Kansas City, Kansas Public School District (USD500)

Application for E-rate Deployed Ubiquitously Pilot Program
(EDU2011)
Reference: WC Docket No. 10-222

(1) Description of wireless program:

a. In February, 2007, district leadership decided to embark on a 1:1 laptop initiative for high school students. As a medium-sized (20,000 students) urban school district, we understood that our students were on the wrong side of the “digital divide”. In the months that followed, numerous meetings were held with school board members, parents, students, staff, and community members to address any and all concerns, as well as planning the logistics of a large scale technology deployment.

At the same time, the district purchased interactive software, deployed through the Internet, that connected teachers, parents, and students. This software, SchoolLoop, allowed teachers to provide online instructional resources for their students, as well as assignments. Students would be able to submit their homework online from home. Parents could check grades online, again from home. Part of the plan, then, required students to have Internet access at home. Although we provided Wi-Fi access at school, funded in large part by E-rate, we knew that we could not utilize E-rate funded equipment or service away from our school sites.

We turned to the business community for a solution, but the wireless companies were not interested enough to offer anything but slightly discounted rates. We met with the CIO of the county government and the CIO of the local public utility, hoping for a public community solution. While they were both intrigued with the idea, none of us were able to fund a ubiquitous wireless solution.

So, by the time we deployed 5,500 laptops for our high school students in November 2007, we had only limited home wireless available. One-Economy, a not-for-profit organization provided ATT wireless access for 200 of our student homes. Time Warner, the local cable company, provided steeply discounted rates for students in our laptop program, charging them about $13 per month for Internet access. Initially, this was a wired service, but now includes Wi-Fi enabled modems. While both of these programs were available at the start, only the Time Warner solution is still available to this day.

The other solutions included district technicians assisting churches, public libraries, and other community groups with configuring wireless access points in their locations. This was done on our technicians’ own time, and
access points and Internet service was provided by the community organization, at no cost to the district.

More recently, we have purchased Verizon Mi-Fi wireless broadband units for our homeless shelter, thereby providing Internet access to our homeless students living in our temporary homeless quarters.

b. The One-Economy wireless plan was implemented in 2007, but was not funded in 2009. The Time Warner Internet access plan for student homes, though not specifically cellular wireless (most installed Wi-Fi routers), was available in 2007 and continues to be offered to our students today. The wireless for our homeless students was implemented November 2010.

c. Sprint had won our wireless bid in 2007, but the only devices they could provide at the time, PC bus cards, were not compatible with the laptops we selected from Apple. This might not have been an issue, as we were told that they were just about to release USB broadband devices. The technical issue that brought the Sprint broadband solution to a halt was the fact that we could not find a CIPA compliant filtering solution that worked with the device. We tested a number of them, but not much was available for Macs at that time. We have since found a solution that would work, but the biggest challenge now is financial, not technical.

d. Orientations are held every year (we are currently in year 4 of our laptop initiative) for parents and students. Parents must sign the acceptable use policy along with the student, and they must attend the orientations together before they are issued a laptop. Teachers have numerous opportunities throughout the year for professional development integrating 21st century tools into instruction.

e. The wireless plan includes integration with our local county government. However, only the skeletal plan outlined above has been implemented due to budgetary constraints of the school district and local government.

(2) The district poverty level based on the percentage of students eligible for free and reduced lunch is 86%. This equates to an E-rate discount of 89%.

(3) The district is located in one of the highest poverty communities in the nation, and is completely reliant on state and Federal funding, with a very high At-Risk student population. While surrounding districts are able to raise a substantial local mill levy, we do not have that luxury. We have suffered substantial budget cuts in the past few years, resulting in reductions in force, higher pupil-teacher ratios, and aging technology that can not be replaced.

(4) The current wireless program is cost shifted to students and their families, if they can afford the discounted rate. The previous One-Economy wireless program cost was absorbed by One-Economy. The planned broadband wireless cost would be 5,500 students \( \times \) $40 per month, which is $220,000 per month, or $1,980,000 per school year. This is the portion that would be eligible for E-rate support. The cost not eligible for E-rate would be the laptop lease, which is $1,500,000 per year, and funded wholly by district capital outlay budget.
The committed resources available would include the thirty technology staff members that would deploy wireless broadband units, and be responsible for configuration and training. The district’s portion, after E-rate discounts, would be funded by the district’s technology budget.

The effects of the district’s wireless plan being funded would be a tremendous step forward in reducing, if not eliminating entirely, the “digital divide” that exists in our community. Students that can’t afford the steeply discounted Internet access rate provided by Time Warner exclusively for those students in our laptop program would not have to seek access outside of their homes. Currently, many students can be seen in our parking lots and outside stairwells after school hours, because that is the only place close to their homes where they can obtain access. While the MacBooks allow students to pull down complete webpages for use offline when they get home, they often miss live links that could have provided critical information. They also would be able to turn in homework electronically, rather than having to stay after school until closing just to get their work turned in.

The wireless plan, at $40 per month per student, is higher than the $13 per month per student plan that is available through Time Warner. However, that service is wired. If we were to provide Wi-Fi wireless routers for each student, at a cost of $70 per student, that would equal $385,000. Even though that would be a one time cost, it is much higher than the $4.40 per student of our discounted E-rate share for the wireless (total $24,200 per month for 5,500 students).

Technology planning documents (see exhibits).

The district has in place two synchronized filtering systems (M86). One is for all Internet traffic within the district’s network. The other is for laptops taken outside of our network, which sits outside of our firewall. The CIPA policy is synchronized with the internal filter, so it need not be managed separately. The district maintains an E-rate binder for each year, including reconciliation records for all E-rate transactions, in accordance with USAC/SLD recommendations. Additionally, the district’s internal auditor and state certified auditors conduct routine annual and random audits.

The district’s Acceptable Use Policy (AUP, see attached exhibit) addresses all Internet access and technology use, regardless of whether it is delivered wireless or wired. The AUP is signed each year by both students and parents participating in our laptop program, and is enforced both on and off campus.

Additional Required Information

(1) School Locations:
   a. J.C. Harmon High School, 2400 Steel Rd., Kansas City, KS 66106
   b. F.L. Schlagle High School, 2214 N. 59th St., Kansas City, KS 66104
   c. Sumner Academy, 1610 N. 8th St., Kansas City, KS 66101
   d. Washington High School, 7340 Leavenworth Rd., Kansas City, KS 66109
   e. Wyandotte High School, 2501 Minnesota Ave., Kansas City, KS 66102
f. Fairfax Campus (Alternative School), 813 Barnett, Kansas City, KS 66101

(2) Name of school applicant/billed entity numbers:
   a. Kansas City, Kansas Public School District USD500, Joe Fives, Director of Technology & Information Services, 2010 N. 59th Street, Kansas City, Kansas 66104. Billed entity number (BEN): 137613. I am applying for students in the schools below, not for the district office.
   b. J.C. Harmon High School, BEN: 76786
   c. F.L. Schlagle High School, BEN: 76759
   d. Sumner Academy, BEN: 76726
   e. Washington High School, BEN: 76788
   f. Wyandotte High School, BEN: 76740
   g. Fairfax Campus, BEN: 16041528

(3) Description of School District. Kansas City Kansas Unified School District 500 is a public school district, and each of the schools listed is a public school.

(4) The program objective is to prepare our students with 21st Century learning skills, so that they may compete successfully with students nationwide, for colleges and the modern workplace. We believe that technology must be integrated into instruction and curriculum, so much so that we have a 21st Century Instructional Teacher Leader, responsible for teaching teachers to integrate technology into the classroom. We also have a curriculum department committed to integrating technology into their work.

(5) When the district started the laptop program in 2007, state standardized test scores increased 13% in math, and 15% in reading at the high schools, compared with an average 4% gain for the other grade levels, which did not receive laptops. We are still experiencing steady gains at the high school level most dramatically, whereas previous to the program, high schools showed the least amount of gain (typically 1 – 3%).
Exhibit 1, Acceptable Use Policy:

Updated 08/10/08

**Unified School District No. 500**

**Student Laptop Use Rules and Regulations**

5.2.10.0.0A

Every High School student will be assigned a laptop for classroom use and to complete assignment and projects outside the school day.

Prior to issuance of a laptop computer, receiving student and their parent/guardians must acknowledge, in writing, their receipt and understanding of the Unified School District No. 500 laptop, Internet and home use rules. If a parent communicates a desire to restrict access to certain sites or information, the parent’s request shall be communicated to school officials, in writing, and the student shall acknowledge the prohibition, and his/her agreement to comply in writing.

Students must sign and adhere to the Unified School District No. 500 laptop, Internet and home use policies. Parents may request students be prohibited from using the Internet.

Parents must give written consent in order for students to take the laptop home, and adhere to the Unified School District No. 500 laptop, Internet and home use policies.

The Unified School District No. 500 laptop, Internet and home use policies must be followed at all times. Violation of these policies will be subject to loss of use of the laptop as well as other disciplinary consequences.

**Laptop Use Rules**

- The laptop is an educational tool and should be used in that capacity only. Once issued, you are responsible for the laptop at all times.
- The student is responsible for the laptop throughout the school day. The school will not be responsible for laptops that are left in classrooms, hallways or lockers.
- The laptop should not be used to – copy, download, upload, or share copyrighted materials without the owner’s permission. This includes the reproduction of music files, (CD’s) images and software applications.
- Student use of the laptop will adhere to Academic Dishonesty/Cheating/Forgery as cited in the Code of Conduct.
- The student is the only authorized user of your assigned laptop. Never share or swap laptops with another student. Parents/Guardians will have access to your computer, login and password.

Updated 08/10/08

- Keep your password confidential.
- Use the laptop on a flat, stable surface.
- Do not eat or drink near the laptop.
- Avoid touching the screen. When cleaning is necessary, wipe the laptop
surface lightly with a soft cloth. Never use any cleaner, such as Windex, or water to clean laptop screen.

• Do not rest pencils/pens or other items on the keyboard. Accidentally closing the laptop with items on the keyboard damages the screen.
• Do not mark the laptop in any way with markers, stickers, etc.
• Do not remove district applied name label and asset tags.
• Do not insert objects into the ports (openings) of the laptop that are not intended to be inserted.
• Laptops must come to school fully charged along with their power cords daily.
• **Laptops cannot be taken outside of the United States of America. If the student is taking a trip outside of the United States, he or she will need to turn the laptop into the school until he or she returns to school.**
• **Students must carry laptops in the district provided or comparable padded bag.**
• **Student ID tag must remain on the bag.**
• Laptops are school property. If you stop attending school or the Unified School District No. 500 and do not return your laptop, you will be in possession of stolen property and charges will be filed.

**Internet Use Rules**

• **The district has a filtering system in place which filters Internet content both at school and at home in accordance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA).**
• Students must sign and adhere to the Unified School District No. 500 laptop, Internet and home use policies. Parents may request students be prohibited from using the Internet.
• Students must use the Internet in a way that complies with the District Code of Conduct.
• Realize that the laptop is district property and all content (software, email, internet use) will be monitored. Messages and/or Internet content relating to or in support of illegal activities will be reported to the authorities.
• "Cyberbullying" will not be tolerated. Cyberbullying means bullying by use of any electronic communication device using, but not limited to, e-mail, instant messaging, text messages, blogs, mobile phones, pagers, online games, websites, etc. Bullying is defined in the Code of Conduct.
• Students are not allowed to try to bypass the district filter in any way, including but not limited to the use of proxy avoidance sites.

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• Do not use the network in any way that would disrupt its use by other users.
• Do not use or access any other person’s account for any reason.
• Do not access inappropriate or obscene material.
• Students have no expectations of privacy and can expect teachers to
conduct spot checks of their Internet history, documents, e-mail, etc.

Home/Locations Outside of School Use Rules

• All rules in the sections above apply wherever the laptop is being used.
  • Students are responsible for the care of their laptops.
  • Each laptop must be secured in its assigned case while in transit.
  • Do not leave laptops in automobiles. Computers cannot tolerate extremes in temperature.
  • The laptop is to be used by the assigned student only. Parents/guardians will have their student's login and password to the desktop in order to supervise usage at home.
  • Parents/guardians are encouraged to be “nosy” and interact with their student about his/her work on the laptop.
  • Laptops must be recharged before returning to school.
  • Laptops with power cords must be returned to school every day secured in their cases.
  • If technical difficulties or issues prevent homework completion, a parent note is requested. Students may also contact the district Help Desk at 279-2330 from 6:00AM to 8:00PM.
  • If a laptop is stolen, the police and the help desk (279-2330) should be notified immediately, in order for the laptop to be traced and disabled. A police report must be filed, in order for the district to file an insurance claim. **If you fail to file a police report, you are responsible for the full value of the computer.** (The help desk will follow up with the school SRO or with the Kansas City, Kansas Police Department.) **In the case of theft, the student is responsible for the $150 deductible,**
  • If a laptop is lost, the help desk (279-2330) must be notified as soon as possible and the student is responsible for the $150 deductible to replace the laptop.
  • A minimal cost of $50 provides annual laptop insurance with a $150 deductible. If a laptop is accidentally damaged, the parents/guardians are responsible for the $150 deductible per occurrence. In the case of negligent damage, intentional damage, or multiple occurrences of damage to the laptop, parents/guardians are responsible for the total cost of repair or replacement. Please refer to the attached insurance coverage document.
  • **The cost of repairing any laptop is ultimately the responsibility of the student to whom the laptop was checked out.**
    • The Unified School District does not provide home access to the Internet. Updated 08/10/08
  • If a parent chooses to allow home Internet access on Unified School District No. 500’s equipment, the parent/guardian is accepting responsibility for monitoring your child’s Internet use. Your child is still responsible for following all school rules for appropriate computer use while online at home. Updated 08/10/08
AUP Signature Form

Student
I have read and agree to the Unified School District No. 500 laptop, Internet and laptop home Use Rules and Regulations. I understand my responsibilities as a student. Violation of these policies will be subject to loss of use of the laptop as well as other disciplinary consequences.

_________________________________
Printed Student Name

Student Signature Date

Parent
I have read and agree to the Unified School District No. 500 laptop, Internet and laptop home Use Rules and Regulations. I understand my responsibilities as a parent/guardian. Violation of these policies will be subject to loss of use of the laptop as well as other disciplinary consequences. I am giving consent for my child to bring the laptop home.

_________________________________
Printed Parent/Guardian Name

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Internet Opt Out
I wish to deny my child access to the Internet at school and request alternative activities. (Note: Student will not have access to School Loop.)

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Printed Parent/Guardian Name

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

Technology Planning Documents:
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school officials, in writing, and the student shall acknowledge the
prohibition, and his/her agreement to comply in writing.
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The Unified School District No. 500 laptop, Internet and home use policies must
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Updated 08/10/08
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closing the laptop with items on the keyboard damages the screen.
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padded bag.
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- "Cyberbulling" will not be tolerated. Cyberbullying means bullying by use of any electronic communication device using, but not limited to, e-mail, instant messaging, text messages, blogs, mobile phones, pagers, online games, websites, etc. Bullying is defined in the Code of Conduct.
- Students are not allowed to try to bypass the district filter in any way, including but not limited to the use of proxy avoidance sites.

Updated 08/10/08
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• The cost of repairing any laptop is ultimately the responsibility of the student to whom the laptop was checked out.

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_________________________________ Printed Student Name

_________________________________ Student Signature Date 

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I am giving consent for my child to bring the laptop home.

_________________________________
Printed Parent/Guardian Name

_________________________________ ______________
Parent/Guardian Signature Date

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I wish to deny my child access to the Internet at school and request alternative activities. (Note: Student will not have access to School Loop.)

_________________________________
Printed Parent/Guardian Name

_________________________________ ______________
Parent/Guardian Signature Date