terms and conditions of said policy carefully, understands their significance and agrees to abide by all provisions of said policy.

User: I understand and will abide by the Acceptable Use Policy of Prairie-Hills Elementary School District 144 relating to the use of the Internet and will abide by this Internet Use

Agreement. Prairie-Hills is not liable for lost, damaged or unavailable information due to technical or other difficulties; and is not responsible for what users do or the information they access. I acknowledge that the majority of such information is generated outside of Prairie-Hills Elementary School District 144. I further understand that any violation of the Acceptable Use Policy and/or this Internet Use Agreement may jeopardize my access privileges and certain such violations may constitute criminal offenses. Should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be suspended or revoked.

Prairie-Hills District 144 provides access to computers and the internet for the purposes of promoting the use of networking and telecommunication technology as a tool to augment the teaching and learning process. All use of the network must be consistent with this purpose and be in accordance with this policy.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that those using the information resources will do so with respect for the public trust and in accordance with Prairie-Hills Elementary School District 144's mission and educational goals and the policy and regulations established by state and/or federal agencies, and to comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).

Access to Electronic Networks:

The School Board's goal is to include electronic networks, including the Internet, in the District's instructional program in order to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication.

The School District is not responsible for any information that may be lost, damaged, or unavailable when using the network, or for any information that is retrieved via the Internet. Furthermore, the District will not be responsible for any unauthorized charges or fees resulting from access to the Internet.

Individual School Board members and administrative staff members shall be treated like teachers.

Curriculum:

The use of the District's Technology System shall (1) be consistent with the curriculum adopted by the District as well as the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities, and developmental levels of the students, and (2) comply with the selection criteria for instructional materials and library-media center materials. Teachers may, consistent with the Superintendent's implementation plan, use the Internet throughout the curriculum.

Acceptable Use:

All of the District's Technology System must be (1) in support of education and/or research, and be in furtherance of the School Board's stated goals, or (2) for a legitimate business purpose.

Use of the District Technology System is a privilege, not a right. General rules for behavior and communications apply when using electronic networks. The District's Authorization for Electronic Network Access contains the appropriate uses, ethics, and protocol. Electronic communications and downloaded material, including files deleted from a user's account but not erased, may be monitored or read by school officials.

Authorization for District Technology System:

All District employees and members of the Board of Education must sign the District's Authorization for Electronic Network Access, as a condition for using the District's electronic network. Each student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) must sign the Authorization before being granted unsupervised use.

The failure of any student or teacher to follow the terms of the Authorization for Electronic Network Access, or this policy will result in the loss of computer privileges, disciplinary action, up to and including suspension and/or appropriate legal action."

The district has completed a Technology Integration Plan that was approved by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) on June 24, 2010. The vision statement of the plan specifically identifies telecommunications in the following manner, "telecommunications provide teachers and students access to a wealth of materials, services, and networks throughout the state, nation, and world. Technology does not replace the teachers, but rather supports and enhances the educational process." Technology has an important place in the district in regards to instruction and student exposure. In addition, the ability to provide students with greater resources such as Internet Access outside of the school district will only assist in allowing them to reach their potential.

As discussed, Prairie-Hills Junior High School is the school applicant for this program. Here are the requested details for the school:

Prairie-Hills Junior High School
3035 West 163rd Street
Markham, IL 60428

Billed Entity Number (BEN): 69335
Type of School: Public

The ability for student's to access their accounts and homework online from outside the district will be a great benefit to all participants. At this time we are discussing wireless access for 157 8th grade students who are participating in our program. According to the results of our Student Technology and Learning Survey our student have the following Technology integration deficits: 40% of the students seldom or never use email for school work; 50% of the students seldom or never create or use Podcasting; 37% of the students seldom or never use graphing calculators; 31% of the students seldom or never use word processing; 58% of the students

have no skills in database creation and 64% of the students have seldom or never created a database; 63% of the students seldom or never use spreadsheets; 45% of the students have seldom or never used probes; 38% of the students seldom or never use the library catalog; 54% of the students seldom or never use simulations; 47% of the students seldom or never use mind mapping; 35% of the students seldom or never use video editing; 49% of the students seldom or never use desktop publishing; and 33% of the students seldom or never use audio/music creation in the classroom. We are looking to see increases in all of these areas once the program is in place.

The district welcomes the opportunity to be considered for the E-Rate Deployed Ubiquitously (EDU) 2011 Pilot Program. I believe our district would be served well by being able to provide wireless connectivity under this program. The students would be given an opportunity that otherwise might not be available to them. In providing laptops to students, the district is already expanding technology integration. The inclusion of wireless connectivity for these systems would take this to another level. Thank you for your time, effort, and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bradley R. Czernik', written in a cursive style.

Bradley R. Czernik
Manager of Information Systems
Prairie-Hills Elementary School District #144