

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Student v. Norwalk Board of Education

Appearing on behalf of the Parent:

David Shaw, Esq.
Law Office of David Shaw, LLC
34 Jerome Avenue, Suite 210
Bloomfield, CT 06002

Appearing on behalf of the Board:

Michael McKeon, Esq.
Pullman & Comley LLC
90 State House Square
Hartford, CT 06103

Appearing before:

Sylvia Ho, Esq.
Hearing Officer

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

ISSUES:

1. Did the Board plan and implement an appropriate program in the least restrictive environment for student for the 2013 ESY and 2013-2014 school years?
2. Did the Board offer an appropriate program in the least restrictive environment for the 2014-2015 and extended school years?
3. Did the Board provide a properly trained one-to-one paraprofessional for student?
4. Did the Board provide an appropriate transition program for student?
5. Did the Board fail to provide appropriate assistive technology to Student?
6. Should the Board be required to provide an independent educational evaluation at public expense?
7. Should the Board be required to provide an independent educational consultant to observe and evaluate the program for student and develop a new IEP?
8. Should the Board be required to reimburse Parents for their payment of an independent educational evaluation by Eileen Luddy, Ph.D.?
9. Do the circumstances warrant an award of compensatory education?

PROCEDURAL HISTORY/SUMMARY:

This matter is a consolidation of *Student v. Norwalk Board of Education*, case number 14-0403 and *Student v. Norwalk Board of Education*, case number 14-0524. The Student filed a Hearing Request (14-0403) on March 4, 2014. The Hearing Officer was appointed on March 5, 2014 and conducted a Prehearing Conference on March 11, 2014. A hearing was scheduled for May 9, 2014. The hearing was postponed to May 21, 2014 upon the Hearing Officer's granting of the Board's request. Parent filed that Hearing Request (14-0524) on May 9, 2014. Both parties filed

June 9, 2014

Final Decision and Order 14-0524

requests for consolidation. The Hearing Officer conducted a Prehearing Conference in 14-0524 on May 16, 2014 and issued an order consolidating both cases and canceling the May 21, 2014 hearing in 14-0403. The Mailing date of this consolidated matter is July 23, 2014. The hearing was scheduled for June 4, 2014. At the commencement of the hearing, the Parent's attorney reported to the Hearing Officer that the parties had reached an agreement in all the issues in this consolidated matter through voluntary mediation and requested that it be dismissed with prejudice.

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

Sylvia Ho

Hearing Officer Name in Print