



Accreditation

The OIG is accredited by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement. Our office was accredited in June 2019. The accreditation program is used as a means of maintaining the highest standards of professionalism. Accreditation is the certification by an independent reviewing authority that an entity has met specific requirements and prescribed standards.

Outreach

The Investigations section has developed an outreach program to educate District Employees and contractors on the role of the OIG. Meetings and training sessions are held to increase awareness of potential violations. **Contact the office** to schedule a meeting or training session.

Ways to File a Complaint

- Available 24/7
- Anonymous complaints are accepted
- Hotline Phone No.: (855) 561-1010
- Online: pbcasd.ethicaladvocate.com
- Email: officeofinspectorgeneral@palmbeachschools.org



Contact Our Office



(561) 434-7335



officeofinspectorgeneral@palmbeachschools.org



3300 Forest Hill Blvd. C-306
West Palm Beach, FL 33406

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

INSPECTOR GENERAL

TERESA MICHAEL

Without continual growth and progress,
such words as improvement, achievement,
and success have no meaning.

~ Benjamin Franklin

Who We Are

The Office of Inspector General (OIG) was created by the School Board of Palm Beach County in December 2011. The Office of Inspector General is comprised of three sections: Investigations, Audit, and Compliance.

What We Do

The School Board of Palm Beach County established our office to provide increased accountability, promote fiscal responsibility by identifying and deterring fraud, waste, financial mismanagement, fiscal misconduct, and other abuses and wrongdoings in District government.

The investigations section of the OIG provides independent oversight by conducting administrative investigations, reviews, and inspections into allegations of wrongdoing. Our investigative reports provide the findings and corrective action recommendations when applicable. Allegations outside of our jurisdiction or suited to be handled by another department will be referred to the appropriate agency or department.

Allegations that do not contain sufficient information to warrant an investigation are handled as preliminary reviews or may be closed.

Mission Statement

The Office of Inspector General Investigations Section will support the Palm Beach County School District in its mission to providing a world-class education by initiating investigations designed to detect, deter, prevent, and eradicate fraud, waste, mismanagement, misconduct, and other abuses in the School District and School District funded operations.

Jurisdiction

School Board Policy 1.092 authorizes the Inspector General to receive, review, and investigate any complaints regarding District-funded projects, programs, contracts or transactions or as the Inspector General deems appropriate that involve fraud, waste, financial mismanagement, fiscal misconduct or other abuse.

Pursuant to Sec. 112.3187, Fla. Stat., the Inspector General shall be the designee of the District's Chief Executive Officer for the purposes of receiving Whistleblower's Act disclosures under Sec. 112.3197, Fla. Stat.

Interview Process

Interviews of applicable persons (complainant, witness(es), and subject(s)) are conducted by OIG staff as part of investigations and reviews. OIG staff will contact the persons to schedule a time and place. All interviews are sworn and recorded to ensure accuracy of the information and as a safeguard to all parties. During the interview process, all interviewees are instructed not to discuss the matter under investigation with anyone outside of the OIG. This restriction does not prohibit a person from speaking to legal counsel and/or their union representative.

Representation

All parties that are interviewed by OIG staff have the choice to retain legal counsel or bring union representation. OIG staff cannot provide advice on this matter. Union representatives or legal counsel are prohibited from participating during the interview.

Preparing for an Interview

Unless instructed otherwise by OIG staff, individuals should bring any supporting documents/evidence to the interview. All information submitted to OIG staff is reviewed and may be included in the final investigation report.



Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

~ Nelson Mandela



TRUST



INTEGRITY



RESPECT