

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Student and Stamford Board of Education

Appearing on behalf of the Student: Attorney Jennifer Laviano
The Law Offices of Jennifer Laviano, LLC
76 Route 37 South
Sherman, CT 06784

Appearing on behalf of the Board of Education: Attorney Christopher Tracey
Shipman & Goodwin LLP
300 Atlantic Street
Stamford, CT 06901

Appearing before: Attorney Ann F. Bird
Hearing Officer

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

ISSUES:

1. Did the Board of Education fulfill its Child Find obligations with respect to the Student? If not, what is an appropriate remedy?
2. Did the Board of Education offer the Student a free appropriate public education for the 2012-2013 School Year? If not, what is an appropriate remedy?
3. Did the Board of Education offer the Student a free appropriate public education for the 2013-2014 School Year? If not, is the Wellspring residential placement appropriate for the Student? If so, is the Student entitled to reimbursement for the expense of that placement?
4. Did the Board of Education timely evaluate the Student in all suspected areas of disability? If not, what is an appropriate remedy?
5. What eligibility category is appropriate for the Student?

PROCEDURAL HISTORY:

The Student requested a special education hearing in the above-captioned matter on February 18, 2014. This Impartial Hearing Officer was also assigned to the case on February 18, 2014. A telephonic pre-hearing conference was held on March 3, 2014. Attorney Jennifer Laviano appeared on behalf of the Student and Attorney Christopher Tracey appeared on behalf of the Board of Education. An evidentiary hearing was scheduled for May 15, 2014.

On April 24, 2014, the Student submitted a written request for a thirty-day postponement and extension of the timelines to conduct the hearing and to file the final decision in this case to May 30, 2014. The purpose of the requested postponement and extension was to allow the parties

time to pursue settlement negotiations. The Board of Education did not object to the requested postponement and it was granted.

On May 12, 2014, the Student requested that the hearing scheduled for May 15, 2014 be cancelled, as the parties had tentatively resolved the case. The Board of Education consented to the cancellation, and the hearing was cancelled.

On May 20, 2014 the Student reported that the parties had resolved the case and requested that the Impartial Hearing Officer dismiss the matter.

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



Hearing Officer

Name in Print