

BEFORE THE
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of:

PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL
DISTRICT,

v.

PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT.

OAH CASE NO. 2013090588

ORDER GRANTING THIRD REQUEST
FOR CONTINUANCE [NO FURTHER]
AND SETTING MEDIATION,
PREHEARING CONFERENCE AND
HEARING

On January 15, 2014, the parties filed a third request for continuance. An initial continuance had been granted, followed by a second continuance at the prehearing conference. The reason given was that Student recently retained new counsel, and the parties wanted to attend mediation.

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 good cause and considered all relevant facts and circumstances. The request is:

Granted. All dates are vacated. No further continuances are contemplated for any reason. The issues alleged by District are not complex and more than adequate time has been provided for settlement discussions and hearing preparation. This matter will be set as follows:

Mediation:	March 13, 2014 at 9:30 AM
Prehearing Conference:	April 14, 2014 at 10:00 AM
Due Process Hearing:	April 21-24, 2014 at 1:30 PM first day, 9:00 AM other days, and continuing day to day, Monday through Thursday, as needed at the discretion of the Administrative Law Judge.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: January 15, 2014

/s/

RICHARD T. BREEN
Presiding Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Hearings