

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Student and Stratford Board of Education

Appearing on behalf of the Student: Attorney Jennifer Laviano
The Law Offices of Jennifer Laviano LLC
76 Route 37 South
Sherman CT 06784

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

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 2016/2017 School Year?
2. If the Board of Education did not offer the Student a free appropriate public education for the 2016/2017 School Year, is the Easton Country Day School appropriate for the Student?
3. If the Board of Education did not offer the Student a free appropriate public education for the 2016/2017 School Year and the Easton Country Day School is appropriate for the Student, should the Student be placed there and/or be reimbursed for the expenses of matriculation there after August 31, 2016?
4. If the Board of Education did not offer the Student a free appropriate public education for the 2016/2017 School Year but the Easton Country Day School is not appropriate for the Student, should the Student be provided compensatory education services?

PROCEDURAL HISTORY:

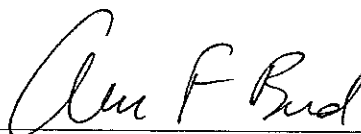
The Student requested a special education due process hearing in the above-captioned matter on August 4, 2016. This Impartial Hearing Officer was appointed to hear the case on August 8, 2016. A telephonic pre-hearing conference was convened on September 1, 2016. Attorney Jennifer Laviano appeared on behalf of the Student and Attorney Michelle Laubin appeared on behalf of the Board of Education. The deadline to issue the final decision and order was initially established as October 18, 2016 with an evidentiary hearing scheduled for October 25, 2016; the Student request for a postponement of the deadline to November 17, 2016 in order to accommodate this hearing schedule was granted. On October 25, 2016, the Student requested that the matter be dismissed with prejudice.

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER:

It is ordered that 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).



Hearing Officer Signature

ANN F BIRD

Hearing Officer Name in Print