

Implementation Strategies

Goshen Community Schools

Goshen, IN

Grade(s): K – 12

Scenario: Computer Lab

Purpose: Intervention, Improve State Test Scores, Core Curriculum

Time Spent in ALEKS: 5 hours per week, 45 hours per term

ALEKS Course: Mathematics – LV 3 (with QuickTables), Mathematics – LV 4 (with QuickTables), Mathematics – LV 5 (with QuickTables), Pre-Algebra, Algebra 1

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I support the use of ALEKS in our schools. Overall, the experience has been positive.

Scenario

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

Unlike reading, classes don't have math groups. Some of our schools do ability group classes and trade teachers for math, but not many. This makes it difficult to provide differentiated classroom instruction.

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

5 days per week.

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

30 minutes.

Implementation

How do you implement ALEKS?

The students are assigned their grade level, and they work at their own pace.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

No.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

Our middle school math department has half of the students on ALEKS for half of the class period, while conducting class with the other half; they then switch. Some are trying to have half of the students every other day on ALEKS, while the opposite day is half of the class in direct instruction.

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

It is up to the student.

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

We make them aware that it can be used at home.

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?

I know that it is calculated into their grades, but I am unaware of the percentage.

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

The students are monitored for achievement, and each student is looked at as an individual.

Learning Outcomes

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

For the most part students love ALEKS. Since students are able to progress at their own rate, we have seen many of our elementary students move into the next grade level. We have also seen gains with students who are performing below grade level. They all want to fill their pies, and they enjoy seeing their progress. They like that they have a built-in tutor. For those students who struggle, this is especially helpful when a teacher is not readily available. Several have even asked to use ALEKS during the summer.