



GREEK ORTHODOX ARCHDIOCESE OF AMERICA

DIRECT ARCHDIOCESAN DISTRICT OFFICE OF EDUCATION

October 15, 2013

The Reverend Priests, School Board Chairmen,
Principals and Teachers of the
Parochial Day and Afternoon/Saturday Schools of the
Direct Archdiocesan District

RE: ANNUAL STAFF-DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR

We are pleased to announce that the annual Staff-Development Seminar of the Direct Archdiocesan District will take place on **Tuesday, November 5, 2013** (Election Day), 8:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m., at the High School of St. Demetrios Cathedral, Astoria.

Held under the auspices of **His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios of America**, the Seminar will offer a variety of workshops and presentations and will feature a keynote speech on “*Leadership: Making the Home-School Connection*” by Dr. Ron Valenti.

The workshops addressing the English program of the day schools were designed by *Catapult Learning*, in collaboration with the day school principals. The workshops for the Greek teachers are based on the philosophy and methodology of teaching Greek as a foreign/second language. All workshops and presentations will start after the keynote speech.

We have invited well-known educators, whose expertise is in the field of teaching foreign languages such as Al Martino, director of Foreign Languages and ESL Program at SUNY, Albany, and Mrs. Vivian Selenicas, the principal of Long Island City High School and coordinator for all foreign language examinations of the NYC Department of Education.

In addition, we have invited Dr. George Papanastasiou, director of the Institute of Modern Greek Studies of the University of Thessaloniki and Prof. Panagiotis Andreou to present parts of the *Curriculum of Modern Greek Language – Checkpoint B* (Regents Level), which is presently under development. The *Curriculum* is being developed by Mr. Andreou as part of the collaboration of our Office and the Institute and because is deemed necessary for the awarding of credits to the students who study the Greek language. Prof. Andreou will also make a presentation on “*The Pronunciation in the Language Classroom: Issues of teaching and Learning.*”

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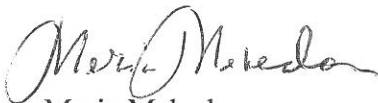
The Greek teachers will also have the opportunity to participate in a “panel discussion” on *“The teaching of Greek today and future perspectives.”*

We enclose a “registration form” and kindly request you to complete it as soon as possible. Please submit your registration form by fax at 212-774-0248 or email at www.education.goarch.org. You may also call our Office to affirm your participation at 212-570-3552.

We invite all the teachers of the community schools in the metropolitan and the surrounding areas to attend the Seminar. Please note that the New York City parochial day schools will be closed. We recommend that the Greek afternoon schools be closed as well in order to facilitate the teachers to attend the Seminar.

We will be glad to see you all!

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Maria Makedon".

Maria Makedon
Director