Implementation Strategies

Monte Vista On-Line Academy, Monte Vista C-8 Monte Vista, CO

Grade(s): 6 – 12 Scenario: Online School Purpose: Core Curriculum ALEKS Portion of Curriculum: 80% Time Spent in ALEKS: 50 hours per term ALEKS Course: Mathematics – LV 5 (with QuickTables), Middle School Math Course 2, Middle School Math Course 3, Pre–Algebra, Algebra 1, High School Geometry, Algebra 2, Trigonometry, PreCalculus

Linda Hinton, Teacher

I have used ALEKS for six years and I am very pleased with the program! ALEKS has done a good job of continuously updating course material to fit state standards and the needs of teachers and students. Advanced students are much happier because they aren't bored. Low students are happier because they aren't trying to learn material that they aren't prepared to learn.

Scenario

What challenges did the class or school face in math prior to using ALEKS? Students didn't receive enough feedback. With ALEKS, students can work at their own pace, on topics they are ready to learn, and receive instant feedback.

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? Varies.

Implementation

How do you implement ALEKS?

ALEKS comprises 80 percent of the curriculum. We also include additional problem solving activities from state test released items.

Do you cover ALEKS concepts in a particular order?

We do not cover topics in a particular order.

How do you structure your class period with ALEKS?

Students work independently at home so they provide their own structure, as long as they meet mastery goals.

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

I get to spend more time working with individual students instead of grading and lecturing.

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

How do you cultivate parental involvement and support for ALEKS?

I ask parents to help students with the explanations in the Learning Mode.

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 comprises 80 percent of the students' homework responsibilities.

How do you incorporate ALEKS into your grading system?

ALEKS comprises 80 percent of the students' grade.

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

Students are required to master at least five topics per week. There are goals set up on a webpage with the weekly goals and the semester grading scale.

Learning Outcomes

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

Course completion has greatly improved. ALEKS has done a good job of continuously updating course material to fit state standards and the needs of teachers and students. Advanced students are much happier because they aren't bored. Low students are happier because they aren't trying to learn material that they aren't prepared to learn.