

# Charter School Cleans Classroom Air with UV-C

**PROBLEM:** Schools and universities face difficult decisions on how to best protect thousands of students and staff following the COVID-19 Pandemic. The Public Safety Academy of San Bernando researched scientifically-proven means of safeguarding staff and cadets in grades 6-12, so in-person learning could resume as quickly as possible.

As part of its COVID-19 Prevention Program, the public charter school implemented engineering controls to minimize disease-spread, including UV-C technology to “purify the air by inactivating viruses that travel through the HVAC airstream.”

Ultraviolet light, or UV-C, is a decades-old, powerful, scientifically-validated technology that can neutralize airborne pathogens in less than a second.

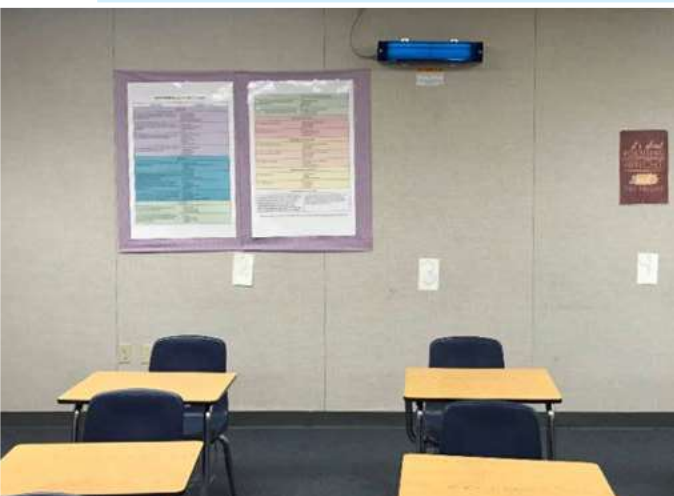


**SOLUTION:** Based on their research, school administrators decided to employ a multi-layered ultraviolet germicidal approach with a variety of disinfection systems from UV Resources.

Both in-duct and upper-room UV meet EPA’s best practices of “enhance[d] air filtration and cleaning using the central HVAC system and in-room air-cleaning devices.”<sup>1</sup>

Additionally, the CDC’s K-12 Schools COVID-19 Mitigation Toolkit recommends UV-C “as a supplement to kill SARS-CoV-2” as part of its return to in-person-learning ventilation checklist.<sup>2</sup>

“We needed a proven infection-control-strategy that did not generate hazardous chemicals, VOCs, ozone or other dangerous byproducts,” recalled Steve Filson, Director of Security and Cadet Services. “Germicidal UV-C lights continually disinfect the air in classrooms and public areas to create healthy, productive spaces for our students and staff.”



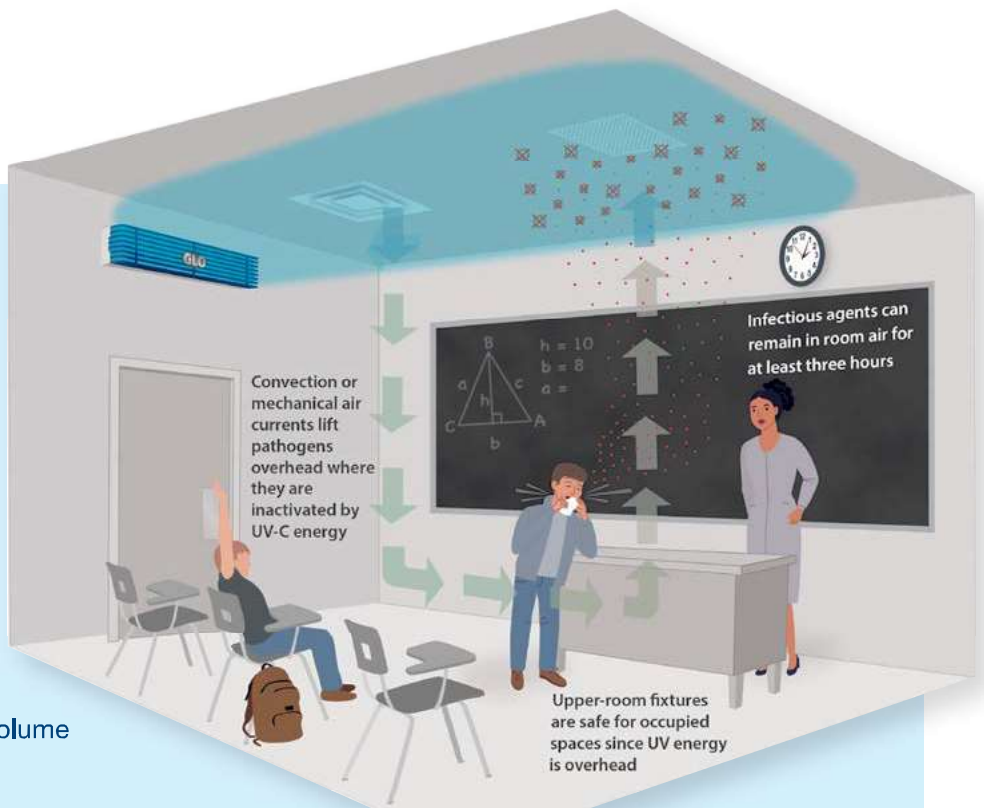
## RESULTS:

The school deployed more than 60 UV-C disinfection fixtures in the upper air/room of communal school spaces such as the classrooms, library, gym, lunch and multipurpose rooms.

In addition, UV-C fixtures were installed in duct and HVAC systems (rooftop package and thru-wall systems) that served classrooms across two school terms (2021-2023). A typical germicidal UV-C in-duct system can disinfect a room's total air volume multiple times each hour.

Like many elementary and high schools, Public Safety Academy utilized some of its federal ESSER pandemic recovery funds to help pay for the UV-C disinfection technology.

Moreover, according to public health researchers, healthier air means fewer sick days, improved attendance and better academic performance.



UV-C is endorsed by the CDC, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and ASHRAE and backed by nearly a century of scientific research.

<sup>1</sup> White House. (2022, March). Fact Sheet: Biden Administration Launches Effort to Improve Ventilation and Reduce the Spread of COVID-19 in Buildings. Retrieved from [whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/03/17/fact-sheet-biden-administration-launches-effort-to-improve-ventilation-and-reduce-the-spread-of-covid-19-in-buildings/](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/03/17/fact-sheet-biden-administration-launches-effort-to-improve-ventilation-and-reduce-the-spread-of-covid-19-in-buildings/)

<sup>2</sup> CDC. K-12 Schools COVID-19 Mitigation Toolkit. Checklist #4. Retrieved from: [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/FINAL-0321420\\_B\\_K-12\\_Mitigation\\_Toolkit508.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/FINAL-0321420_B_K-12_Mitigation_Toolkit508.pdf)



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