



# Albuquerque Public Schools Partner with Jabra to Aid Educators in their Transition Back to the Classroom

## THE PROJECT AT A GLANCE

Albuquerque Public Schools provided its educators with audio and video equipment from Jabra to help ease their transition back into the classroom after teaching remotely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Jabra has provided essential solutions and training for educators, which allowed them to easily get up-and-running and transition between both remote and face-to-face learning interactions.

**Solution:** The partnership works across a range of Jabra solutions, encompassing all Microsoft certified products. This includes the PanaCast, Evolve, Evolve2, Engage and Speak product ranges.

### Jabra Speak 710:

- Professional, portable speakerphone
- 360-degree coverage with omni-directional microphone
- HD Voice provides maximum clarity

### Jabra PanaCast:

- Crystal-clear Panoramic-4K resolution
- 180° view of the classroom space
- Easy, plug-and-play functionality

### Benefits:

- Fast and seamless set up thanks to plug-and-play functionality
- Delivers an engaging hybrid experience for teachers and students
- Unrivaled video and sound quality

Two years into the pandemic, things remain in flux. While many schools returned in-person at the start of this school year, the rise of new variants have pushed many districts back into remote or hybrid learning models – where classrooms are split between students that are in-person and remote. In fact, as of the week of January 14, 2022, [over 6000 schools nationwide](#) were not offering in-person learning, up from under 500 in mid-December 2021 thanks in large part to the surging Omicron variant.

Hybrid and remote learning brings a new set of challenges. How can teachers ensure their remote students are receiving the same educational experience as those in the classroom? This is a question Albuquerque Public Schools faced as their teachers returned to classrooms in this new hybrid reality. To resolve this issue, school administrators turned to new technology.

## Creating a Hybrid Classroom with Jabra

Albuquerque Public Schools (APS) is New Mexico's largest school district, serving over a quarter of students in the state. Prior to the pandemic, the district did not have a standard solution for hybrid and remote communication. Technology platforms, applications and devices were previously a nice-to-have resource for schools. Now they are essential to maintain effective learning environments.

Jabra provided APS with its first standardized online meeting hardware toolkit that worked seamlessly with the district's existing cloud-based platforms and computing devices. The high-quality audio and visual equipment aided educators as they transitioned from fully remote learning to a hybrid classroom environment. Thanks to Jabra solutions, teachers had the tools needed to connect students learning remotely with those in the classroom in a seamless and realistic way, avoiding a subpar experience for remote learners. Providing the same experience to remote learners is essential, as students that aren't given the necessary tools to succeed remotely are expected to [fall 5 to 9 months behind](#) in mathematics compared to where they'd be learning fully in-person.

To combat these statistics, the APS team leveraged the Jabra PanaCast and Speak 710 to create an immersive audio and video experience that seamlessly connects remote and in-person environments. The Speak 710 allowed for clear classroom dialogue and quality audio transmission, while the PanaCast let

## The Rise of Hybrid Learning

Among the myriad of changes brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic was a distinct shift in education environments. For the first time, many educators and students had to adapt to remote learning settings, which was a new concept for many. As a result, most schools were not initially equipped for this shift and needed to act quickly to ensure that learning could continue without interruption. This required a complete rethink of the technology stack.

**Nearly 93% of households with school-aged children reported their students engaged in some sort of remote learning during the pandemic.**

*Source: United States Census Bureau*



students learning from home view small groups of students, or the entire class, thanks to varying viewable video options. With high-quality video tools, students were able to feel like they were in the classroom with their teachers and peers even when they were at home.

Jabra was able to ship the tools quickly, allowing APS to implement the technology from the start of the new school year. Further, thanks to the intuitive, plug-and-play functionality of the Jabra solutions, there were no logistical barriers to overcome, and educators were able to use the tools day one without the need for additional training. With the help of Jabra and other technology providers, APS is now a 1:1 district with a device for every student.

**“When looking for a partner to help us equip our educators for the hybrid classroom, Jabra was the clear standout. Not only were they able to provide the devices we needed, quickly, but they also met all our benchmarks in terms of logistics, deployment, plug-and-play functionality and most importantly, support.”**

**- Aaron Jaramillo**  
*Senior Director, Educational Technology at Albuquerque Public Schools*

## Preparing Schools for an Uncertain Future

While many schools returned to in-person learning in 2021, the recent rise of new variants has pushed some districts back into hybrid and remote settings – proving that there can be no certainty in regard to when schools will return to “normal”, full-time, in-person learning. By sourcing and implementing new technology, forward-looking districts like APS can not only keep students engaged in hybrid learning environments, but also prepare for future shifts between remote and in-person learning.

**“With an almost overnight transition from in-person to remote and hybrid learning, educators needed proven, seamless solutions to quickly help students receive the same quality of instruction from home as in the classroom. We worked with Albuquerque Public Schools’ educators to enable the transition to hybrid learning with our uniquely inclusive and flexible audio and video solutions.”**

**- Aurangzeb Khan**  
*SVP Intelligent Vision Systems, Jabra*

Educational technology has expanded exponentially in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Beyond hybrid and remote communication technology like the solutions Jabra provides, APS also had to adapt other systems. Traditionally, most in-person instruction has relied on printed worksheets and curricular resources, which are not effective in a hybrid environment. By making curriculums digitally accessible, teachers can share resources directly with remote students. Tying this increased access with seamless audio and visual communication helps simulate the in-person learning environment.

Schools will undoubtedly need to continue adapting as new developments in the pandemic continue to arise. By proactively embracing new technology that can recreate the classroom environment in remote settings, districts can set students and educators up to thrive no matter what new challenges arise.

### Learn more here

[Jabra PanaCast](#)

[Jabra Speak Series](#)

[Albuquerque Public Schools](#)