

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Student and East Hartford Board of Education

Appearing on behalf of the Student:

Attorney Anne Louise Blanchard  
Connecticut Legal Services, Inc.  
872 Main Street  
Willimantic, CT 06226

Attorney Nieka Thompson  
Connecticut Legal Services  
85 Central Avenue  
Waterbury, CT 06702

Appearing on behalf of the Board of Education:

Attorney Linda Yoder  
Shipman & Goodwin  
One Constitution Plaza  
Hartford, CT 06103

Appearing before:

Attorney Ann F. Bird  
Hearing Officer

**FINAL DECISION AND ORDER**

**ISSUES:**

1. Did the Board of Education offer the Student a free appropriate public education between February 9, 2013 and the present?
2. If not, what would be the components of a free appropriate public education, and where would it be delivered?
3. What is the appropriate eligibility category for the Student?
4. Should the Student have an assistive technology evaluation at public expense?
5. Should the Student receive compensatory education services?

**PROCEDURAL HISTORY:**

The Student requested a special education due process hearing on February 9, 2015. A telephonic pre-hearing conference was held on February 26, 2015. Attorneys Anne Louise Blanchard and Nieka Thompson appeared on behalf of the Student and Attorney Linda Yoder appeared on behalf of the East Hartford Board of Education. At that time, it was determined that the deadline for completing the hearings and issuing the final decision and order would be April 23, 2015. Evidentiary hearings were scheduled for April 22, 24, 27 and 28, 2015.

On April 14, 2015, Counsel for the Student submitted a written request for a thirty-day postponement and extension of the timelines to conduct the hearing and to file the final

May 4, 2015

Final Decision and Order 15-0349

decision in this case to May 22, 2015. The purpose of the requested postponement and extension was allow the parties time to document a settlement they had reached in principal. Counsel for the Board of Education agreed to the requested postponement and it was granted.

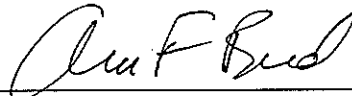
On April 28, 2015 the Student reported that the dispute had been finally resolved, and requested that the case be dismissed.

**FINAL DECISION AND ORDER:**

It is ordered that the Student's request for dismissal is granted and this matter 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).



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Hearing Officer Signature

ANN F BIRD

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Hearing Officer          Name in Print