



Department of Purchasing

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Suffolk, VA 23434

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January 26, 2021

To All Interested Parties:

**Subject: Addendum #2
Online Instructional Programs**

Please note the following questions received regarding the above IFB.

Question: We have many new interactive programs through our Perfection Next platform that cover 6-12 Secondary ELA and AP English. Would this be appropriate to submit, or is your school district looking for one K-12 solution that covers (most, if not all) content areas?

Answer: We reserve the option to award a contract or contracts to meet our needs.

Question: There is a mandatory requirement of TEXT to speech, which does not include. Should this deter us from submitting a bid?

Answer: We will not preclude proposers from presenting us a proposal, however, we are required to provide something that allows for ADA accessibility and compliance. You may still submit a proposal, but you must be able to address this concern in your proposal.

Question: Is the district seeking accredited courses or supplemental online resources?

Answer: Accredited courses are preferred but will review any proposal as it may fit a need.

Question: Given current office closures, would Suffolk Public Schools accept digital signatures?

Answer: Yes; if you submit your proposal using the electronic portal

Question: What is the expected award date?

Answer: April/ May 2021

Question: Will purchases be made at the district or school level?

Answer: Primarily at the division level but the resulting contract may be awarded to include the schools as well.

Question: Would we accept exceptions?

Answer: We reserve the right to make an award that meets the intent of the RFP. The intent is stated in the RFP but if there is value to be obtained in your submission, we reserve the right to explore any and all proposals. Regarding specific terms and conditions, the division can negotiate all aspects of the contract as found in the RFP.

Question: **Would Suffolk Public Schools like to see tiered pricing and multi-year pricing options?**

Answer: The division would like to see a variety of pricing options presented in your response.

Question: **What solution is Suffolk Public Schools currently using?**

Answer: We have a number of providers that provide online instructional resources. However, the last time a similar RFP went out we awarded to Edgenuity and Edmentum. However, we have made several changes to that RFP this time around.

Question: **Please elaborate on the requirement for virtual reading component/coach?**

Answer: This would be an instructional reading component that would allow students to learn and practice reading strategies to improve comprehension and understanding.

Question: **Is Spanish mandatory?**

Answer: If you are referring to the course, we would like for the solution to include it, but will be open to multiple awards. If you are referring to a Spanish platform, multiple languages would be preferred, but not necessarily required.

Question: **Please clarify technical requirement #7 for reports developed in accordance with SPS needs - is the district seeking custom reports?**

Answer: Not necessarily custom reports, but reports that allow for multiple breakdowns by class, teacher, subject, building, etc. We would like the ability to monitor the student progress from parent to district level.

Question: **Are teacher materials in print mandatory?**

Answer: No, but they should have printing capabilities (ex. Downloadable PDFs, etc.)

Question: **Would you please elaborate on what the District is seeking for elementary grades (K-2, K-3, K-5)? (i.e. full course offerings for virtual students, supplemental/intervention content, etc.)**

Answer: Full course offerings for virtual students and supplemental/intervention content is preferred

Question: **What is the approximate number of students in each grade band (K-2, K-3, K-5, 6-12) who are expected to utilize the solution(s)?**

Answer: We are looking at a district adoption so it could be for 14,000 students total. K-2: 3163; K-3: 4175; K-5:6243; 6-12:7520

Question: Does the District anticipate the need for virtual teachers supplied by the vendor for any portion of this RFP?

Answer: Potentially, but it is not a requirement. If available, it would be a plus.

Question: Due to the current pandemic, our office continues to operate remotely, including our authorized signers. Would it be acceptable to have the required Background Certification form signed electronically via secure DocuSign instead of a wet signature?

Answer: If you are submitting your proposal electronically, you may also return digitally. It is preferred that this would be filled out and submitted with the rest of the proposal.

CLARIFICATIONS:

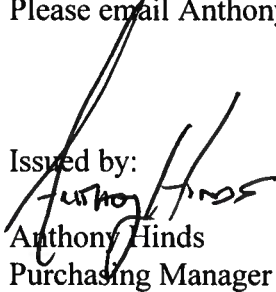
We use a number of contractors in this space currently. If your firm is currently under a one-year agreement, then the School Board would have the right to terminate the agreement and use other services. If a proposer would like to make sure their program is seen by the evaluation committee, it is encouraged that the firm propose.

TIME EXTENSION:

Suffolk Public Schools will be issuing an extension to maximize the number of responses. Suffolk Public Schools will extend the due date to Monday, February 8, 2021 delivered on or before 2:00 PM.

Please email Anthony Hinds at anthonyhinds@spsk12.net if you have any additional questions.

Issued by:


Anthony Hinds
Purchasing Manager