

# How Livermore Valley School District Made Classroom Audio a Classroom Standard

## A LARGE DISTRICT WITH A BIG GOAL

Creating a “classroom standard,” where all classrooms have the same technology and resources, is a goal for many schools. In 2016, Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District in California saw an opportunity to help meet that goal. As part of their preparation efforts for pursuing an upcoming bond, Livermore created a committee to define and prioritize technology needs in all 19 of their locations.

One of the committee’s tasks was to put together a list of needed and requested classroom technology items. Through feedback from the district’s stakeholders, and with strong

consideration of teachers’ responses, voice amplification surfaced as a critical need.

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*Geoff Warner  
Chief Technology Officer at  
Livermore Schools*

## A DIFFERENT TYPE OF TECH PILOT PROGRAM

Livermore’s district-wide classroom technology project was different from most of their other technology projects, said Geoff Warner, Chief Technology Officer at Livermore Schools.

“This was one of the most visible projects we’ve ever done,” said Geoff. “Most technology projects are done behind the scenes. This one was the first that was front and center in classrooms across the entire district.”

To help such a massive undertaking run smoothly, Geoff created a pilot program in 2018. For half

the school year, one classroom in every school tested the proposed technology and equipment, including Lightspeed classroom audio systems. This allowed Livermore to see what was creating a positive impact on the teachers and students and time to work out any potential wrinkles before the district-wide implementation.

Before even launching the pilot program, Geoff worked closely with the schools to find out what classroom audio solutions they preferred. Geoff selected Lightspeed’s **955 Access** with the ceiling and wall-mounted speakers for the pilot because Lightspeed’s systems received the most praise from teachers and had the lightest wearable microphone.

## PARTNERSHIPS HELPED CREATE A SUCCESSFUL START

With the technology choices finalized, Geoff worked next on setting up the classrooms to test them.

“The relationship Livermore developed with our vendors, including Lightspeed, CDWG, and our installation crew, EKC, helped make the pilot and the full roll-out a smooth process,” said Geoff. “Lightspeed worked with our teachers at on-site trainings to ensure they understood how the audio systems worked; CDWG helped create guides and budgets; and EKC would do the installations in the evening, so everything was set for teachers by the next morning.”



**SCHOOL**  
LIVERMORE VALLEY JOINT UNIFIED  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

**LOCATION**  
LIVERMORE, CALIFORNIA

**INDUSTRY**  
EDUCATION

**THE CHALLENGE**  
The technology department needed to fulfill the critical need for voice amplification across their large district, while minimizing disruptions for teachers and students as they conducted the pilot and full program.

**LIGHTSPEED SOLUTION**  
955 Access



**BENEFITS**  
On-site support created a smooth roll-out

Teachers quickly become proficient users

Improves classroom management

Increases student participation and engagement

Reduces teacher vocal strain

## POSITIVE EXPERIENCE FOR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

After the pilot concluded, the teachers and students were highlighted in a video as part of a board presentation to share how the technology proposed for every classroom was working for them. Teachers also filled out surveys that asked them to include their students' responses with their own about the pilot program.

"The feedback from the students and teachers about the Lightspeed classroom audio systems was extremely positive," said Geoff. "Teachers liked how easy they were to use and created better classroom management. They also talked about how students loved using the microphones, even shy children. They even mentioned that they felt physically better now that they didn't have to project their voices all the time."

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