

The Annual Archdiocesan District Staff-Development Seminar November 3, 2009



The annual *Staff-Development Seminar* of the *Direct Archdiocesan District* was held under the auspices of **His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America** on Tuesday, November 3, 2009, at the High School of St. Demetrios Cathedral in Astoria. **287** administrators and teachers attended the Seminar making it one of the most successful ever.

The *Seminar* was organized by Direct Archdiocesan District Office of Education with the purpose to offer in-service training to the teachers serving in the community day and the afternoon schools of the District. It included eight workshops targeting the English studies program -- from pre-K to high school grades -- a presentation for the principals, and two presentations for the Greek teachers.

Specifically, the Greek language and culture teachers had the opportunity to listen to two lecture presentations by distinguished university professors from Greece. **Prof. Georgios Papanastasiou**, director of the Institute of Modern Greek Studies and professor of Linguistics at the **Aristotle University of Thessaloniki** spoke on “*The relation of the Greek language and its script form throughout the centuries.*” And **Prof. Eleni Skourtou** of the Department of Elementary Education/ **University of the Aegean**, Rhodes spoke on “*The basic principles of language teaching from the aspect of bilingualism.*”

The Seminar also featured **Mr. Nick Katsoris**, writer and publisher of the *Loukoumi Books and Materials* for young children, as the keynote speaker at lunch as well as a book vendor exhibit.

“*Professional development is essential for making teachers competent and in alignment with education standards*” noted **Mrs. Maria Makedon**, director of the Direct Archdiocesan District Office of Education. “*We believe that all teachers can benefit from learning new methods and techniques and, thus, invite them to attend the District’s Annual Seminar that contributes significantly to their professional advancement.*”

Election Day has been designated by the Board of the parochial day school principals of New York for professional development. Thus all the NYC parochial day schools were closed on November 3rd to accommodate their teachers to attend the *Seminar*.

Following is a list and short description of the workshops offered. For a transcript of the presentations aimed at the Greek teachers, please contact the Direct Archdiocesan District Office of Education at (212) 570-3552, or visit the Office’s web page at <http://www.education.goarch.org>.



WORKSHOP	PRESENTER
TECHNIQUES FOR OBSERVING AND ASSESSING YOUNG CHILDREN'S PROGRESS IN THE EARLY CHILDHOOD CLASSROOM (Pre K – K)	Dr. Patricia Vardin , Chair, Early Childhood Education / Manhattanville College
MATH AND SCIENCE IN THE EARLY CHILDHOOD CLASSROOM (K - 2)	Connie McCrory , Assistant Director of Early Childhood Education, ADNY
PROBLEM SOLVING (1 – 8)	Maria Lamattina , Catapult Learning Consultant
CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT: Behavior Interventions in the Classroom (3 - 12)	Alan Handel , Catapult Learning Consultant
UNLOCKING THE MAIN IDEA (K – 6)	Adrienne Schure , Catapult Learning Consultant
CURRICULUM MAPPING (K - 12)	Patrice Morgan , Catapult Learning Consultant
TEACHERS PLANNING AS A TEAM IN SCHOOLS (K – 12)	Lisa Auslander , Catapult Learning Consultant
DIFFERENTIATED INSTRUCTION: Accommodating the Diverse Needs of Students in the 21st Century. (K – 12)	Dr. Brett Elizabeth Blake , St. John's University Department of Curriculum and Instruction

CARE IN TIMES OF CRISIS PRINCIPALS	Marlene Lund , Executive Director / Lutheran Schools Association
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THE GREEK LANGUAGE AND ITS SCRIPT FORM: A Dialectical Relation Throughout the Centuries	Dr. George Papanastasiou , Director / Institute of Modern Greek Studies and Assistant Professor of Historical Linguistics / Aristotle University of Thessaloniki
BILINGUALISM AND TEACHING GREEK IN THE CLASSROOM AND ON THE INTERNET	Dr. Eleni Skourtou , Assistant Professor of Bilingualism / University of the Aegean / Department of Elementary Education