

## County of Lancaster Request for ARPA Funding

Organization: Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit 13

Date: 6/23/2022

Submitted By: Matt Stem, Executive Director

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Please attach any supporting documentation. Submission should be in PDF Format.

<p><b>Project/Item Description</b></p>	<p>IU13 requests \$70,000 in ARPA funding to install updated network/internet cabling, network switch equipment, wireless access points, and uninterruptible power supplies (UPSes) for its Lancaster County facilities. These facilities include IU13's main location at the Burle Business Park and several education centers where we provide direct instruction to high-needs students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● IU13 offices/classrooms/conference Center at Burle Business Park (1020 New Holland Avenue, Lancaster, PA 17601)</li> <li>● Central Education Center &amp; Annex (101/111 South Penn Street, Manheim, PA 17545)</li> <li>● Community School West (1713 Newport Road, Manheim, PA 17545)</li> <li>● Fairland School (8 Fairland Road, Manheim, PA 17545)</li> </ul> <p>The network cabling is beginning to fail in these locations, leading to unreliable internet connections that can interfere with staff and student work. In the event of a component failure, we experience network outages and unreliable network performance that severely impact our ability to deliver programs and services to Lancaster County families. Furthermore, the current cabling no longer meets the latest industry standards, and so an upgrade is necessary. Finally, IU13 is consolidating some of its programs into the Burle location, and additional cabling capacity is therefore necessary.</p> <p>Additional hardware is also needed to ensure reliable internet/network connections for IU13 staff and students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <u>Electronic network switches</u> are used to connect user laptops, desktop computers, and phones to IU13's network; the current switches are 8 years old and are beginning to fail.</li> <li>● <u>Wireless access points</u> are used to connect mobile devices such as laptops, tablets, and mobile phone devices to IU13's network; the current wireless access points are 8 years old and do not allow for the coverage and speed that we require.</li> <li>● <u>Battery backup supplies</u> for IU13's satellite facilities at the Central Education Center, Community School West, and Fairland, to prevent network interruptions from power failure (which currently happens at least once a quarter due to weather or utility problems)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Estimated Cost – how cost was derived &amp; provision of partner funds (who is providing, how much and show commitments).</b></p>	<p>The estimated cost of this project is \$149,211.17, based on vendor quotes, PEPPM/COSTARS master contract pricing, and an E-Rate Category 2 bid process. IU13 seeks \$70,000 in ARPA funding for this project; the remainder of the funding will be provided by IU13 budgeted funds.</p>
<p><b>Which County ARPA Community-wide Benefit(s) does the project meet?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Technology modernization</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Briefly explain how the project meets the County's guidelines.</b></p>	<p>This project meets Lancaster County's ARPA guidelines in the following ways:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) It falls under the objective of "Technology Modernization"</li> <li>2) It will support the educational needs of over 1100 students and 1400 educational staff across Lancaster County</li> <li>3) ARPA funds will not fully fund this project; IU13 programs will bear a portion of the startup cost and the entirety of ongoing licensing/maintenance costs</li> <li>4) IU13 is requesting one-time funding from the County for this project</li> </ol>

<p><b>Why should this project be a priority and how will it help the County? Also, if this application is for more than one project, please identify each one, provide information and rank them in order of your priority.</b></p>	<p>IU13 provides direct classroom instruction to some of the most vulnerable learners in Lancaster County. The students in our Central Education Center, Community School West, and Fairland buildings range from age 5-21 and have physical, intellectual, emotional, and/or behavioral challenges that prevent them from succeeding in conventional classrooms. We also provide direct classroom instruction at Burle for adult learners (job training, English as a Second Language) and young children age birth-3 (Early Intervention services). All together, the locations listed above serve over 1100 students annually with academics, behavioral intervention, mental health services, language, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and more. Those students, and the 1400 educators and staff who work with them, depend on stable internet connections to access digital learning tools, assistive technology, and online platforms for monitoring progress and reporting outcomes. Without reliable network connectivity, we risk the safety of our staff as well as the effectiveness of our programs to be cutting edge. Some of our classroom-based programs rely on web-based services delivered via mobile device (Chromebook, iPad, or specialized instructional device). Our telephone systems are also very reliant on our networks.</p> <p>This equipment upgrade will help IU13 provide critical instructional services to all of our stakeholders, and help us fulfill our mission of providing educational services, supports, and solutions across our service region. Over the 5-7 (or more) years that this equipment will be in service, this upgrade will enable IU13 to help over 5000 students reach their full potential as members of the Lancaster County community.</p>
<p><b>Will this project require ongoing expense (maintenance, updates) or frequent replacement? Are expenses already being incurred, if so, can they be reduced through this project?</b></p>	<p>We do not anticipate continuing expenses related to this project throughout the life of the equipment. The network switches and power supplies should last five to seven years, and the new network cabling should last 10-20 years; we have also planned the number of wall jacks/cables to allow for moderate program growth in our facilities in the coming years.</p>
<p><b>Project Timeline – start to finish, and when funding will be needed.</b></p>	<p>Fall 2022 - Deployment of new equipment (could be delayed due to supply chain issues) Let's turn this into an actual timeline:</p> <p>January 2022: obtain vendor quotes Spring 2022: place order Summer 2022: funding needed by September 1, 2022 Summer/Fall 2022: receive new components Fall 2022: install new equipment</p>
<p><b>Are there other organizations a part of this project? If yes, please list them and their role, including funding. If not, explain why?</b></p>	<p>No, other organizations would not directly be part of this project. IU13 will fund the installation and deployment of this network cabling and other hardware, and it will primarily benefit IU13 employees and students.</p>
<p><b>ARPA Committee Comments</b></p>	
<p><b>ARPA Committee Recommendation</b></p>	
<p><b>Funding Amount Recommended (if recommended for approval)</b></p>	<p>\$</p>