

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Student v. Ledyard Board of Education

Appearing on behalf of the Parent: Attorney Andrew Feinstein, Esq.
Feinstein Educational Law Group, LLC
945 Main Street, Ste. 304
Mystic, CT 06355

Appearing on behalf of the Board: Attorney Frederick L. Dorsey
Kainen, Escalera and McHale, P.C.
21 Oak Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Appearing before: Justino Rosado, Esq.
Hearing Officer

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

ISSUES:

1. Was the program provided by the Board from June 11, 2014 to the end of the 2014-2015 school year appropriate and did it provide the Student with a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment (LRE)? If not:
2. Was the program provided by the Board for the 2015-2016 school year appropriate and did it provide the Student with FAPE in the LRE?
3. Is the Student entitled to Compensatory Education for the denial of FAPE?

SUMMARY AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY:

The Student is identified with Autism and is entitled to receive FAPE as defined in the Individuals With Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) 20 U.S.C. §1401 et seq. and Connecticut General Statute §10-76a et seq. At a planning and placement team (PPT) meeting, the Parents did not agree with the program offered for the 2015-2016 school year; the Parents requested reimbursement for the cost of the Student's attendance at Lighthouse Livecta program in Niantic. The Board denied the Parents' request.

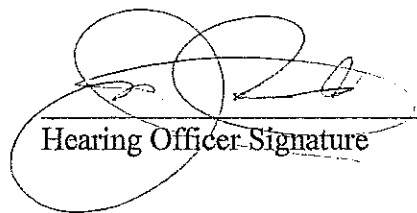
On June 11, 2016, the Board received notice of the Parents' request for due process. The Student is twenty-one years old and has executed a power of attorney giving his Parents decision making authority on educational issues. An impartial hearing officer was appointed on June 13, 2016 and a pre-hearing conference was scheduled for June 23, 2016. The parties agreed to forego a resolution meeting and attend a mediation session. The mediation date was August 8, 2016. In an electronic transmission, the Parents' attorney advised the hearing officer that the matter was resolved in mediation. The Parents' attorney withdrew their request for due process with prejudice. The Board did not object. The date for mailing the Final Decision and Order is August 25, 2016.

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER:

THE MATTER IS DISMISSED WITH PREJUDICE.

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

Justino Rosado
Hearing Officer Name in Print