

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Bristol Board of Education v. Student

Appearing on behalf of the Student: Parents

Appearing on behalf of the Board: Attorney Linda Yoder  
Shipman and Goodwin LLP  
One Constitution Plaza  
Hartford, CT 06103-1919

Appearing before: Attorney Brette H. Fitton  
Hearing Officer

**FINAL DECISION AND ORDER**

**ISSUES:**

1. Should the Board be given the opportunity to conduct the evaluations recommended by school personnel at the Planning and Placement Team meeting held on November 4, 2013?
2. Should Parents be precluded from obtaining an evaluation from an outside evaluator, because the Board's January 2013 evaluation was comprehensive and calculated to provide academic benefit to the Student?
3. Are Parents entitled to reimbursement for the private occupational therapy and speech-language services they obtained for Student, independent of the program offered and/or provided by the Board through Student's Individualized Education Program?

**PROCEDURAL HISTORY AND SUMMARY:**

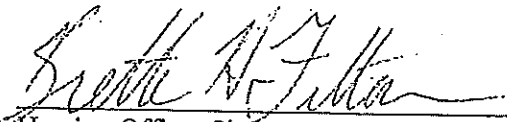
On December 9, 2013, the Bristol Board of Education filed a Request for a Special Education Due Process Hearing. The undersigned hearing officer was appointed on December 11, 2013. A prehearing conference was scheduled to occur on December 23, 2013. On December 19, 2013, the Board withdrew the Request for a Special Education Due Process Hearing.

**FINAL DECISION AND ORDER:**

In light of the above facts, the case 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

Brette H. Fitton  
Hearing Officer      Name in Print