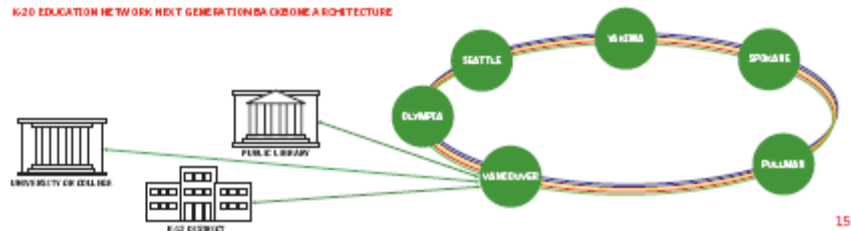


K-20 NGN Transition Update

The transition to the new K-20 NGN backbone is nearing completion. During September, the K-20 backbone will be migrated onto the new dense wave

division multiplexing (DWDM) technology. We anticipate K-20 customers will not experience service interruption during this activity.



The K-20 Next Generation Network (NGN) will incorporate the latest in cost-effective networking technologies, including dense wavelength division multiplexing (DWDM). This advanced technology puts data from different sources together on an optical fiber, with each signal carried at the same time on its own separate light wavelength.

Using DWDM, 80 or more separate wavelengths or channels of data can be multiplexed into a light stream transmitted on a single optical fiber. In a system with each channel carrying 2.5 Gbps (billion bits per second), the optical fiber can deliver up to 200 billion bits per second. The higher speed of DWDM allows for higher-bandwidth applications, including high-definition video, disaster recovery and business continuity. The K-20 architecture, combined with favorable pricing for these services, allows us to provide increasing amounts of bandwidth without increasing cost.

K-20 customers will experience brief outages during the September-October timeframe as each customer circuit and configuration is attached to the new K-20 node router. As with previous system changes, these events will be scheduled in advance with K-20 customers and coordinated to avoid business impact.