

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Student<sup>1</sup> v. Stratford Board of Education

Appearing on behalf of Student: Attorney Andrew Feinstein  
Feinstein Education Law Group  
86 Denison Avenue  
Mystic, Connecticut 06355

Appearing on behalf of the Board of Education: Attorney Michelle Laubin  
Berchem, Moses & Devlin, P.C.  
75 Broad Street  
Milford, Connecticut 06460

Appearing before: Janis C. Jerman  
Hearing Officer

**FINAL DECISION AND ORDER**

A special education hearing in the above-captioned matter was requested by Board of Education's ("BOE's") Attorney via letter dated March 16, 2017.<sup>2</sup> It was received by Student's Parent on March 20. The original deadline to mail the final decision and order was May 4. A telephonic pre-hearing conference was held on April 17. Attorney Feinstein appeared on behalf of Student and Attorney Laubin appeared on behalf of BOE.

The following issues were identified:

1. Is the Board of Education's evaluation of Student appropriate?
2. If the answer to Issue 1 is in the negative, is Student entitled to an Independent Educational Evaluation at public expense?

Via letter dated April 24, BOE's Attorney requested a 30-day extension of the deadline to mail the final decision in order to accommodate the settlement negotiations in which the parties were actively engaged. After fully considering the positions of the parties, the request was granted and the deadline to mail the final decision and order was extended until June 2. Hearing was scheduled for May 26. On May 19, BOE's Attorney indicated that Student's Parents withdrew their request for an independent educational evaluation and that BOE was withdrawing its request for a hearing.

**FINAL DECISION AND ORDER**

The above-captioned case is dismissed.

---

<sup>1</sup> In order to comply with the confidentiality requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, 20 U.S.C. § 1232g ("FERPA") and related regulations at 34 CFR § 99, this decision uses "Student," "Parents," and titles of certain school staff members and witnesses in place of names and other personally-identifiable information.

<sup>2</sup> All dates are 2017 unless otherwise indicated.

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)..



Hearing Officer Signature

JANIS C. JERMAN

Hearing Officer

Name in Print