



Advanced Learning Plans at Woodrow Wilson Academy

Advanced Learning Plans (ALP's) are different for every student depending on their strengths, motivation and interests.

How are ALP's created?

At the beginning of each year, a student has a meeting with their new grade level teacher. At this meeting, the student and teacher discuss the student's strengths as well as their interests. Together they look at the curriculum they will be studying throughout the year and come up with a plan to make the topics exciting and challenging for the student. Once the students and teacher come up with a plan, the plan is presented to parents at fall parent teacher conferences. At this time, the parents and teacher finalize the plan and ensure that it makes sense for everybody. Each trimester, the students and teacher will meet to reflect on their plan.

What does an ALP look like at WWA?

At WWA, an ALP often means being in an advanced literacy class, or advanced math class. The advanced courses we have for each grade level differentiate to meet the needs of all students including ALP kids. Other times, students may have a strong interest in a particular area of study, like science. In this case the homeroom teacher and student might come up with a special way of looking at information. If a student's strength area is in vocabulary, the student may pay special attention to science vocabulary while doing class work in a unit.

Is an ALP additional work?

An ALP will never require additional work than other students, though it may require different work and higher level thinking about a topic. This is true of ALP's across the state and even nationally.

What if my student doesn't want to do the ALP assignment?

Keep in mind that at any time a parent or child can choose to not participate in an ALP assignment. There are no repercussions, as the student can pick up the ALP projects, assignments or program at another time. We often have students that may get overwhelmed by family issues, afterschool activities, or other situations, and they may take some time off from an ALP program. The next year they may want ALP projects or assignments again. You can also cancel an ALP and have it removed.

What if my child is gifted in more than one strength area?

If a student has more than one strength area, we will work with the student to focus on one goal for that curricular year. The other strength areas are not forgotten, however. Throughout the year we meet all strength areas through our advanced classes and Core Knowledge areas of study. We just don't want to overwhelm students with many different topics and projects, when focusing on one strength area is usually more beneficial for the student.