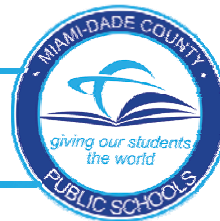


**Office of the Inspector General
for Miami-Dade County Public Schools**



To: The Honorable Chair, Ms. Perla Tabares Hantman
and Members, School Board of Miami-Dade County

Mr. Alberto M. Carvalho, Superintendent of Schools

From: Ms. Patra Liu, Interim Inspector General

Date: October 25, 2013

Subject: Former North Regional Center Supervisor Accepts Plea, Ref. IG09-49SB

Deborah Swirsky-Nunez (Swirsky-Nunez), the former Instructional Supervisor of Psychological Services - Exceptional Student Education for the North Regional Center, accepted a negotiated plea on Tuesday, October 22, 2013, to close the criminal case filed against her in 2010. Swirsky-Nunez was arrested in 2010 following an investigation by the Miami-Dade County Public Schools Office of the Inspector General (OIG) and the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office (SAO). The investigation uncovered evidence that she had manipulated the system to obtain Florida Department of Education McKay Scholarships for both of her children. Although Swirsky-Nunez' scheme resulted in a McKay Scholarship award on behalf of her daughter, prior to disbursement of the funds Swirsky-Nunez withdrew her daughter from the scholarship program.

As part of the plea, Swirsky-Nunez will participate in a Pre-Trial Intervention program for a minimum of 1 year. As a special condition of the plea, Swirsky-Nunez will "not seek or accept employment in any capacity with The School Board of Miami-Dade County or the Miami-Dade County Public Schools." Additionally, she will not be allowed to serve as a consultant to any Miami-Dade County Public school student or potential student during her term in the PTI program.

The OIG would like to thank the Superintendent, his staff, the Florida Department of Education OIG, and the Florida Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice for their ongoing cooperation in this investigation.

Distribution List:

- Mr. Walter J. Harvey, School Board Attorney
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Office of Independent Education and Parental Choice, Florida Dept. of Education