



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE ^{OF} AMERICA
DIRECT ARCHDIOCESAN DISTRICT OFFICE OF EDUCATION

October 12, 2010

The Reverend Priests, Parish Council Presidents
School Board Chairmen, Principals, and Teachers of
The Parochial Day and Afternoon Schools of
The Direct Archdiocesan District

RE: ANNUAL TEACHER SEMINAR

We are pleased to announce that the *Annual Staff-Development Seminar* for the teachers serving in the community day and afternoon schools of the *Direct Archdiocesan District* will take place on **Tuesday, November 2, 2010** (*Election Day*), at St. Demetrios High School in Astoria.

The Seminar is held under the auspices of **His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America**.

Organized by the *Direct Archdiocesan District Office of Education*, this year's *Seminar* will include an array of workshops for the day school teachers of the English program covering grades from pre-K to high school. It will also include a series of presentations for the Greek teachers focusing on the teaching of the Greek language as a second one and on how student assessment may help teachers modify their teaching strategies.

More specifically, the teachers of Modern Greek language and culture will listen to presentations by two distinguished university professors of the *Aristotle University of Thessaloniki*, Greece -- Dr. Georgios Papanastasiou, professor of Linguistics and Prof. Panagiotis Andreou of the School of Modern Greek Language. Dr. Papanastasiou, also director of the *Institute of Modern Greek Studies*, will speak on **“The Loan Words from both Greek and English Languages: How to Use the Borrowed Words in Teaching”** and Prof. Andreou on the **“Assessment of Language Learning Skills.”**

It should be noted here that Dr. Papanastasiou and Prof. Andreou are currently working on the development of a **“Course of Studies in Modern Greek as a Second Language—Level A (Beginning Level),”** in collaboration with the *Direct Archdiocesan District Office of Education*. Samples of their work will be presented to the participating teachers for discussion and comments.

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The program for the Greek teachers will also feature a special presentation by Prof. Stefanos Papazacharias of The State University at Buffalo, who will speak on “**The Comprehensive Examination of Modern Greek and its important role in the evaluation of students and classroom instruction.**” Prof. Papazacharias has been doing the evaluation of **The Comprehensive Examination of Modern Greek** for several years.

The *Seminar* will start with registration at 8:00 a.m. and end at 3:00 p.m. The *Direct Archdiocesan District Office of Education* invites all the teachers to attend. To register, please contact the *Direct Archdiocesan District Office of Education* at (212) 570-3553 and (212) 570-3554 or visit the Office’s website at www.education.goarch.org.

The principals of the New York City parochial day schools have designated November 2nd for professional development for their teachers, and all schools will remain closed. The principals of the District’s afternoon Greek schools are advised to act similarly and encourage their teachers to attend.

Very sincerely,

Maria Makedon
Director