

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

Watertown Board of Education and Student

Appearing on behalf of the Student: Parents, *Pro Se*

Appearing on behalf of the Board: Attorney Linda Yoder  
Shipman & Goodwin LLP  
One Constitution Plaza  
Hartford, CT 06103-5717

Appearing before: Attorney Ann F. Bird  
Hearing Officer

**FINAL DECISION AND ORDER**

**ISSUES:**

The following issues have been identified for determination at the hearing:

1. Is the Board of Education responsible for funding a review of the evaluations by an outside consultant?
2. Is the Board of Education's evaluation appropriate?
3. If the Board of Education's evaluation is not appropriate, is the Board of Education responsible to provide an Independent Educational Evaluation at public expense?

**PROCEDURAL HISTORY:**

The Watertown Board of Education initiated this special education due process matter on November 5, 2020. The matter was assigned to this Impartial Hearing Officer on November 6, 2020. A Notice of Prehearing Conference was issued on November 15, 2020. The deadline for issuing the final decision was initially December 18, 2020.

On November 23, 2020, the Board of Education requested that the Prehearing Conference be postponed until after the holiday break because the parties were actively engaging in settlement discussions and may resolve the matter. On November 24, 2020 the Board of Education requested a postponement and extension of the timelines to conduct the hearing and to file the final decision in this case to January 15, 2021. The purpose of the requested postponement and extension was to allow the parties to engage in settlement discussions. The Student did not object to the requested postponement and it was granted.

On December 10, 2020, the Board of Education requested that the matter be dismissed.

**FINAL DECISION AND ORDER:**

The Board of Education's request is granted and the matter is dismissed.