

Implementation Strategies

North High School, North St. Paul–Maplewood–Oakdale School District 622
North St. Paul, MN

Grade(s): 9 – 12

Scenario: Computer Lab, Laptop Carts

Purpose: Intervention

ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 35%

Time Spent in ALEKS: 1 hour per week

ALEKS Course: Algebra 1

Kathleen Berrigan, Math Teacher

The ALEKS program is helping my lower performing students understand math symbols better. During class, students are better understanding how to do absolute value problems. I am enjoying the success of my students with this program.

Scenario

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

Students really struggled with basic skills.

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

2 days per week.

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

60 minutes.

Implementation

How do you implement ALEKS?

We use ALEKS in the computer lab twice a week.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

No.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

I use ALEKS during class instruction sometimes.

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

I now use the ALEKS quiz function to test my students.

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

Often.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

I remind students daily to check their progress.

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 is not required as homework.

How do you incorporate ALEKS into your grading system?

20 percent of their final grade.

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

The required progress is calculated by hours spent in the program, and not by the percentage of progress.

Learning Outcomes

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

Students are now looking for explanations to help them with math problems, and they are no longer dependent on the teacher. They enjoy seeing their progress and seeing their progress bar grow. They enjoy seeing their progress visually with the progress bar as well.