

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Student v. West Hartford Board of Education

Appearing on behalf of the Parent:

Attorney Catherine Cushman
Disability Rights Connecticut
846 Wethersfield Avenue
Hartford, CT 06114

Appearing on behalf of the
Board of Education:

Attorney Peter Maher
Shipman & Goodwin, LLP
300 Atlantic Street
Stamford, CT 06901

Appearing before:

Jane Ford Shaw, Esq.
Hearing Officer

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER

ISSUES:

1. Does the Board's proposal to change the Student's placement to Woodland School constitute an illegal change of placement?
2. Is Wood land an appropriate program for the Student?
3. Is Synergy/Steven's Alternate High School the Student's current placement for stay put purposes?

PROCEDURAL HISTORY/SUMMARY:

The Student is entitled to receive a free and appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment as defined in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act ("IDEA") §20 U. S. C. 1401 et seq. and Connecticut General Statutes §10-76a et seq. The Student initiated this special education due process case on September 18, 2019, amended and refiled on September 24, 2019. The Hearing Officer was appointed on September 23, 2019. At the pre-hearing conference was held on October 28, 2019. The Board filed a Motion to Dismiss on October 4, 2020. The Student filed an Objection to the Motion to Dismiss on October 25, 2020. This Hearing Officer entered an order granting the Board's Motion to Dismiss in part and denying in part on November 11, 2019. A Pre-Hearing Conference was held on December 4, 2019. A Hearing was scheduled for January 6, 2020 with a mailing date deadline for the final memorandum of decision extended to February 6, 2020. The January 6, 2020 was continued to February 6, 2020 and the mailing date was extended to February 28, 2020 in order to allow for settlement negotiations. The Student withdrew the request for due process on February 3, 2020.

FINAL DECISION AND ORDER:

The matter is DISMISSED

June 10, 2020

Final Decision and Order 20-0131

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