ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL MEETING
May 12-13, 2016
Pittsburgh Marriott City Center, Pittsburgh, PA

PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS EDUCATION REPORT

The Education Office

The primary goal of the Office of Education of the Direct Archdiocesan District is to assist the community day schools as well as the afternoon/Saturday ones in providing a sound academic program to their students – in both the English and Greek curricula. In doing so, the Office offers curriculum guides, in-service teacher training, and materials.

Furthermore, the District Office of Education represents the Greek-American day schools (or faith-based) to the education authorities at the federal, state, and city levels. The participation of the director of the Office in various conferences and committee meetings ensures that our NYC day schools get their portion of funds, services, and materials from the federal government.

The District Schools

During the current school year (2015-2016), there are 49 schools – eight parochial day and 41 afternoon/Saturday Greek schools – operating in the District. These schools have an enrollment of 5,131 students and employ 246 Greek teachers.

In addition, the following three parishes: St. Nicholas, Flushing; Kimisis Tis Theotokou, Brooklyn; and Archangel Michael, Port Washington, maintain pre-school centers, which have a total enrollment of 133 students.

Five parochial day schools maintain Universal Pre-K programs, which are funded by the New York State and operate as separate public school entities. UPKs exist in the following schools: St. Demetrios of Astoria; A. Fantis of Sts. Constantine & Helen, Brooklyn, DGK of Holy Cross, Brooklyn; the Greek-American Institute, Bronx and St. Spyridon School, Manhattan.

The five UPKs have an enrollment of 253 students, which brings the total enrollment of our District’s day and afternoon schools to 5,517 students.

Note:

Pertinent data regarding the District’s schools and the qualifications of the Greek teachers are depicted in the following statistical graphs. More detailed graphs are included in the Appendices at the end of this Report.
Various Projects & Events

The Office of Education of the Direct Archdiocesan District is responsible for organizing projects and events that take place each year as follows:

1. **November** – The annual **Staff Development Seminar** is held each November, on *Election Day*, for all the teachers serving in the District schools. The Seminar is held under the auspices of His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios Geron of America.

   The **2015 Seminar** was held at St. Demetrios School of Astoria and was very productive and successful. **263** teachers and administrators attended various **presentations** and **workshops** for both the English and Greek curricula.
2. **January** – The *Spelling Bee Contest* among the students of the NYC Greek American Day Schools. The Contest is organized and coordinated by the District Office of Education and is sponsored by the *Hellenic Times Scholarship Fund*.

The 2016 Spelling Bee Contest took place on January 15th, at the Archdiocesan Headquarters. Day school bees and runner ups received a *Certificate of Award* and monetary gifts.

3. **January** – The *Student Awards of Excellence Event* is organized by the District Office of Education in conjunction with the Feast Day of the Three Hierarchs.

280 people attended this year’s event that was held on January 30th with great success. 52 students of the day and afternoon schools who achieved the highest score in the 2015 *Comprehensive Examination in Modern Greek* were presented by His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios Geron of America with the *Three Hierarchs Awards of Excellence*.

4. **June** – The *Comprehensive Examination in Modern Greek* is a foreign language exam assessing student skills in listening, reading, writing, and speaking Modern Greek. It is administered in June of each year.

The Exam is developed by the District Office of Education and students who pass the exam receive foreign language credits from high schools and colleges. The Exam is recognized by the education authorities of the State and City of New York as well as elsewhere in the country.

**Principals Meetings**

The *District Office of Education* holds regular meetings with the principals of the NYC parochial day schools. At these meetings, principals exchange information, discuss, and plan various projects. On certain occasions, the District Office invites representatives from the NYC Department of Education as well as various vendors to inform the principals on certain programs.
Publications

The District Office of Education has published the following publications in collaboration with the Institute of Modern Greek Studies of the University of Thessaloniki.

The Curricula follow the philosophy and standards of the New York State Education Department in teaching/learning a second/foreign language.

The Modern Greek Language Curriculum - Checkpoint A – Beginners Level

The Modern Greek Language Curriculum - Checkpoint B – Intermediate / Regents Level

Website and Facebook

The District Office of Education has created a Website and a Facebook page, both of which are full of useful information and current events.

We recommend that you visit both at the following addresses: www.education.goarch.org and www.facebook.com/greekamericanschools.

Submitted by
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Director

May 12, 2016
APPENDIX A

STATISTICAL DATA GRAPHS
NYC PAROCHIAL DAY SCHOOLS – 2015-2016

Schools: 8
Enrollment: 1,821

NYC Parochial Day Schools
Enrollment Trends -Years 2006-2016

Note:
In the past ten years (2006-2016), the number of students enrolled in the NYC Day Schools has steadily decreased by 8.5%.

NYC PAROCHIAL DAY SCHOOLS ENROLLMENT
2013-2016

Note:
During the past three years (2013-2016), only the enrollment of two day schools has slightly increased. These are the W. Spyropoulos School, Flushing and the Greek-American Institute, Bronx.
STATISTICAL DATA GRAPHS
AFTERNOON / SATURDAY GREEK SCHOOLS 2015-2016

Schools: 41
Enrollment: 3,175

Note:
In the past ten years (2006-2016), the number of students enrolled in the District’s Greek Afternoon /Saturday Schools has decreased by 5%.

Note:
In the past three years (2013-2016), the number of students enrolled in the District’s Greek Afternoon/Saturday Schools has been declining starting in the 2nd grade.