

**Office of Administrative Hearings
Special Education Advisory Committee**

Recommendations from April 10, 2015 Meeting

The Office of Administrative Hearings Special Education Advisory Committee met on April 10, 2015, in Sacramento and Van Nuys. The meeting was conducted via videoconference and was also available to the public through a webcast accessed on OAH's web site. The joint meeting followed one agenda. During the meeting, the committee voted to make one recommendation to change or improve OAH's processes. After reviewing and considering the recommendation, OAH provides this response.

Hearing and Mediation Processes

Item 3h. *Expedited Hearings.*

Recommendation: The Committee recommended that OAH research and develop a process whereby if an issue suitable for an expedited hearing is raised as a violation of a free, appropriate public education, OAH will schedule an early conference to determine whether the matter should be on an expedited calendar. The recommendation passed in both Northern and Southern California.

OAH declines to adopt this recommendation. OAH currently has an effective process for determining whether a complaint raises an issue which triggers an expedited hearing. OAH reviews each complaint for issues that warrant an expedited hearing, and calendars the case accordingly. The parties may challenge that determination through the motion process. An early conference to determine, with the parties' input, whether a matter should be deemed non-expedited is not necessary in light of the currently available motion practice process.