

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Student and Madison Board of Education

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

Appearing on behalf of the Student: Attorney Phillip Cohn  
Goldman Gruder & Woods  
200 Connecticut Avenue  
Norwalk, CT 06854-1964

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 for the 2014-2015 School Year, including the Summer of 2014?
2. If not, was High Frontier School and/or the Open Sky Wilderness Therapy school appropriate for the Student?
3. If so, is the Student entitled to reimbursement of the expense of the High Frontier and/or Open Sky Wilderness Therapy school, including private therapists and an educational advocate/consultant?
4. Did the Student release all claims relating to her educational program between July 15, 2014 and June 30, 2015? If not, what relief is appropriate?
5. Did the Board of Education offer the Student a free appropriate public education for the 2015-2016 School Year, including the Summer of 2015?
6. If not, was the Student's unilateral placement appropriate for the Student?
7. If so, is the Student entitled to reimbursement of the expense of her unilateral placement, including private therapists and an educational advocate/consultant?

**PROCEDURAL HISTORY:**

The Student requested a special education due process hearing in the above-captioned matter on June 16, 2015. The Impartial Hearing Officer was appointed on June 17, 2015. A telephonic pre-hearing conference was held on July 2, 2015. Attorney Phillip Cohn appeared on behalf of the Student and Attorney Michelle Laubin appeared on behalf of the Board of Education. The deadline for filing the final decision was established to be August 28, 2015 and the evidentiary hearings were scheduled for July 27, 2015 and August 18, 2015.

Before the evidentiary hearings were conducted, the Student reported to the Impartial Hearing Officer that the matter had been resolved in principal. The Student requested that the hearings

September 22, 2015

Final Decision and Order 15-0585

be cancelled in order to afford the parties time to document their agreement. The Student also requested an extension of the deadline for filing the final decision. These requests were granted.

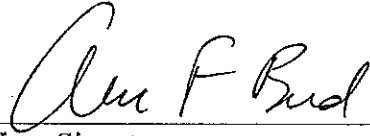
On September 21, 2015, the Student requested that this matter be dismissed with prejudice.

**FINAL DECISION AND ORDER:**

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



\_\_\_\_\_  
Hearing Officer Signature

ANN F BIRD

\_\_\_\_\_  
Hearing Officer      Name in Print