

# Implementation Strategies

**Crossroads Alternative High School, Granite Falls School District**  
Granite Falls, WA

**Grade(s):** 10 – 12

**Scenario:** Computer Lab

**Purpose:** Supplement

**ALEKS Portion of Curriculum:** 20%

**ALEKS Course:** Essential Mathematics (with QuickTables), Foundations of High School Math

**Catherine Wagner, Teacher**

I really enjoy using ALEKS. Our students are at so many different levels, it is hard to teach one lesson at a time. With ALEKS, they can work at their individual levels. Students feel successful in math!

## Scenario

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

Our students were coming in with major gaps in their skill levels. They did not have math basics down, and all were at very different levels of study.

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

4 days per week.

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

45 minutes.

## Implementation

**How do you implement ALEKS?**

We were fortunate enough to receive a grant which funded a computer lab and helped to place all of our students onto the ALEKS program.

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

No.

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

We use ALEKS for 40 minute increments, usually twice per week.

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

When I began using ALEKS in the classroom, I modified my approach by dropping two days a week of textbook instruction.

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

We use ALEKS for all homework needs, and require five hours of homework to be completed weekly.

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

We have not taken any steps to fully incorporate parents into the process as of yet.

## 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?**

One hour a week, minimum.

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

ALEKS accounts for 50 percent of a student's grade.

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

We are focused in on getting used to the program, and haven't built any progress measurement structures at this time.

**Learning Outcomes**

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

Student learning has increased a great deal since we began implementing ALEKS. The students have responded in a very positive manner as well.