

KENNEDY MIDDLE SCHOOL, Natick, MA

Proprietary Products

June 10, 2018

M.G.L. c.30, §39M(b) requires that proprietary specifications for public construction projects, including buildings, shall only be used "... for sound reasons in the public interest stated in writing in the public records of the awarding authority ... such writing to be prepared after reasonable investigation." A governmental body must document the reasons and provide them in writing to anyone making a written request for the information.

The governmental body therefore has the responsibility for ensuring that a reasonable investigation is conducted before proprietary specifications can be used in an invitation for bids (IFB) for a public construction project.

Proprietary specifications, while permitted by Massachusetts construction law, may be used only after careful consideration and proper documentation that the use is justified by sound reasons in the public interest.

There are cases where, after a reasonable investigation, a governmental body concludes that only one acceptable brand of product exists, or that technology has advanced so rapidly that fewer than three brands or manufacturers of a particular material are available in the commercial marketplace.

Door Hardware: (To Be Confirmed with Facilities Department)

SARGENT Manufacturing Company door hardware for locksets, keying, closers and exit devices will be bid as a proprietary specification for the following reasons. The Town of Natick has determined that certain products should be selected for their unique characteristics and particular project suitability to insure continuity of existing and future performance and maintenance standards. These products have been established as a standard throughout the Natick public school's system and the Natick school facilities department is familiar with their operation and repair. They also maintain a current stock of repair parts for these specific products. After investigating available product offerings, the Town of Natick has elected to prepare proprietary specifications for the SARGENT Manufacturing Company door hardware listed below. It is the School Committee's belief, for the reasons outlined above, it is in the Town of Natick's best interest to require the Locksets, Keying, Door Closers and Exit Devices be written as a proprietary specification.

Locksets: SARGENT ML8200 Series – J Lever Design

Keying: SARGENT Interchangeable Core – 6300

Door Closers: SARGENT 280 Series and 350 Series

Exit Devices: SARGENT 8000 Series

Technology:

Network Switches

Network switches are listed as proprietary as these are already district wide standards. These devices control all network communications so they are required to integrate with all other networking components.

The Natick School Department has selected HP/Aruba ProCurve as the MDF and IDF Switching solution for new switches deployed within the school district. By doing this, the School Department are able to train our staff on a single vendor's platform and able to stock the minimum amount of spare parts to keep disruption to a minimum. HP/Aruba also provides a

lifetime warranty on all HP/Aruba ProCurve equipment, which protects the School Department's investment.

As such, it is the Natick Public School's belief, for the reasons outlined above, it is in the Town of Natick's best interest to require HP/Aruba be written as a proprietary specification for the network switching environment at the Natick Kennedy Middle School.

Interactive Projector

We have selected the Epson Brinklink with wireless option as a proprietary item for the Natick Public Schools after years of research in the interactive whiteboard market and input gathered from teachers and administrators across the district. There have been many changes in interactive classroom technologies as first-generation solutions required boards that could not be written on and could only be used interactively. Second generation boards eliminated this restriction and can be written on. The third and newest generation of interactive technologies, which the Epson solution falls into, no longer requires a physical board just a firm writing surface. This significantly reduces the cost and increases the flexibility of the solution. Teachers can now use standard marker boards that allow them to write, use with a projector or also use interactively. This ease of use makes it the ideal solution for a teacher as it can be used with any existing software and the interactive pen that comes with the board simply becomes a wireless mouse. Epson is the leader in developing LCD projectors. Since the front of the classroom is key real estate for all teachers it is important that we select a solution that is easy to use, provides maximum flexibility and integrates with all other classroom technologies.

As such, it is the Natick Public School's belief, for the reasons outlined above, it is in the Town of Natick's best interest to require Brightlink by Epson be written as a proprietary specification for the interactive classroom solution at the Natick Kennedy Middle School.

Access Control

Building Security

S2 is proprietary because it is already installed in the Natick High School, and will be leveraged to provide the Kennedy Middle School with access control. All access control components at the Kennedy Middle School must be S2 to integrate with the High School S2 system.

As such, it is the Natick Public School's belief, for the reasons outlined above, it is in the Town of Natick's best interest to require S2 be written as a proprietary specification for the access control system at the Natick Kennedy Middle School.

Wireless

HP/Aruba is the wireless solution of choice across the Natick Public School district, for its ease of management, single focus on wireless solutions, longevity in the wireless industry, its use in educational settings and its attractive price point compared to the competition. For compatibility across the district, HP/Aruba should be the wireless system provided at Kennedy Middle School.

As such, it is the Natick Public School's belief, for the reasons outlined above, it is in the Town of Natick's best interest to require HP/Aruba be written as a proprietary specification for the wireless network environment at the Natick Kennedy Middle School.

Voice Amplification System

Various systems have been installed across the district, and the solution of choice is the 955 Access system and TopCat System by LightSpeed Technologies. With Access technology (1.9GHz), the system has over 200' of range, and can add 2 way audio pods for use in the designed huddle spaces if desired. There is no interference from other networks or devices. With the wireless media controller, the teachers have the freedom to place the unit in the best location possible in the classroom, instead of being restricted by permanent wiring. The voice reproduction is excellent, and the ease of installation is desirable. One unit provides coverage for the entire classroom and can wirelessly expand with other accessories. The 955 unit is planned to be in the equipment cabinet, and no line of sight to the microphones is required as it is with other systems.

As such, it is the Natick Public School's belief, for the reasons outlined above, it is in the Town of Natick's best interest to require Lightspeed be written as a proprietary specification for the voice amplification systems at the Natick Kennedy Middle School.

Video Surveillance

Exacq Video Management System is the system the district uses in most of its buildings. The system is easy to deploy, configure and manage. The staff and police in Natick are trained and proficient using this system. As such, Exacq has been selected to be the video surveillance VMS solution for the Natick Public School District.

As such, it is the Natick Public School's belief, for the reasons outlined above, it is in the Town of Natick's best interest to require Exacq be written as a proprietary specification for the Video Management System for the Natick Kennedy Middle School.

IPTV

The DEVOS IPTV system by Discover Video is in use at the Natick High School, and is the district standard after other systems were evaluated. By doing this, the School Department is able to train our staff on a single vendor's platform and able to stock the minimum amount of spare parts to keep disruption to a minimum.

As such, it is the Natick Public School's belief, for the reasons outlined above, it is in the Town of Natick's best interest to require the Discover Video DEVOS IPTV System be written as a proprietary specification for the Natick Kennedy Middle School.

Crestron Control System

The Crestron Control System for Audio-Visual equipment is in use at the Natick High School and Kennedy Middle School, and is the district standard after other systems were evaluated. By making the Crestron control system proprietary, the School Department is able to train our staff on a single vendor's platform and able to stock the minimum amount of spare parts to keep disruption to a minimum.

As such, it is the Natick Public School's belief, for the reasons outlined above, it is in the Town of Natick's best interest to require the Crestron control system be written as a proprietary specification for the Natick Kennedy Middle School.