

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Student v. Ridgefield Board of Education

Appearing on behalf of the Parent:

Piper A Paul, Esq.  
Law Office of Piper Paul, LLC  
PO Box 126  
Westport, CT 06881

Appearing on behalf of the Board:

Megan Buxton, Esq.  
Berchem, Moses & Devlin, PC  
75 Broad Street  
Milford, CT 06460

Appearing before:

Sylvia Ho, Esq.  
Hearing Officer

**FINAL DECISION AND ORDER**

**ISSUES:**

1. Did the Board evaluate student in all suspected areas of disabilities?
2. Did the Board provide an appropriate program for student in the 2013-2014 school year?
3. Is the unilateral placement of student at Hope Academy appropriate?
4. Should parents be reimbursed for tuition and education related expenses?

**PROCEDURAL HISTORY/SUMMARY:**


The Parent filed the Due Process Complaint and Request for Hearing on May 29, 2014. The Hearing Officer was appointed on June 2, 2014 and conducted a Prehearing Conference on June 13, 2014. The hearing was scheduled for August 1 and August 14, 2014. On July 23, 2014, the Parent's attorney reported to the Hearing Officer that the parties had been successful in mediation and were in the process of finalizing a Settlement Agreement. The parties requested an extension and postponement of the hearing. The Hearing Officer canceled the August 1, 2014 in response to the parties' request. On August 12, 2014, Parent informed the Hearing Officer that the parties were finalizing a Settlement Agreement and that Parent was withdrawing the Due Process Complaint without prejudice.

**FINAL DECISION AND ORDER:**

The matter is **DISMISSED** without 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).

  
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Hearing Officer Signature

Sylvia Ho  
Hearing Officer          Name in Print