

BEFORE THE  
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of:

PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT,

v.

EUREKA CITY SCHOOLS.

OAH Case No. 2015020974

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

On March 2, 2015, Eureka City Schools filed a request to continue the dates in this matter because counsel for Eureka is scheduled to appear in front of the Office of Administrative Hearings in another matter on the date currently scheduled for hearing. On March 2, 2015, Student filed a motion asking that the matter be continued because Parent had not received the scheduling order and needs more time to prepare before the hearing.

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 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. A new copy of the scheduling order will be sent to the parties. The request is:

Granted. All dates are vacated. This matter will be set as follows:

Mediation: March 18, 2015, at 9:30 a.m.

Prehearing Conference: March 27, 2015, at 1:00 p.m.

Due Process Hearing: April 7, 2015, at 9:30 a.m., April 8 and 9, 2015, at 9:00 a.m., and continuing day to day, Monday through Thursday, as needed at the discretion of the Administrative Law Judge.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATE: March 3, 2015

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MARGARET BROUSSARD  
Administrative Law Judge  
Office of Administrative Hearings