

Implementation Strategies

Iroquois Point Elementary School, Hawaii Department of Education
Ewa Beach, HI

Grade(s): K – 6

Scenario: Computers in Classroom, One-to-One Laptop Program

Purpose: Enrichment/Gifted and Talented

ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 90%

Time Spent in ALEKS: 4–5 hours per week, 40–50 hours per term

ALEKS Course: Mathematics – LV 4 (with QuickTables), Mathematics – LV 5 (with QuickTables), Middle School Math Course 2, Middle School Math Course 3, Pre-Algebra, Algebra 1, High School Geometry

Denise Boatwright, Gifted and Talented Coordinator

ALEKS is an excellent tool! I use it to successfully accelerate our gifted and talented students. Because of ALEKS, we are no longer holding our top students back. It is wonderful to see these students, who were mostly bored in the regular math program, start to really enjoy math. My students love it because they are not held back; they can choose what they want to learn.

Scenario

What challenges did the class or school face in math prior to using ALEKS?

We encountered funding challenges initially, but were able to meet them.

How many days per week is class time dedicated to ALEKS?

4–5 days per week.

What is the average length of a class period when ALEKS is used?

45–60 minutes.

Implementation

How do you implement ALEKS?

We offer a course specifically for gifted and talented students where a gifted and talented coordinator teaches instead of a classroom teacher. Students are assessed against the state math standards as approaching, meets, or exceeds standards expectations. My ALEKS students all exceed the state standards for their grade level.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

We do not cover ALEKS topics in a particular order.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

Our gifted students work independently on ALEKS while their classmates continue with Everyday Mathematics.

How did you modify your regular teaching approach as a result of ALEKS?

I can now facilitate instead of lecture.

How often are students required or encouraged to work on ALEKS at home?

I require 90 minutes per week of ALEKS work at home.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

I introduce parents to ALEKS at the beginning of the year.

Grading

Is ALEKS assigned to your students as all or part of their homework responsibilities? If so, what part of the total homework load is it?

ALEKS comprises 100 percent of the students' homework responsibilities.

How do you incorporate ALEKS into your grading system?

I categorize student performance into whether or not they are approaching, meeting, or exceeding state standards.

Do you require students to make regular amounts of progress in ALEKS?

I do not require my students to make specific amounts of progress.

Learning Outcomes**Since using ALEKS, please describe the learning outcomes or progress you have seen.**

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