



# GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

## DIRECT ARCHDIOCESAN DISTRICT OFFICE OF EDUCATION

September 17, 2013

The Reverend Priests  
School Board Chairmen  
Day and Afternoon School Principals and Teachers  
Of the Direct Archdiocesan District

Dear All:

As we embark on the 2013-2014 school year, I would like to wish you well and convey the paternal wishes of **His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America** for a healthy, productive, and fulfilling new school year!

The District Office of Education is ready, once again, to assist the schools by offering in-service training to the teachers and by providing appropriate and useful materials and teaching tools; all for the benefit of our students whose education must be our primary concern.

Along these lines, the District Office of Education will hold this year's annual **Staff Development Seminar** on Tuesday, **November 5<sup>th</sup>** (Election Day), at the High School of St. Demetrios Cathedral in Astoria.

Held under the auspices of **His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios**, the Seminar will offer a variety of workshops and presentations that are designed in collaboration with the principals to the teachers of the day and the afternoon Greek schools. ALL teachers are, therefore, invited to attend and participate in the workshops.

The District Office of Education has also been actively pursuing the recognition by the education authorities of the *Comprehensive Examination in Modern Greek*, so that our students receive foreign language credits for learning the Greek language. And the Office will continue with the development of the *Modern Greek Examination* scheduled for June 2014.

To succeed in this effort, the Office has published a "**Modern Greek Language Curriculum at Checkpoint A**" that is based on the New York State Syllabus: "*Modern Languages for Communication.*" The *Curriculum* was created by the Institute of Modern Greek Studies of the University of Thessaloniki in collaboration with the District Office of Education. **Checkpoint B of the Curriculum** (Regents Level) is currently under development.

Additionally, the Office has published a compilation of past examinations (2003-2011) into **two books** – one for the student and one for the teacher – to help teachers prepare students for the *Comprehensive Examination in Modern Greek*. The *Curriculum* and the books are offered **gratis**. Schools are required to pay only for postage.

(over)

→

Enclosed please find the following **forms** and **documents**:

1. The **2013-14 School Record Form**.
2. The **Calendar** of major Religious and Greek National Holidays.
3. A **Salary Scale** for teachers that is recommended by our Office.
4. A **Contact Information Form**.
5. Order **Forms** for books and diplomas

We kindly request the school principals and directors to complete the **2013-14 School Record Form** as soon as possible and to use the enclosed *self-addressed* envelope to mail it back to our Office. Be reminded that our Office needs the **original forms** completed and returned for filing.

In closing, we thank you for your continuous efforts to offer a good and sound Greek Orthodox education and promote the teaching of the Greek language and cultural heritage.

Very sincerely,

Maria Makedon  
*Director*