



*“Sabio is becoming a truly global concern, and we’re attracting world-class talent. WebEx has driven that.”*

—James Choi, Director of Mathematics



“WebEx has become a major presence in a lot of corporate environments, so our students’ parents were already very comfortable with it.” Choi goes on to observe that many Sabio faculty members are themselves tech-savvy professionals trained at top schools like Harvard and MIT, and they teach on a part-time basis because of their passion for education. As a result, the academy’s adoption of WebEx proved a smooth transition across the board.

Roughly 70 to 80 percent of Sabio Academy students now access courses from remote locations. “At this point, even the majority of students living locally here in the Chicago area attend classes remotely,” says Choi. “And we record every class, so that offers students even more flexibility. WebEx gave us a solution that was robust enough to emerge as the dominant mode of interaction with our students.”

### The Benefits

WebEx offers the instructors at Sabio Academy a whole new way of teaching. “More than in any learning environment I’ve seen,” says Choi, “students in a WebEx session really have to remain responsive at all times, in real time. You can ask them to solve a problem on the whiteboard, and you’ll know right away if they haven’t been paying attention.”

The result, he says, is something like running multiple private tutoring sessions at once. “Just like when I’m tutoring someone one-on-one, WebEx makes it possible for me to watch students work out problems right in front of me,” he continues. “There’s no way I could engage with students on that level if I were standing in front of them in a traditional classroom.”

That level of immediacy is made possible by what Choi calls the “transparent medium” of WebEx Training Center. “One of the great things about WebEx is that the technology is unobtrusive,” he explains. “The medium disappears, and students can just focus on what they’re learning.” He attributes much of that transparency to the ease of connectivity students find with WebEx, enabling them to focus on the high-value training rather than worry about the technology delivering it.

Since adopting WebEx Training Center, Sabio Academy has more than doubled its number of students. And by offering online training, Choi has been able to hire faculty members who live far outside the Chicago area—talented professionals who want to teach young, motivated students in a collaborative online environment. “Sabio is becoming a truly global concern, and we’re attracting world-class talent,” says Choi. “WebEx has driven that.”

### The Future

With the opening of a new learning facility in Arizona, Choi hopes to see Sabio’s expansion continue. “We like to give students the option of accessing our online courses onsite at Sabio learning facilities. That eases some parents’ minds,” he explains. “But online learning will always be the core offering at Sabio Academy. And without WebEx, we wouldn’t even be close to where we are today.”

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## HIGHLIGHTS

- WebEx makes it possible for teachers and students to write free-hand using the whiteboard feature—a vital component in teaching and solving complex equations.
- WebEx has enabled Sabio Academy to reach students globally and hire faculty members who live far outside the Chicago area.
- Since adopting WebEx Training Center, Sabio Academy has more than doubled its number of students.