

Implementation Strategies

Somis Academy, Somis Union School District
Camarillo, CA

Grade(s): K – 12

Scenario: One-to-One Laptop Program

Purpose: Core Curriculum

ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 20%

Time Spent in ALEKS: 5 hours per week, 160 hours per term

ALEKS Course: Mathematics – LV 3 (with QuickTables), Mathematics – LV 4 (with QuickTables), Mathematics – LV 5 (with QuickTables), Middle School Math Course 2, Middle School Math Course 3

Laura Beyer, Teacher

A percentage of my students are distance learners, and ALEKS is very useful to them. They are able to access their progress, and so am I. The program also does not let them proceed until they have mastered the individual lesson. The students are very successful with ALEKS.

Scenario

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

We are a charter homeschooling program, and it is difficult for parents to teach from a book after fourth grade math.

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

5 days per week.

Implementation

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

The students are homeschooled so they can structure it any way they want.

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

I make sure that students are reaching the goal of the California State Standards that we are teaching.

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

We encourage them to all the time.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

Many parents learn from ALEKS as well.

Grading

How do you incorporate ALEKS into your grading system?

It is dependent on how many of the topics they have mastered.

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

Progress is balanced out over the entire school year for elementary students and over the semester for high school students.

Learning Outcomes

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

The students are very successful with ALEKS.

Best Practices

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

Make sure that the students are not just working on what they know. They need to be encouraged to venture into parts they do not know.