

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Student v. Newington Board of Education

Appearing on behalf of the Parent:

Courtney Spencer, Esq.  
Law Office of Courtney Spencer, LLC  
100 Riverview Center, Suite 290  
Middletown, CT 06457

Appearing on behalf of the Board:

Rebecca Santiago, Esq.  
Shipman & Goodwin, LLP  
One Constitution Plaza  
Hartford, CT 06102

Appearing before:

Sylvia Ho, Esq.  
Hearing Officer

**FINAL DECISION AND ORDER**

**ISSUES:**

1. Did the Board offer an appropriate program for the 2016-2017 school year and ESY2016?
2. If not, is Ben Bronz Academy an appropriate placement?
3. If so, should the Board be required to place Student at Ben Bronz Academy and/or reimburse Parents for their payment of tuition at Ben Bronz?

**PROCEDURAL HISTORY/SUMMARY:**

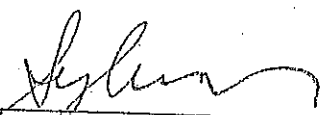
The Parent filed the Due Process Complaint and Request for Hearing on July 28, 2016. The Hearing Officer was appointed on August 3, 2016 and conducted a Prehearing Conference on August 17, 2016. The parties requested an extension of the mailing date of the Final Decision to November 10, 2016 so that they could engage in mediation. The hearing was scheduled for October 18, 2016. On October 6, 2016, the Parent withdrew the Hearing Request 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).

  
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Hearing Officer Signature

Sylvia Ho  
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Hearing Officer      Name in Print