6 REASONS
WHY VIDEO
CONFERENCING
IS ESSENTIAL FOR
EDUCATION

Offer enriching programs beyond
the four walls of your classroom

lifesize®
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Extending the Reach of the Classroom with Video

The goal of education is to create the best opportunities for learning for as many students as possible. Unfortunately, not all educational institutions have the ability or resources to offer such programs, and students may be left hungry to learn all the world has to teach them. With video conferencing, you can bring the world into the classroom. In this e-book, we will look at some of the best uses of video conferencing technology in education.

If you have questions or want to see for yourself how this technology can help you transform your educational institution, please contact us.

“As an educator, I find that the most successful technology solutions we have are those that are simple to use, manage and deploy. At ESU 10, we’ve deeply integrated video in our curriculum through programs such as virtual field trips, guest lecturers, and cross-campus collaboration. [This is] a critical tool as we continue to offer enriching video-enabled programs to our students across the district.”

— John Stritt, Distance Learning Coordinator, ESU 10
Enhances Curriculum

Go on virtual field trips or bring in subject matter experts from around the globe

Educators all want to make coursework more engaging, despite limited resources. Video conferencing in education enables curricula enhancements without straining resources. Imagine a class enriched through the addition of virtual field trips, collaboration exercises with remote classrooms and accessibility to subject-matter experts all around the globe. From visiting world-renowned museums to learning about the stars from astronauts who have seen them from space, the power of HD video facilitates interactive learning experiences. If you have questions or want to see for yourself how this technology can help you transform your educational institution, please contact us.

At Barrow County Schools, a high school science class collaborated with a Georgia Tech University professor for a nanotechnology project. They viewed examples of carbon nanotubes in such crystal-clear quality that the students felt as if they were in the professor’s lab with him.

“Video conferencing allows our students to see things that they would have never experienced any other way. For this county in particular, it is critical to show these students the options, opportunities and potential they all have.”

— Wanda Creel, Superintendent, Barrow County Schools
Enables Distance Learning

Connecting rural students via video

In the past, students in sparsely populated rural areas have missed out on many of the opportunities that their urban and suburban peers have taken for granted. Connecting these rural students via video conferencing can dramatically improve the quality of their learning experience. This enables them to both attend school from home and gives them access to field trips and experts they would otherwise never have the opportunity to experience.

“Suddenly we can offer our students a much wider variety of subjects, which will give them a vital advantage before heading off to university. It is a major boost to rural schools who previously could only offer a limited choice of course options.”

— Edward McEvoy, CEO, Co Offaly VEC (Vocational Education Committee)
Fosters Global Collaboration

In our increasingly global society, it’s more important than ever for students to have an appreciation for the world around them. Instantly connecting to other classrooms in countries all over the globe puts a face on geographically distant communities and cultures, preparing students to be citizens and stewards of the more open, more tolerant and more interconnected world of tomorrow.

Dr. Jay McDaniel, a religious studies professor at Hendrix College in Arkansas, sought to use video conferencing to teach his students about Chinese culture by connecting his class with students at Heilongjiang University in Harbin, China.

“Lifesize is allowing us to push the limits of what an engaged classroom experience is. The image quality must be so lifelike that it can replicate an in-person classroom so our students can be fully engaged. Lifesize provides that genuine experience without any compromises.”

— David J. Hinson, EVP/CIO, Hendrix College
Optimizes Learning Opportunities

Stream, record and archive sessions for future playback

Video conferencing technology in education enables students and educators alike to learn on the schedule that suits them best. For staff development meetings or classroom lectures, video sessions can be recorded for students to watch later, whether they missed the class due to absence or just want to go over the content during study time. Video streaming and recording enables the delivery of education in HD from the classroom to the laptop or to mobile devices while on the go.

School counseling and art therapy students at George Washington University conduct mock therapy and counseling sessions with patients and have them recorded and live-streamed for professors.

“We don’t want our students to have to worry about the technology; it should be an enabler, not a hindrance. The students are excited to use it and, most importantly, they can focus their attention on what matters most—learning how to become the best counselors and therapists they can be.”

— Sean Connolly, Director of Information Technology for Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, George Washington University

Seen Enough? Book A Demo »
Integrates with Blackboard Learn™

Live or recorded videos—just part of the daily curriculum

The Blackboard Learn platform serves thousands of higher education, K–12, professional, corporate and government organizations. With compatible video conferencing solutions working behind the scenes, teachers can make live or recorded videos part of their daily course materials. Additionally, students and educators can view and play back HD-quality video from the Blackboard Learn web-based interface, accessed from any computer, smartphone or tablet.

“We have especially loved Lifesize Video Center’s integration with Blackboard, and as a result, we are now able to offer degrees that are entirely online, such as a graduate degree in education technology and an online nursing degree. The students can just log in to the platform and watch the lectures at their convenience from any location. I expect that this program will continue to grow in the future as more degrees are offered.”

— Mike Duncan, IT Services, University of Arkansas
Enables Video Beyond the Classroom

Administrators benefit too!

Once up and running for educational purposes, the enormous benefits of video conferencing as a tool for internal and administrative practices will also become apparent.

- Broadcast administrative updates and school news straight to the classroom over video rather than requiring assemblies.
- Conduct remote parent-teacher conferences to help minimize scheduling conflicts using only an Internet connection and a webcam.
- Host video staff meetings and provide a recorded session for those who are unable to attend the live meeting.
- Use video to train teachers and teaching assistants from wherever they are, on any device.
- Record onboarding sessions and stream HR updates for personnel throughout the district.

“Technology or support is not the issue anymore. The quality is superb. A student assistant can easily set up a video meeting and manage the conference. It is merely a matter of communication: the remaining thing to worry about is agreeing on the right schedule, the right time zone, the number of participants and the booking of the room.”

— Arjan Sas, ICT Coordinator at the Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences at the University of Amsterdam

Seen Enough? Book A Demo »
Explore Video Conferencing

Video conferencing solutions for education can bring the world to your classroom more simply and cost-effectively than you’d imagine. And if you need assistance to secure video conferencing technology funding, Lifesize can help! The Lifesize Grant Services Program makes the funding process easy by identifying funding opportunities, creating proposals and managing the entire process for you at no charge.

We invite you to explore how video conferencing from Lifesize will help you optimize learning opportunities and extend the reach of your classroom.

Seeing Is Believing

We hope that you found our ‘6 Reasons Why Video Solutions Are Essential for Education’ guide helpful and, because we know that seeing is believing, we would be delighted to arrange an opportunity for you to experience the power of video for yourself.

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