

BEFORE THE  
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Consolidated Matters of:

PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT,

OAH Case No. 2016020930

v.

TORRANCE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT,

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TORRANCE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT,

OAH Case No. 2015120801

v.

PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT.

ORDER DENYING REQUEST TO EXPEDITE MEDIATION; DENYING REQUEST TO COMPEL TORRANCE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT TO PARTICIPATE IN MEDIATION; AND ORDER SCHEDULING VOLUNTARY MEDIATION FOR JUNE 22, 2016

On June 3, 2016, Student filed a motion to set an expedited mediation in this matter. Student also seeks an order compelling Torrance Unified School District to attend the mediation. Torrance did not respond to Student's motion. Student asserts that Parents are no longer able to fund Student's related services as it became a financial hardship. Parents require an expedited mediation to resolve the matter so these services can resume.

First, Student raised no facts triggering the disciplinary provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act that would provide for an expedited mediation. Accordingly, the request to schedule an expedited mediation is denied. Second, mediation is voluntary and a party cannot be compelled to attend. (Ed. Code §§ 56500.3, subd. (a).) Therefore, the request to order Torrance to participate in mediation is also denied. However, in light of Student's ongoing desire to participate in mediation, the Office of Administrative Hearings will schedule another mediation session for June 22, 2016. If the parties are unable to participate in mediation on that day or decline to participate in mediation entirely, they shall notify OAH without delay. Additionally, if the parties identify a mutually agreeable date for mediation, OAH will attempt to accommodate such a request.

ORDER

1. Student's request for an expedited mediation is denied.
2. Student's request to compel Torrance to participate in mediation is denied.
3. A voluntary mediation is scheduled for June 22, 2016.
4. If either party is unable or unwilling to attend mediation on June 22, 2016, that party is to notify OAH and the other party without delay to cancel the mediation.
5. If the parties select a different date for mediation, they are to notify OAH immediately, and OAH will attempt to accommodate the parties' request.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATE: June 8, 2016

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*Joy Redmon*  
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JOY REDMON  
Administrative Law Judge  
Office of Administrative Hearings