Answers to RFP Questions Received

In your posted Wireless LAN RFP you state that the MCSD-INT wireless network is authenticating Active Directory clients using a Windows authentication server. Are you stating that you are currently using EAP to authenticate wireless clients using a Windows Radius server, or are you simply using Active Directory to push out a pre-shared key so that your Active Directory clients can authenticate to your WPA(2) wireless network?
We are using Active Directory to push a pre-shared key for our Active Directory clients to authenticate.

Does Marion County plan to upgrade the existing 1Gb backbone to 10Gb from IDF to MDF, or MDF to District Office to accommodate the newer 802.11ac speeds at the edge?
Is the existing fiber cabling plant capable of support 10Gb speeds at distance?
We currently do not have any plans to upgrade the backbone to 10Gb.

The Minimum Specifications section asks for Dual Radio AP's and indicates the need to eventually go all 5GHZ without replacing all the AP's.   Is Marion County Schools asking for a Dual 5GHZ radio solution?
We are asking for a solution that will support both 2.4Ghz and 5Ghz devices.

Marion County currently has (2) Controllers and wants a solution that can scale to 500 AP's.   Does Marion County expect Controller redundancy to be part of the solution?
The 500 number is arbitrary; the District is emphasizing a solution that is scalable for future growth. Redundancy is not required. We do prefer a resilient solution which will enable high reliability.

 Looking for clarification to the statement under Minimum Specifications, Item #1.   It sounds like Marion County wants all new AP's to handle (2) SSID's in the 2.4GHZ and 5GHZ band, but wants to restrict 802.11b clients to connecting to a single, dedicated AP to handle the slower, legacy traffic for both of these SSIDs. Is this correct?
We are asking for a wireless solution that can provide a minimum of two SSID's and can support legacy 802.11b clients. These clients may not be dedicated to a single AP.

The Minimum Specifications section, Item #2 asks for additional 24-Port Ethernet switches (WS-C3560V2-24U) for PoE.   How many are required?
 Do we assume (1) Ethernet switch per IDF and MDF according to the supplied drawings?
The vendor's proposed solution to the RFP needs to meet the wireless requirements as outlined. To do this it is expected the vendor will propose enough PoE equipment to service the wireless access points that are being proposed. The design of such a solution is at the discretion of the vendor.

The Minimum Specifications section asks for APs that are capable of supporting 3+ Spatial streams. Is this requirement for 802.11ac (5GHZ) only, or is it for 2.4GHZ also?
 We are asking for a solution that provides at least 3 spatial streams for both 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz.

Does Marion County school system expect the new Wireless Controller to be able to manage the existing legacy HP AP's? Please clarify.
No we do not.

Is Marion County currently running Policy Services on their Active Directory domain controllers?
We are not currently running Policy Services on our Active Directory domain controllers.

Are you open to non-controller based solutions as well as multiple proposals from a particular manufacturer to see cost differentials between solution types?
We prefer an on-site controller(s) to manage the wireless network.

Will you allow cabling contractor's to schedule site visits in advance of the March 14 due date?
Yes, with at least one (1) day advance notice and MUST provide minimal disruption to the school day. Length of time in each building should be kept to the minimum time needed. Contractors WILL NOT be allowed in any classrooms while instruction is taking place.

Will you allow participants to schedule webinar's to detail the solution(s) they are recommending in advance of the March 14 due date?
No

Is it required that all proposed equipment be sourced from the same manufacturer?
To simplify administration and support, the District would prefer a homogenous solution.

Will there be unused fiber available for the wireless in each IDF?
There may be unused fiber in each IDF, the operational status is unknown.

What is "The Red Zone" shown on the map at the high school? How many users do you anticipate in this area?
The Red Zone is a gathering space for seniors. There are also team signings, clubs, campus groups, etc. that gather as well. 100 or so users

What make/model are the switches in the high school press box and field house?
Field house=HP ProCurve 2910 #J9148A, PressBox=HP ProCurve 2520 #J913A

Are the existing APs at the high school and press box/Fieldhouse installed with Cat6 cable?
Yes.

Is it possible to denote which classrooms are Pre-k on the maps?
B-9, B-14, B-12

Will back up power be needed? If so, is there a brand preference?
Back up power will be at the discretion of the vendor. There is no brand preference. For informational purposes only the District uses Tripp Lite, APC, and Cyber Power