

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Student v. Darien Board of Education

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Appearing on behalf of the Board of Education: Attorney Susan C. Freedman
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Appearing before: Attorney Janis C. Jerman, Hearing Officer

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

A special education hearing in the above-captioned matter was requested by Student via letter dated January 4, 2010.¹ It was received by the Board of Education on January 5. The 30-day resolution period ran through February 4 and the original deadline for mailing the final decision and order was March 21.

The hearing was scheduled to convene on March 8 and 9. On February 24, those hearing dates were postponed due to the Board of Education's attorney's family medical emergency. On February 26, Student filed a request for new hearing dates, a request for extension of the mailing date, and a notice invoking stay put. A 30-day extension of the mailing date was granted. The deadline to mail the final decision and order was extended to April 20, 2010.

Hearings were scheduled for March 30 and April 6. The parties participated in mediation on March 25. On March 26, on behalf of the parties jointly, Student requested that the March 30 hearing be cancelled to give the parties an opportunity to finalize negotiations. The request was granted. On April 5, the parties requested that the April 6 hearing be cancelled because they were engaged in productive settlement negotiations and wished to participate in mediation on that date. The request was granted.

¹ All dates are 2010 unless otherwise indicated.

On April 13, Student informed the Hearing Officer that the parties had reached agreement and were working on reducing it to writing. Given the school recess and vacations of certain parties, the agreement could not be completed prior to the mailing date. On April 15, Student requested a 21-day extension of the mailing date to permit the parties to finalize the settlement agreement. On April 17, Student requested a 30-day extension of the mailing date to permit the parties to formalize their agreement. The request was granted and the deadline to mail the final decision and order was extended until May 20, 2010.

On May 7, Student indicated that the parties had executed a mediation agreement resolving all issues raised in the request for hearing and indicated that request for hearing is withdrawn with prejudice.

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

In light of the above facts, the above-captioned case is hereby dismissed with prejudice.