

## 2015-16 Academic Year

### Awards for Pierce teachers by the Ministry of Education, Research and Religion

Seven digital lesson plans that were drafted and submitted by Pierce teachers, in the framework of an invitation by the Minister of Education, Research and Religion, entitled “**Drafting and submitting digital lesson plans by educators,**” were judged as the best following an evaluation process by two assessors. At a special event at the Ministry on Thursday, November 3, the following teachers (in alphabetical order) were awarded:

Mathematics teacher Ms. **Emmanuela Dimitroulaki**, who drafted a lesson plan in Mathematics, Chemistry teacher Mr. **George Efthymiou**, who drafted a lesson plan in Chemistry, Greek Language teacher Ms. **Angeliki Kehagia**, who drafted a lesson plan in History, Greek Language teacher Ms. **Athena Panagiotopoulou**, who drafted a lesson plan in History, Biology teacher Mr. **Evangelos Stamateris**, who drafted a lesson plan in Biology, Computer Science teacher Ms. **Athena Stavradi**, who drafted a lesson plan in Computers and Computer Science teacher Ms. **Alexandra Psaltidou**, who drafted a lesson plan in Computers.

In addition, Mathematics and Computer Science teacher Dr. **Spyridon Doukakis** was selected and worked in the context of this project as a specialist – expert in the subject of Mathematics for Gymnasium and Lyceum and drafted: a) six example lesson plans (three on each subject) and b) a study on specialized methodology, development of specifications and methodology for the selection of teachers’ lesson plans for these two subjects. The outcome of the evaluation of lesson plans and the participations of Pierce teachers in this particular project demonstrate the high quality of teaching provided to our students as well as their desire to contribute best practices to the broader educational community. The thirteen (13) lesson plans have already been posted on the electronic platform “AESOP,” available to teachers, students and their families. In total, 113 of the 319 lesson plans that were drafted at the Gymnasium and General Lyceum levels for the “AESOP” platform (**a percentage of approximately 4.1%**) were

drafted by Pierce teachers. This percentage is the highest percentage from any one school in our country.

### **One-Day Conference on “Teaching Writing/Composition”**

On **Saturday, November 7, 2015** from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., an in-school professional development conference on the subject **“Teaching Writing/Composition in the Lyceum with emphasis on the Panhellenic exam”** took place at Pierce. The conference was attended by teachers of the Greek Language department. The professional development conference was planned and carried out in cooperation with specialist researchers from the University of Thessaly with a wealth of experience in teaching Writing in the Lyceum, with emphasis on the Panhellenic exam.

The conference was also attended and addressed by the president of the Computer Science department at the University of Thessaly Mr. George Stamoulis, as scientific director of the program **“Teaching – Methodology for Writing (in an electronic environment).”**

At the conference there was a thorough discussion of subjected concerning the Panhellenic exam in writing, such as the preparation of students in issues for writing, summarizing and answering exercise questions. The discussion among the educators and presenters was especially lively and substantial, demonstrating the high quality teaching offered by PIERCE teachers, whose aim is always to properly prepare students for success on the Panhellenic exams.

### **Model teaching the “Pythagorean Theorem”**

On February 10, 2016, in the Pierce Amphitheater, Mathematics teacher Dr. **Spyridon Doukakis** carried out a two-hour model class on the sample lesson plan on **“The Pythagorean Theorem,”** which he drafted in the context of a project at the Institute for Educational Policy for students of B Gymnasium.

The model class was attended by over 40 educations, among whom were the School Advisors for Mathematics Mr. Ioannis Daskalopoulos and Mr. Theodosios Papanikolaou, the School Advisor for the 23rd Region for Elementary Education in Attica Mr. Dimitris

Zymbidis, the Director of Education for B Athens Mr. Athanasios Faloukas, School Advisors Mr. Stefanos Keisoglou and Mr. Spyros Ferentinos, the Advisor A of the Ministry of Education, Research and Religion Mr. Ioannis Stamoulakis, the Advisor G of the Institute for Educational Policy (IEP) Mr. Nicholas Grammenos, the Information Technology (IEP) speaker Ms. Vasiliki Karambetsou and over 30 teachers from public and private schools in B' Athens.

Following the model class, there was a discussion among the participants, on both the teaching and the lesson plan. All the participants made positive comments on the lesson plan and the class, which the Ministry Advisor said was the first to be implemented in Greece.

The head of the Mathematics department Mr. **Konstantinos Garbolas** as well as Mathematics teachers **Mr. Ioannis Zacharias, Mr. Dimitrios Georgantidis, Mr. Emmanuela Dimitroulaki, Mr. Dimitrios Protopappas** and **Ms. Georgia Michalopoulou** all helped in the preparation and implementation of the activity. The last three teachers implemented the lesson plan in three other b' Gymnasium classes. Finally, for the students that participated, it was a new experience and, at the same time, a demanding one which is certain – as the participants themselves said – was beneficial on different levels.

### **Faculty Activities**

Mr. **George Efthymiou**, Chemistry teacher, attended a seminar entitled “Graduate Seminars: EasyBib, APA style, Library Resources,” which took place on March 4, April 1 and 7, 2016 at the JSB Library. This professional development program was organized by Deree -The American College of Greece and lasted 9 hours. Mr. **Efthymiou** successfully completed the program, which included a certification process. Mr. Efthymiou also attended the one-day seminar entitled “Coping with Learning Disabilities in the Greek School Setting,” which took place on January 29, 2016 at Deree-Center for the Arts Auditorium. The seminar was organized by Deree - The American College of Greece.

Ms. **Chariklia-Anna Kakatsou**, Greek Language teacher, completed a Graduate Specialist Diploma entitled “Strategic Communication and Public Relations” at Deree. Ms. Kakatsou submitted her thesis on the subject “Communication Plan Campaign on Promoting the New Pierce International Baccalaureate Program.”

Ms. **Chariklia Loizou**, French Language teacher, attended the one-day conference entitled “Special Education and Information Technology: Psychometric Tools and Intervention Methodologies,” which took place on September 26, 2015 at the N.C.S.R. “Demokritos.” The conference was organized by the Institute for Computers and Telecommunications Lab NET MEDIA LAB.

Ms. **Chrysoula Barabouti**, Theology teacher, attended the Professional Development Seminar of the European Program “ENABLE” on the subject: “Enabling children – Dealing with Bullying,” which took place on July 28, 2016 at ALBA. The professional development seminar was organized, with the guidance of European School Net, by the Adolescent Health Unit of the B Pediatric Clinic of Athens University, which is located at the P. & A. Kyriakou Children’s Hospital and the Scientific Organization “TOGETHER FOR ADOLESCENT HEALTH.” At the same conference, Ms. **Barabouti** took part in the Presidium and successfully completed the program, for which was given certification. Ms. **Barabouti** also wrote the 6th chapter, entitled “Passive Smoking, Secondary and Tertiary”(pgs. 94-109) in the book “Education for a world without smoking,” which was published by the Educational Foundation of the National Bank & the George D. Behrakis Research Lab, in June 2016. This chapter refers to the effects of tobacco on the health of passive smokers: adult men and women, pregnant women, infants and children. It also elaborates extensively on the legislative framework and the gaps in the legislation, the hopeful prospects and the Greece’s pioneering recommendation to Europe that protection from passive smoking should be recognized as an inalienable human right.

Mr. **Panagiotis Polydoropoulos**, Greek Language teacher, completed **Graduate Specialist Diploma** entitled “Educational Leadership” at the European University of

Cyprus. Mr. **Polydoropoulos** submitted his thesis on the subject of “European Educational LOGOS and Greek Educational Policy. Views of education officials.”

Mr. **Panagiotis Polydoropoulos**, Greek Language teacher, attended the professional development seminar entitled “The challenge of ADHD in the adolescent and the educator: basic principles of treatment and intervention in the school context,” which took place on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at Pierce – The American College of Greece. The seminar was organized by Pierce – The American College of Greece.

Ms. **Vasiliki Sioziou**, English Language teacher, attended the professional development seminars “From Learning Styles...to Lifestyles,” “Teaching English to Dyslexic Students” and “Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder” in the context of the 7th Foreign Languages Forum, which took place on August 29, 2015 at the Royal Olympic Hotel, Athens. The professional development seminars were organized by the ELT NEWS. Pierce English Language teachers, **Ms. Evita Alexopoulou** and **Ms. Vasiliki Sioziou**, delivered a talk at the international conference “Join the Education R-Evolution” entitled “Metacognitive Skills in the Second Language Classroom.” The conference took place March 19-20, 2016 at the Goethe Institut, Athens and was organized by TESOL Greece.

Ms. **Aikaterini Tsioufi**, Physical Education teacher, was selected to make a presentation at the seminar entitled “Curricula – School Textbooks: from the past to the present and the future,” which took place March 4-6, 2016 at Pierce – The American College of Greece. The organization of the seminar was a collaboration of the Museum of School Life and Education, the Pedagogical Society of Greece and Pierce – The American College of Greece. Ms. **Tsioufi** attended the seminar entitled “School bullying and violence: Innovative non-punitive intervention methods,” which took place on January 14, 2016, at Pierce – The American College of Greece. Ms. Tsioufi also attended the seminar entitled “Psychoanalysis and Education,” which took place from November 20, 2015 to February 20, 2016 (duration 20 hours), at the Marasleio Elementary School of Athens. The seminar was organized by the Psychology Workshop of the Department of

Pedagogy for Elementary Education of the School of Behavioral Sciences of the National Kapodistrian University of Athens. Ms. **Tsioufi** successfully completed the professional development program, which included a certification process. Ms. Tsioufi also attended to seminar entitled “Athletic and biological foundations for proper strength training,” which took place on October 13, 2015, at the Gymnasium-Lyceum of the Ursulines School. The seminar was organized by the PENELFA (Panhellenic Association of Physical Education Teachers) in collaboration with the Director of Secondary Education for B’ Athens, the Regional Director of Primary Education & Secondary Education for Attica of the Ministry of Education, Research and Religion and the Greek-French Ursulines School.