

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

[Student] v. Wallingford Board of Education

Appearing on behalf of the Parent: Pro se

Appearing on behalf of the Board: Attorney Frederick L. Dorsey
Siegel, O'Connor, Schiff & Zangari, P.C.
171 Orange Street - P.O. Drawer 906
New Haven, CT 06504

Appearing Before: Attorney Margaret J. Slez, Hearing Officer

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

ISSUES:

1. Is the student's placement by the Board at the Lorraine D. Foster Day School appropriate?
2. Has the Board provided the student with appropriate assistive technology?

PROCEDURAL HISTORY:

Due process hearing was requested by letter from the parent dated October 12, 2001 (H.O.-1) and the hearing officer was appointed on October 15, 2001. Prehearing conference took place on October 26, 2001. Hearing of this matter was convened on November 5, 2001, at which time the parent presented her case. The parties appeared for hearing on November 26, 2001, but the parent was too ill to proceed. To permit the parties to complete testimony and to overcome the difficulties of scheduling hearing dates in the last two weeks of December, the hearing officer granted the Board's motion for extension of time for mailing the final decision and order to February 1, 2002.

Continued hearing of this matter was to have taken place on January 10 and 17, 2002. On January 9, 2002, however, the parent notified the hearing officer that she had just been discharged from the hospital and could not go forward on January 10, 2002. On January 16, 2002, the parent notified the hearing officer that she was still ill to proceed and would be withdrawing her request for due process hearing. Although ten days have elapsed, no further communication has been received from the parent.

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER:

This matter is **dismissed** without prejudice.