STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Student v. Regional District No. 6 Board of Education

Appearing on behalf of the Parent:

Pro Se

Appearing on behalf of the Board:

Attorney Christine L. Chinni

Chinni & Meuser LLC One Darling Lane Avon, CT 06001

Appearing before:

Justino Rosado, Esq. Hearing Officer

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

ISSUES:

- 1. Is the program provided by the Board for the 2014-2015 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 Student require an out of district placement in order to receive FAPE in the LRE?
- 3. Did the Board commit a procedural violation by not allowing the Parents to be meaningful participant of the PPT?

SUMMARY AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY:

The Student has been identified with Multiple Disabilities 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 Parent rejected the program offered by the Board for the 2014-2015 school year and requested an out of district placement. The Board refused the Parent's request.

On October 22, 2014, the Board received notice of the Parent's request for due process. The parties agreed to a resolution meeting. The resolution date was pending. An impartial hearing officer was appointed on October 22, 2014 and a pre-hearing conference was held on October 27, 2014. A December 2, 2014 hearing date was chosen by the parties. The Board advised the hearing officer that they were going to file a sufficiency challenge.

On November 7, 2014, the Parent withdrew the matter without prejudice. There was no objection by the Board. The mailing date for the Final Decision and Order is January 10, 2015.

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER:

THE 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

Justino Rosado Hearing Officer Name in Print