Implementation Strategies

Dayspring Christian Academy, Private

Greeley, CO

Grade(s): K - 12

Scenario: Computer Lab, Computers in Classroom

Purpose: Intervention

ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 1%

Time Spent in ALEKS: 3 hours per week; 15 hours per term **ALEKS Course:** High School Geometry, Algebra 2, Trigonometry

Lawrence Rice, Resource Teacher

It's been a great year with ALEKS. This is my third year working with the program, and I greatly appreciate the support.

Scenario

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

Allowing a student to learn at their pace, yet have a goal and routine assessments to check progress.

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?

40-50 minutes.

Implementation

How do you implement ALEKS?

Students who transfer in and need a math credit, students who might have failed a math class, or students who needs to work a little slower than a general math class can use ALEKS.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

No, the students choose the topics they want to cover each day.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

The students come in and can log right on, or they may practice some problems with me if they are struggling. They can take a break when they need to. They enjoy being able to check progress as a motivator whenever they need to, but I set the amount of time I want them to achieve each day and week.

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

ALEKS does the main work. I love it!

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

I send home the worksheets. Thank you for the availability of worksheets and answers.

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 80 percent, classroom work is 15 percent, and other online work is 5 percent.

Learning Outcomes
Since using ALEKS, please describe the learning outcomes or progress you have seen. My students enjoy learning at their own pace. Their assessments improved every time, and I believe this was due to our understanding of how to best use the program.
Best Practices
Are there any best practices you would like to share with other teachers implementing ALEKS? I made a poster that resembles the pie chart and have the students fill it in every few weeks. This creates a little competition, and helps me remember to encourage slow working areas of the class, but mainly allows me to brag about how well they are coming along.