

BEFORE THE  
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of:

PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT,

v.

FONTANA UNIFIED SCHOOL  
DISTRICT.

OAH Case No. 2015100194

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

On October 30, 2015, the parties filed a joint first request to continue the dates set for mediation, due process hearing and prehearing conference to agreed dates less than 90 days from the initial 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.

This matter will be set as follows:

Mediation:	December 1, 2015, at 9:30 a.m.
Prehearing Conference:	January 25, 2016, at 1:00 p.m.
Due Process Hearing:	February 2, 3, and 8, 2016, and continuing day to

day, Monday through Thursday, as needed at the discretion of the Administrative Law Judge. The hearing shall begin at 9:30 a.m., the first day and at 9:00 a.m., all other days unless otherwise ordered.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

DATE: October 30, 2015

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MARIAN H. TULLY  
Administrative Law Judge  
Office of Administrative Hearings