


MEMORANDUM

December 13, 2007

TO: The Honorable Chair and Members of The School Board of
Miami-Dade County, Florida

FROM: Rudolph F. Crew, Superintendent of Schools 

**SUBJECT: WITHDRAWAL OF AGENDA ITEM E-149, REQUEST
AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL SERVICES
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE
COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND GAGGLE.NET, INC., PURSUANT TO
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NO. 022-HH10 - STUDENT
ELECTRONIC-MAIL COMMUNICATIONS**

Inasmuch as the District has just been made aware of potential alternative and expanded options, it is requested that the item be withdrawn at this time.

If you require additional information, please contact Ms. Ofelia San Pedro, Deputy Superintendent, Business Operations, at (305) 995-4581.

RFC:crf
M1361
Attachment

cc: Superintendent's Cabinet
School Board Attorney
Mr. Joseph A. Gomez
Ms. Debbie Karcher

Business Operations
Ofelia San Pedro, Deputy Superintendent

SUBJECT: REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACTUAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, AND GAGGLE.NET, INC., PURSUANT TO REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NO. 022-HH10 – STUDENT ELECTRONIC-MAIL COMMUNICATIONS

COMMITTEE: INNOVATION, EFFICIENCY & GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

LINK TO DISTRICT STRATEGIC PLAN: EVALUATE AND REDESIGN INTERNAL BUSINESS OPERATIONS

Request For Proposals No. 022-HH10 – STUDENT ELECTRONIC-MAIL COMMUNICATIONS, which opened on October 23, 2007, is to obtain a district-wide, enterprise-level license for a student electronic-mail communications software solution, for the purpose of providing educators and students a method for collaboration and crystallization of life skills through technology, for the Office of Information Technology. This is a term proposal. Four (4) proposers responded to this advertised solicitation.

In June 2007, the Board approved Item E-201 (School Board Rule 6Gx13- 5C-1.09, Policy for Utilization of the Student E-Mail System), which establishes a policy for the use of Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) student electronic mail (e-mail) system by students, their parents, and others, in preparation for a District Student E-Mail initiative.

The proposed system will provide many unique instructional benefits, which include an appealing application for learning computer skills, extended opportunities for advancing reading and writing skills, pen-pal (e-pal) projects that open new vistas into other locations and cultures, educational opportunities to work outside the classroom by reading and responding to e-mail, electronic newsletters providing class and school news, a new tool for teacher/student, student/student, student/mentor resource communications.

Additionally, this system will provide extensive control of the application's features at the school level, giving each school the flexibility in how it handles student e-mail in its own unique situation, comprehensive and customizable automatic monitoring for unacceptable messages, including violent and obscene language, a unique module to scan picture documents for obscene materials, and translation capabilities for Spanish and Creole languages.

A meeting of the Selection Committee was held on October 26, 2007. Four (4) proposals were presented for consideration: AT & T; e-Pals, Inc.; Gaggle.Net, Inc.; and Hayes e-Government Resources, Inc. These proposers were ranked based on the criteria set forth in the Request For Proposals. Based on these rankings, two firms, e-Pals, Inc. and Gaggle.Net Inc., were selected for oral presentations, which were held on November 1, 2007. The Committee recommended Gaggle.Net, Inc., the highest rated proposal, for a Proof of Concept (POC), which was conducted from November 5, 2007, through November 9, 2007. A final Evaluation Committee meeting was held on November 15, 2007, where the POC sub-committee presented its recommendations. Based on these recommendations, the Evaluation Committee recommended Gaggle.Net, Inc., the highest rated proposal, for award.

Fund Source

0322 – Master Lease Equipment

RECOMMENDED: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, **AUTHORIZE** the Superintendent of Schools to negotiate and enter into a contractual services agreement between The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, and Gaggle.Net, Inc., pursuant to Request For Proposals No. 022-HH10 – STUDENT ELECTRONIC-MAIL COMMUNICATIONS, to obtain a district-wide, enterprise level license for a student electronic-mail communications software solution, for the purpose of providing educators and students a method for collaboration and crystallization of life skills through technology, for the Office of Information Technology, effective December 19, 2007, through September 30, 2009, as follows:

1. GAGGLE.NET, INC.
P.O. BOX 1361
BLOOMINGTON, IL 61702
OWNER: MICHAEL KESSLER, VICE PRESIDENT

Highest Rated Proposal

Cost @ \$2.05 per student.

2. Authorize Procurement Management Services to purchase up to the estimated amount of \$430,000.

OSP/lja

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NO. 022-HH10 – STUDENT ELECTRONIC MAIL
COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Rolando Avila, Supervisor II
Infrastructure System Support

Mr. Gregory Mingo, Sr., Network Analyst
Network Services

Ms. Diane M. Kamentz, Instructional Support Specialist
Instructional Technology

Mr. James P. Odonnell, Chief Information Security Officer
Data Security

Ms. Marlene M. Nodal, Microsystems Technician
Leewood Elementary School

Ms. Sharon Dixon, Supervisor II
Program Management/Process Engineering

Mr. Michael Zambrano, Coordinator III
Enterprise Communications

Ms. Dina R. Pearlman, Information Systems Design Control Officer
Management and Compliance Audits (Non-voting)

Ms. Cynthia Gracia, Administrative Director
School Operations

Mr. Bart Christie, Principal
Leewood Elementary School

Ms. Patricia Freeman, Director
Business Development and Assistance

Ms. Barbara Jones, Executive Director
Procurement Management Services (Non-voting)