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135 Berkshire Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141

June 1, 2021

TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE:

CONTRACT: Computer Network Supplies

RECOMMENDATION:

That the School Committee approve a contract with the following vendor, funds to be provided in accordance with the budget reference listed below. Procurement procedures for this purchase have complied with Chapter 30B of the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Period of Contract</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Integration Partners Group 12 Hartwell Avenue Lexington, MA 02421	6/4/21 – 9/1/21	\$144,732.50

DESCRIPTION: This contract is for updates to the network switch infrastructure throughout the district to ensure that CPS remains on an acceptable replacement cycle for core infrastructure.

Additional detail is provided in the attached supplemental information.

SUPPORTING DATA, RULES OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE: Chapter III, Section 12..." motions calling for the appropriation or expenditure of money I require the affirmative vote of four members."

BUDGET REFERENCE:

Fund	Account	Dept.
15000	General Fund 58502	Computer Supplies 892780
		Information, Communications & Technology Services

Respectfully Submitted,

Kenneth N. Salim, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

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Purpose: To provide technology infrastructure updating. This contract specifically addresses updates to the network switch infrastructure throughout the district. This will update a percentage of all switches throughout the district to ensure we remain on an acceptable replacement cycle for core infrastructure. This equipment is also ERATE eligible.

Amount of Contract: \$144,732.50

These expenses are eligible for partial Reimbursement under the Federal ERATE program (Description attached).

General Fund:= \$57,893

Erate Funded:= \$86,839.50

Description/Scope of Services:

District Wide Partial Network Upgrade - This includes Juniper Network switches and associated peripheral electronics to replace aging equipment throughout the district. Total Cost = \$144,732.50

ERATE Program;

The Federal E-rate program was established many years ago by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The program is intended to assist schools in building technology capacity by covering some related costs.

The program has gone through many revisions over the years. Currently schools and libraries are eligible to receive discounts of eligible services related to Internet connectivity and certain network related costs. The eligible services are very limited compared to previous years. CPS currently receives E-rate discounts on the district's Internet costs and some network related hardware. This year the WiFi licensing and a portion (67%) of the firewall purchase are also eligible.

The rate of reimbursement may vary from 20% to 90% is based on a formula that takes into consideration a district's urban/rural status and "poverty level". CPS's reimbursement level recently seems to have stabilized at 60% for eligible services.