

# Implementation Strategies

**Meadow View School, Bethel 52 School District**  
Eugene, OR

**Grade(s):** K – 8

**Scenario:** Computers in Classroom, Laptop Carts

**Purpose:** Enrichment/Gifted and Talented

**ALEKS Portion of Curriculum:** 70%

**Time Spent in ALEKS:** 4.16 hours per week; 187.5 hours per term

**ALEKS Course:** Middle School Math Course 2

**Jason Simpson, Teacher**

ALEKS has been an integral part of providing a tailored, well-balanced math curriculum to several advanced fifth grade math students.

## Scenario

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

We faced proximity and scheduling issues prior to implementing the ALEKS program.

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

5 days per week.

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

50 minutes.

## Implementation

**Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?**

Students are able to choose the order in which they complete the strands and modules.

**How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?**

The students come in and log on to classroom computers or laptops while I am teaching a different math class. Students work the entire period and ask me questions as needed. One day each week a district math Teacher on Special Assignment (TOSA) checks in with the students and firms up any needed math strands. The TOSA remotely checks student progress and, at times, makes homework sheets via the ALEKS program.

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

Students work on this at home only if parents want to actively participate in the ALEKS program.

**How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?**

Parents of these students don't need any encouragement to participate and be involved the multiple facets of the ALEKS program.

## 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?**

Not often. It makes up less than five percent of the homework for my students.

**How do you incorporate ALEKS into your grading system?**

ALEKS is approximately 80 percent of a student's grade. Students are also given our pre- and post-tests for the current fifth grade curriculum, as well as standardized district and state testing norms. Teacher observation and homework also make up part of the math grade.

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

Students are not required to make specific amounts of progress in the ALEKS program; however, student progress is closely

monitored and curriculum is adapted as necessary.

## **Learning Outcomes**

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

The ALEKS program has continued to meet the needs and challenges of the advanced fifth grade math students in my classroom. The ALEKS program works very well with students who are extrinsically motivated and like to work at their own pace. I am sure ALEKS played a direct role in my advanced students exceeding the sixth grade state assessment.

## **Best Practices**

**Are there any best practices you would like to share with other teachers implementing ALEKS?**

The ALEKS program is very flexible and adaptable so it can be used in countless ways to meet the needs of a variety of students.