

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Student and Meriden Board of Education

Appearing on behalf of the Student: Attorney Erin Shaffer
New Haven Legal Assistance Association, Inc.
426 State Street
New Haven, CT 06510

Appearing on behalf of the Board of Education: Attorney Leander A. Dolphin
Shipman & Goodwin LLP
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 timely implement an individualized education program for the Student? If not, what is the appropriate remedy?
2. Should the Board of Education have conducted a functional behavior assessment in connection with the March 20 manifestation determination? If so, what is the appropriate remedy?
3. Should a trial placement for the Student be implemented at the Venture Academy?
4. Should a functional behavior assessment be conducted by a board certified behavior analyst?

PROCEDURAL HISTORY:

The Student filed this special education due process case on June 20, 2014. This Impartial Hearing Officer was appointed to hear the case on June 25, 2014. A prehearing conference was held on July 9, 2014. Attorney Erin Schaffer appeared for the Student and Attorney Leander Dolphin appeared for the Board of Education. At that time, the deadline for completing the hearing and filing the final decision was established to be September 3, 2014. Hearings were scheduled for September 5, September 8, and September 9, 2014.

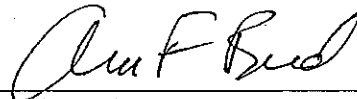
On July 9, 2014, the Student made a request for a thirty-day postponement and extension of the timelines to conduct the hearing and to file the final decision to October 3, 2014. The Board of Education agreed to the requested postponement and the timelines were extended to October 3, 2014. On August 20, 2014, the Student reported that the parties had finalized a settlement agreement and requested that the matter 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).



Hearing Officer Signature

ANN F BIRD

Hearing Officer Name in Print