

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Student and Southington Board of Education

Appearing on behalf of the Student:

Attorney Courtney Spencer
The Law Office of Courtney Spencer LLC
100 Riverview Center Ste 120
Middletown, CT 06457

Appearing on behalf of the Board of Education:

Attorney Craig Meuser
Chinni & Meuser LLC
One Darling Drive
Avon, CT 06001

Appearing before:

Attorney Ann F. Bird
Hearing Officer

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

ISSUES:

1. Did the Board of Education offer the Student a free appropriate public education for the 2014/2015 School Year, including the Extended School Year 2015, the 2015/2016 School Year, including the Extended School Year 2016, and/or the 2016/2017 School Year?
 - a. If not, is Ben Bronz Academy appropriate for the Student?
 - b. If Ben Bronz Academy is appropriate, should the Student be placed at Ben Bronz Academy?
2. If the Board did not offer the Student a free appropriate public education for any of these times, is the Student entitled to compensatory education services?

PROCEDURAL HISTORY:

The Student requested a special education due process hearing in the above-captioned matter on July 29, 2016. This Impartial Hearing Officer was appointed to hear the case August 2, 2016. A telephonic pre-hearing conference was convened on August 10, 2016. Attorney Courtney Spencer appeared on behalf of the Student and Attorney Craig Meuser appeared on behalf of the Board of Education. The deadline for filing the final decision and order was established to be October 12, 2016. Evidentiary hearings were scheduled for September 29, 2016, October 5, 2016 and October 20, 2016.

The evidentiary hearing was convened on September 29, 2016. At that time, the Student reported that the parties had reached an agreement for resolution of this case and requested that the case be dismissed.

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER:

It is ordered that the Student's request for dismissal is granted and this matter is dismissed.

If the local or regional board of education or the unified school district responsible for providing special education for the student requiring special education does not take action on the findings or prescription of the hearing officer within fifteen days after receipt thereof, the State Board of Education shall take appropriate action to enforce the findings or prescription of the hearing officer.

Appeals from the hearing decision of the hearing officer may be made to state or federal court by either party in accordance with the provisions of Section 4-183, Connecticut General Statutes, and Title 20, United States Code 1415(i)(2)(A).



Hearing Officer Signature

ANN F BIRD

Hearing Officer

Name in Print