

BEFORE THE
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of:

PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT,

v.

GOLETA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT.

OAH Case No. 2014050526

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

On May 29, 2014, the parties filed an initial joint request to continue the dates in this matter.

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).) The Office of Administrative Hearings (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. This matter will be set as follows:

Mediation: July 8, 2014, at 9:30 a.m.¹
Prehearing Conference: July 21, 2014, at 10:00 a.m.
Due Process Hearing: July 29-31, and August 4-7, 2014, and continuing day to day, Monday through Thursday, as needed at the discretion of the Administrative Law Judge.² The hearing will begin at 9:30 on July 29, 2014, and at 1:30 on August 4, 2014. All other days will begin at 9:00 a.m., unless otherwise ordered.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATE: May 30, 2014

/s/

THERESA RAVANDI
Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Hearings

¹ The parties requested date of June 3, 2014 for mediation falls within the 30-day resolution period. If the parties desire mediation on June 3, 2014, they will need to submit a separate request specifically noting that the parties intend to use mediation in lieu of a resolution session.

² The parties requested that Friday, August 8, 2014, be scheduled as the final date for hearing. Scheduling a hearing on a Friday is at the discretion of the Administrative Law Judge assigned to the hearing. The parties may renew their request at the time of the prehearing conference.