



NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
MEMORANDUM

TO: Esther Evikana, President
Members of the Board

THROUGH: David Vadiveloo, Superintendent *DSVadiveloo*

FROM: Reginald Santos, Director Information Technology *RS*
Reginald Santos

DATE: March 2, 2026

SUBJECT: Purchases of Over \$50K – Bridge Data Solutions
FY2026 E-Rate Category 2 UPS Procurement

Memo No: SB26-105
(Informational Item)

NSBSD Policy Manual:

BP 3300 Expenditures/Expending Authority: The Superintendent or designee may purchase supplies, materials, and equipment in accordance with the law. The Superintendent or designee shall not authorize any proposed expenditure that exceeds the major budget classification allowance against which the expenditure is the proper charge unless an amount sufficient to cover the purchase is available in the budget for transfer.

BP 3310, Purchasing Procedures: The School Board desires to ensure that maximum value is received for money spent by the district and that records are kept in accordance with the law. The Superintendent or designee may issue and sign purchase orders.

BP 3311, Bids: The District shall purchase equipment, supplies and services on a competitive bidding basis when required by law and whenever it appears to be in the best interest of the District to do so. Prior to any purchase, the District should review the federal funding award or grant to determine if it requires compliance with OMB's procurement procedures.

BP 3312, Contracts: The Superintendent or designee may enter into contracts and memoranda of agreement on behalf of the district. All contracts and memorandums of agreement with a dollar value of \$50,000 or greater must be approved by the School Board.

BP 3440, Inventories: The Superintendent or designee shall provide for the proper control and conservation of district property.

2025-2029 NSBSD STRATEGIC PLAN

Financial & Operational Stewardship:

Goal 7: Standardize high-functioning, efficient, student-focused operations.

Issue Summary:

Administration intends to award the FY2026 E-Rate Category 2 Internal Connections procurement for the replacement of the District's enterprise Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) system supporting mission-critical network and data center infrastructure to Bridge Data Solutions.

The project replaces aging power protection equipment that supports core systems, including network services, communications systems, authentication services, instructional technology platforms, and districtwide operational systems.





This purchase will allow the District to proceed with federally funded infrastructure modernization designed to improve system reliability, reduce operational risk during power disturbances, and ensure continuity of educational and administrative services.

Background:

The North Slope Borough School District relies on centralized data center infrastructure located in Utqiagvik to provide essential technology services to all district schools and facilities across the North Slope region.

Recent power interruptions and infrastructure risk assessments identified the need to replace the existing UPS system with a modern modular lithium-ion enterprise platform capable of supporting mission-critical operations and future expansion.

To comply with federal E-Rate procurement requirements and District purchasing policies, NSBSD publicly posted FCC Form 470 #260016871 and issued a formal Request for Proposals (RFP) for a Category 2 UPS and power distribution upgrade.

The competitive bidding process remained open for the required federal posting period. Multiple vendor responses were received and evaluated for responsiveness to published technical and submission requirements.

Following evaluation, Bridge Data Solutions was determined to be the only responsive bidder meeting all required specifications and submission criteria. The proposed solution provides scalable enterprise power protection aligned with District operational needs and long-term infrastructure planning.

Grant Funds:

This project is funded through the Federal Communications Commission Schools and Libraries Program (**E-Rate Category 2**).

Estimated Project Cost: **\$114,542.29**

Funding Structure:

- **E-Rate Federal Discount:** 80%
- **NSBSD Local Match:** 20%

The E-Rate program significantly reduces local financial impact while allowing modernization of critical internal network infrastructure necessary for instructional delivery and district operations.

No additional unbudgeted general fund expenditures are required beyond the District's standard E-Rate matching obligation.

Compliance with BP 3311:

This procurement complies with Board Policy BP 3311, requiring quotes from two or more sources for purchases between \$10,000 and \$250,000.

Compliance actions included:

- Public posting of FCC Form 470 competitive solicitation
- Formally advertised Request for Proposals
- Open and fair competitive bidding period
- Objective evaluation of proposals
- Documentation of responsiveness determinations
- Selection based on published evaluation criteria, with price as the highest weighted factor





Although multiple proposals were received, only one proposal met all mandatory technical and submission requirements outlined in the RFP. The selected vendor was determined to provide the most responsive and cost-effective solution consistent with District needs and federal procurement regulations.

Proposed Motion:

No motion is required. This is an informational item as the purchase of supplies, materials, and equipment is within the discretion of the Superintendent or designee.

Signature: *DS Vadiveloo*

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Signature: 

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