

BEFORE THE
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of:

PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT,

v.

ICEF - INGLEWOOD MIDDLE
ACADEMY .

OAH CASE NO. 2013010086

ORDER GRANTING JOINT REQUEST
FOR CONTINUANCE AND SETTING
MEDIATION, PREHEARING
CONFERENCE, AND HEARING

On February 25, 2013, the parties filed a joint request to set the matter for mediation and to continue the prehearing conference (PHC) and hearing. This is the second request for a continuance since the filing of the complaint on January 3, 2013. This second request is predicated upon the respondent ICEP – Inglewood Middle School’s recent retention of legal representation.

A due process hearing must be conducted and a decision rendered within 45 days of receipt of the due process notice unless an extension is granted for good cause. (34 C.F.R. § 300.515(a) & (c) (2006); Ed. Code, §§ 56502, subd. (f), 56505, subd. (f)(3); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 1, § 1020.) As a result, continuances are disfavored. Good cause may include the unavailability of a party, counsel, or an essential witness due to death, illness or other excusable circumstances; substitution of an attorney when the substitution is required in the interests of justice; a party’s excused inability to obtain essential testimony or other material evidence despite diligent efforts; or another significant, unanticipated change in the status of the case as a result of which the case is not ready for hearing. (See Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.1332(c).) OAH considers all relevant facts and circumstances, including the proximity of the hearing date; previous continuances or delays; the length of continuance requested; the availability of other means to address the problem giving rise to the request; prejudice to a party or witness as a result of a continuance; the impact of granting a continuance on other pending hearings; whether trial counsel is engaged in another trial; whether the parties have stipulated to a continuance; whether the interests of justice are served by the continuance; and any other relevant fact or circumstance. (See Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.1332(d).)

OAH has reviewed the request for continuance and considered all relevant facts and circumstances, including the parties’ collaboration in agreeing upon continued dates. Good cause existing therefore, the request is granted.

The mediation and hearing dates are set as follows:

Mediation: **March 26, 2013, at 9:30 AM.**

Prehearing Conference: **April 8, 2013, at 1:30 PM.** (The requested time of 10:00 AM is unavailable.)

Due Process Hearing: **April 15, 16, 17, and 18, 2013** at 1:30 p.m. the first day of hearing and at 9:30 AM each day thereafter. The hearing shall continue day to day, Monday through Thursday, as needed at the discretion of the Administrative Law Judge.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: February 25, 2013

/s/

CLIFFORD H. WOOSLEY
Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Hearings