

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Student v. Vernon Board of Education

Appearing on Behalf of the Parents: Attorney Marisa A. Mascolo
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West Hartford, CT 06110

Appearing on Behalf of the Board: Attorney Melanie Dunn
Siegel, O'Connor, O'Donnell & Beck, P.C.
50 Trumbull Avenue
Hartford, CT 06103

Appearing Before: Attorney Justino Rosado, Hearing Officer

ISSUES:

1. Is the program offered by the Board for the 2011-2012 school year appropriate and does it provide the Student with a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment (LRE)? If not;
2. Does the placement of the Student at Capital Regional Education Council Soundbridge program (CREC) provide the Student with FAPE in the LRE?

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

SUMMARY and PROCEDURAL HISTORY:

The Student has been as identified with Deaf-Blindness and is entitled to receive a free and appropriate public education ("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. At a PPT meeting, the Parents rejected the program offered by the Board for the 2011-2012 school year and requested continued placement at CREC. The Board refused the Parents' request and the Parents filed for due process.

On or about August 3, 2011, the Board received notice of the Parents' request for due process. An impartial hearing officer was appointed on August 4, 2011 and a pre-hearing conference was held on August 9, 2011. A hearing date of September 29, 2011 was chosen by the parties. The parties proceeded to mediation in place of a resolution meeting. At mediation the parties were able to come to an agreement but needed additional time to finalize the agreement.

On or about September 27, 2011 the Parents' attorney informed the hearing officer that the agreement had been finalized and the matter was withdrawn with prejudice. The mailing date of the Final Decision and Order is October 17, 2011.

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER:

THE MATTER IS DISMISSED WITH PREJUDICE.