

BEFORE THE
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Consolidated Matters of: PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT, v. STOCKTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT,	OAH CASE NO. 2013120887
STOCKTON UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, v. PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT.	OAH CASE NO. 2013110624 ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE AND SETTING PREHEARING CONFERENCE AND DUE PROCESS HEARING

On February 13, 2014, the parties filed a request to continue the dates in this matter on the grounds that they are close to finalization of a full settlement of the consolidated cases. The parties request for a short continuance is reasonable and as set out below is granted.

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. **No further continuance without a substantial showing of good cause.** This matter will be set as follows:

Prehearing Conference:	February 24, 2014, at 1:00 PM
Due Process Hearing:	March 4, 2014, at 9:30 AM, and continuing day to day, Monday through Thursday, as needed at the discretion of the Administrative Law Judge.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATE: February 13, 2014

BOB N. VARMA
Presiding Administrative Law Judge
Office of Administrative Hearings