

BEFORE THE
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE MATTER OF:
PARENTS ON BEHALF OF STUDENT,

v.

PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT.

OAH CASE NUMBER 2026060378

ORDER FOLLOWING PREHEARING CONFERENCE
GRANTING REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE OF
PREHEARING CONFERENCE

AUGUST 21, 2026

On August 21, 2026, Administrative Law Judge Deborah Myers-Cregar, Office of Administrative Hearings, held a prehearing conference by videoconference. The Administrative Law Judge is called an ALJ. The Office of Administrative Hearings is called OAH. The prehearing conference is called a PHC.

Attorney Tania Prado appeared on behalf of Student. Attorneys Melissa Hatch and Margaret Saleh appeared on behalf of Pleasant Valley Unified School District, called Pleasant Valley. The PHC was recorded. Based upon discussion with the parties, the ALJ issues the following order:

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HEARING DATES, TIMES, AND LOCATION

At the PHC, the parties jointly moved to continue the prehearing conference based on their pending settlement in principle. They requested one business day to finalize the terms of the agreement in writing.

The motion was not filed three days before the PHC. The parties established good cause for filing the motion less than three days before this PHC because they reached an agreement with extensive terms and request a brief continuance of the PHC to allow them additional time to finalize the terms of the written agreement.

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. (Ed. Code, § 56505, subd. (f)(3); 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 or imposing conditions on the continuance; and any other relevant fact or circumstance. (Cal. Rules of Court, rule 3.1332(d).)

The request for continuance of the PHC is granted for good cause. All previously scheduled dates are vacated. The case shall proceed as follows:

PREHEARING CONFERENCE will be held on August 24, 2026, at 10:00 AM.

All other prehearing matters shall be addressed at the August 24, 2026 prehearing conference. All prehearing motions must be filed three business days before the PHC.

The due process hearing dates remain set.

SETTLEMENT

The parties shall immediately inform OAH in writing if they reach a settlement or otherwise resolve the dispute before the scheduled hearing. If the parties reach a settlement within five days of the scheduled start of the due process hearing, the parties shall also inform OAH of the settlement by telephone at (916) 263-0880.

If a full and final written settlement agreement is reached after 5:00 PM the day before the hearing, the parties shall leave a voicemail message regarding the settlement at (916) 274-6035. The parties should also leave contact information such as cellular phone numbers of each party or counsel for each party. At the same time, the parties should send the signature page of the signed agreement or a letter withdrawing the case to OAH at <https://www.applications.dgs.ca.gov/oah/oahsftweb>.

Dates for hearing will not be cancelled until the letter of withdrawal or signature page of the signed agreement has been received by OAH. If an agreement in principle is reached, the parties should plan to attend the scheduled hearing unless different arrangements have been agreed upon by the assigned ALJ. The assigned ALJ will check for messages before the hearing.

If the matter settles subject to board approval, in addition to a signed copy of the signature page of the settlement agreement, the parties shall provide the date of the next board meeting. The hearing dates will not be cancelled without this information.

FAILURE TO COMPLY

Failure to comply with this order may result in the exclusion of evidence or other sanctions.

ORDER INCLUDES ALL RULINGS

This order includes all rulings made at the PHC.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Deborah Myers Cregar

Deborah Myers-Cregar

Administrative Law Judge

Office of Administrative Hearings