



THE ASSOCIATION OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE SCHOOL OWNERS OF NORTHERN GREECE

To:
Disabled Access Friendly.

Att: Mrs. Katie Quartano, Mr. Paul Shaw.

Thessaloniki, 04/06/2011

It is an honour for me, as president of the PALSO Northern Greece Association, to be invited to address a letter of moral support to the 'Disabled-access friendly' newly launched website.

The Association of Foreign Language School Owners PALSO Northern Greece, wholeheartedly embraces the 'Disabled-access friendly' campaign and endorses its significant effort to raise teachers and students' awareness concerning people with disabilities and mobility problems.

The members of PALSO, as teachers of foreign languages, come in daily contact with students of all ages, from school children to adults.

Obviously, we exert a big influence on their emotional and educational development, not only through our teaching but also through our social behavior and personal paradigm.

From our position of authority, we often act as role models and as such, we can transmit to them, apart from knowledge, our set of values, as well.

Solidarity, acceptance of difference in others, compassion and care, love, affection and respect-especially to those in need-are only some of the values we should nurture in class.

Initiatives such as yours, help fight prejudices and discrimination. They change attitudes, open up minds and souls and sensitize us to the needs of people with disabilities-from the very practical to the more subtle ones.

Support a child in need and your students will learn how to be helpful, understanding and supportive. Teach them to treat 'different' people in a friendly way and you will have taught them empathy. Create equal opportunities for all in your classroom and you will have fought against social seclusion.

Realizing how crucial our role as shapers of our students' personality is, I forward this letter of moral support to you, confident that your initiative will stir our moral and human conscience and ultimately create a better society and a world worth living in.

Thank you for inviting us to participate in your noble cause!

Doxa Dafni-Metaxa
President
of the PALSO Northern Greece Association

