

BEFORE THE  
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of:

WHITTIER CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT,

v.

PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT.

OAH CASE NO. 2013011007

ORDER GRANTING STUDENT'S  
REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE AND  
SETTING MED/PHC/HEARING

On February 6, 2013, Student filed a request for continuance on the ground that the family wanted to hire an attorney, but did not serve it on OAH. (For future filings, Student is required to send a copy of any document Student files with OAH to the school district's attorney.) OAH provided District with Student's motion on February 11, 2012, and on February 12, 2013 confirmed by telephone with District's attorney that District did not oppose the request.

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:	May 7, 2013 at 9:30 AM
Prehearing Conference:	May 20, 2013 at 9:00 AM
Due Process Hearing:	May 28-30, 2013 at 1:30 PM first day, 9:30 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: February 12, 2013

/s/

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