

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Student and Vernon Board of Education

Appearing on behalf of the Student: Attorney Courtney Spencer  
Law Office of Courtney Spencer LLC  
100 Riverview Center, Suite 120  
Middletown, CT 06457

Appearing on behalf of the Board: Attorney Craig Meuser  
Chinni & Meuser, LLC  
14 Station Street  
Simsbury, CT 06070

Appearing before: Attorney Ann F. Bird  
Hearing Officer

**FINAL DECISION AND ORDER**

**ISSUES:**

The following issues were identified for determination at the hearing:

1. Did the Board of Education offer the Student a Free Appropriate Public Education for the 2018-2019 (after 12/03/18), 2019-2020, 2020-2021 School Years, including 2019 and 2020 Extended School Years?
2. If not, would placement at the Hillside School be an appropriate program for the 2020-2021 School Year and should the Student be placed at the Hillside School?
3. If the Board of Education did not offer the Student a Free Appropriate Public Education for the 2018-2019 (after 12/03/18), 2019-2020, 2020-2021 School Years, including 2019 and 2020 Extended School Years, is the Student entitled to Compensatory Education, and if so what are the essential elements of a Compensatory Education program?

**PROCEDURAL HISTORY:**

The Student initiated this special education due process case on November 16, 2020 and amended it on December 3, 2020. This Impartial Hearing Officer was assigned to the case on November 25, 2020. A Prehearing Conference was convened on December 11, 2020. Attorney Courtney Spencer appeared on behalf of the Student and Attorney Craig Meuser appeared on behalf of the Board of Education. It was established that the deadline for filing the final decision in this case is February 26, 2021. An evidentiary hearing was scheduled for January 22, 2021 and January 28, 2021.

On January 8, 2021 the Student reported that the parties were engaged in settlement discussions. The evidentiary hearings were cancelled to accommodate the anticipated settlement.

On January 27, 2021, the Student reported that the parties had executed a settlement agreement and requested that the case be withdrawn or dismissed with prejudice.

**FINAL DECISION AND ORDER:**

The Student's request is granted and the matter is dismissed with prejudice.