

BEFORE THE  
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of:

PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT,

v.

MT. DIABLO UNIFIED SCHOOL  
DISTRICT.

OAH CASE NO. 2012110641

ORDER GRANTING STUDENT'S  
PEREMPTORY CHALLENGE

On February 22, 2013, Natashe Washington, attorney for Student, filed a notice of preemptory challenge to Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Charles Marson in the above captioned matter. Student's preemptory challenge is made pursuant to Government Code section 11425.40, subdivision (d), of the Administrative Procedures Act (APA), and California Code of Regulations, title 1, section 1034.

Government Code section 11425.40, subdivision (d), establishes the criteria for disqualification of the presiding officer. A party is entitled to one preemptory challenge (disqualification without cause) to an ALJ assigned to an Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) hearing. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 1034, subs. (a) & (b); Gov. Code, § 11425.40, subd. (d).) In no event will a preemptory challenge be allowed if it is made after the hearing has commenced. In addition, if at the time of a scheduled prehearing conference, an ALJ has been assigned to the Hearing, any challenge to the assigned ALJ shall be made no later than commencement of that prehearing conference. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 1034, subd. (c).) A preemptory challenge is not allowed on reconsideration or remand, and cannot be made after a hearing has begun. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 1034, subd. (a).)

Student's preemptory challenge is timely made and is granted pursuant to Government section 11425.40, subdivisions (a) and (d), and California Code of Regulations, title 1, section 1034, subdivision (c). The matter is reassigned to ALJ Deidre L. Johnson.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: February 25, 2013

/s/

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BOB VARMA  
Presiding Administrative Law Judge  
Office of Administrative Hearings