

Implementation Strategies

Central Middle School, Hawaii Department of Education
Honolulu, HI

Grade(s): 6 – 8

Scenario: Computer Lab, Computers in Classroom

Purpose: At-Risk Students

ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 10%

Time Spent in ALEKS: 1 hour per week, 16 hours per term

ALEKS Course: Essential Mathematics (with QuickTables)

Brian Mizuguchi, Principal

In these days of technological advancements, ALEKS provides a unique learning opportunity for students to actively engage in computer-assisted instruction. The focus and intensity level of all students while interacting with ALEKS is outstanding. We have seen students more focused, engaged, and eager in their math classes and have seen our monthly benchmark scores soar.

Scenario

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

Fitting ALEKS into an already busy schedule.

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

1 day per week.

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

50 minutes.

Implementation

How do you implement ALEKS?

Implementation was geared for our English Language Learner (ELL) students and low achieving students.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

No.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

Students work independently on ALEKS.

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

As often as possible, depending on computer availability.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

I keep parents informed via a weekly newsletter.

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?

No.

How do you incorporate ALEKS into your grading system?

Not part of a student's grade.

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

No.

Learning Outcomes

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

We have seen students more focused, engaged, and eager in their regular math classes and have seen our monthly benchmark scores soar. Student pride and self-esteem are very evident.

Best Practices

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

Either by hook, crook, gentle tug, or hard pull, have teachers get their students started on ALEKS as soon as possible.