RFP6974 Web Filtering Software
Inquiries & Responses

How many years are you looking for on the software maintenance 1 to 3?
We will maintain maintenance costs for the entire time we use the product. We normally do year to year but could do 3 year if it saves a significant amount

Would you be willing to do a WebEx on our solution before the bid is due?
No any review will be performed during the evaluation process

Will you be evaluating more than one option?
We will be doing significant research on all viable solutions.

AD authentication – Will each school have separate AD domains/forests or will there be one domain for the district? If each school had separate AD domains can those domains be accessed from the district network?
There is a single AD forest with a single domain.

Does the school have a CA that can be used to issue internal cert for the HTTPS inspection that all of the locations will trust?
We have a CA; we can and may buy a certificate from Digicert.

Are the existing ASA units in a high availability cluster? Are the core switches deployed in a redundant manner? If so what type of switches are being used and what is the failover protocol?
No cluster. No redundancy. If one of the internet circuits goes down that traffic will be routed to the other internet circuit until the failed circuit is restored

Can we get a diagram of the existing district network?
No. This would be a security issue.

Does the CIPA solution quoted need to support redundancy?
No redundancy requirement.

Are the Firewall's in an active, active role to take the 40,000 students traffic?
Yes, active, active.

How many students are online at one time?
We have seen up to 60,000 connections. BYOD, Phones, etc.

Are the 10GB interfaces Copper or Fiber?
Fiber

How is internet traffic distributed between each ASA?
Half the load through each

The first page in the first paragraph is states it is due April 14 9:00 am. However on the calendar of event under that it shows 4/16 which is correct?
4/16/2014

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The specified 10G interfaces. Are they to be fiber or copper? If fiber, Single or Multimode?
Fiber, Single mode is preferred but can be ether

Do you run VMWare so they we can go without physical boxes and use Virtual Web Appliances?
We use hyper-v, no VMWare

How many concurrent users do you have? Is 32,000 the number we should use?
We have seen 60,000 concurrent connections

Can you tell me what bandwidth or throughput you are using?
We have 2Gb to the internet. Have not seen it exceed 1.2Gb currently. These are 2 10Gb fiber interfaces and are rate limited by our ISP. The solution should provide for the possibility of the interfaces increasing to as much as 5Gb each over the next 5 years. Your appliances should be 10Gb interfaces capable of handling at least 5Gb of throughput.

Can you tell me what you request per second is?
Around 1,600 at peak

Will all the web traffic be routed back to one location?
No, there is no single point that all web traffic flows through.

Is high availability or redundancy required?
No.

Is SaaS for external network laptop users required?
Possibly if available, it was not a requirement of the RFP.

If proposing a software based solution, what is the length of term for the contract? We can show 1, 3, & 5 year options.
The minimum would be 3 years.

What vendor to you use now?
Trustwave (M86)

How is it configured now? Do you have two boxes (one at each interface) or do you have a box at each location?
We have a filter on each interface (source-target) and a third appliance that takes the info from the filters and gives us reporting.

The RFP states two due dates on it: April 14 and April 16. Which is correct?
April 16, 2014

From the requirements we understand that we do not need this to be a redundant solution but since you have two Internet providers and two ASA's we just want to be clear. Do you want to have one filter that will sit in front of either outside connections or one filter appliance for each of the ASA and internet connections?
We need an appliance at each interface.