

BEFORE THE
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of:

PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT,

v.

LAS VIRGENES UNIFIED SCHOOL
DISTRICT.

OAH CASE NO. 2012051227

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

On June 6, 2012, the parties jointly filed a request to change the initial mediation date in this matter and to continue the initial prehearing conference (PHC) and hearing dates.

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. This matter will be set as follows:

Mediation: June 27, 2012 at 9:30 a.m.
Prehearing Conference: October 15, 2012, at 10:00 a.m.

Due Process Hearing: October 22, 2012, at 1:30 p.m. and October 23 – 25, 2012, to start at 9:30 a.m.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: June 6, 2012

/s/

ELSA H. JONES
Acting Presiding Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Hearings