

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Student v. Hartford Board of Education

Appearing on behalf of the Parent: *Pro se*

Appearing on behalf of the Board: Attorney Melinda Kaufmann
City of Hartford
Office of the Corporation Counsel
550 Main Street
Hartford, CT 06103

Appearing before: Attorney Mary Elizabeth Oppenheim, Hearing Officer

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

ISSUE:

Whether the Board shall pay for testing of the Student who is currently not attending school.

SUMMARY:

This matter was assigned to the undersigned hearing officer. As there was no date on the request for hearing, the date of the request could not be ascertained. Furthermore, the Board's attorney indicated that the Board did not receive this request until a copy was provided by the State Department of Education.

The Parent and Board were notified of a scheduled prehearing conference. At the first prehearing conference on March 23, 2009, the Board was present, but the Parent was not available. A second prehearing conference was noticed, and was convened on March 26, 2009. The Board's attorney was present for this second prehearing conference, but the Parent was not present. The Parent submitted no notification regarding the case or the scheduled prehearing conferences to the hearing officer.

Based on the foregoing, it is concluded that the Parent does not wish to proceed with a hearing at this time. While it is concerning that the Parent has indicated that the Student is currently not attending school and requires a tutor, the Parent was the moving party in this case. In the absence of any action or notification from the Parent, and no availability at either of the duly noticed prehearing conferences, this hearing cannot proceed. If the Parent wants to proceed with a hearing in her daughter's educational case, she retains the right to re-file a request for hearing, as this matter will be dismissed without prejudice.

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER:

The matter is **DISMISSED**, without prejudice.