

BEFORE THE
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE CONSOLIDATED MATTERS INVOLVING:

PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT,

and

SIERRA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT,

OAH CASE NUMBER 2026080052

OAH CASE NUMBER 2026090122

ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO CONSOLIDATE

SEPTEMBER 21, 2026

On July 31, 2026, Student filed with the Office of Administrative Hearings, called OAH, a Request for Due Process Hearing in OAH case number 2026080052, Student's Case, naming Sierra Unified School District, called Sierra.

On September 2, 2026, Sierra filed a Request for Due Process Hearing in OAH case number 2026090122, Sierra's Case, naming Student.

On September 9, 2026, the parties jointly filed a Motion to Consolidate the cases and to maintain the dates scheduled in Student's Case.

No statute or regulation specifically provides a standard to be applied in deciding a motion to consolidate special education cases. However, OAH will generally consolidate matters that involve the same parties, a common question of law and/or fact, and when consolidation of the matters furthers the interests of judicial economy by saving time or preventing inconsistent rulings. (See Gov. Code, § 11507.3, subd. (a) [administrative proceedings may be consolidated if they involve a common question of law or fact]; Code of Civ. Proc., § 1048, subd. (a) [same applies to civil cases].)

Here, both cases involve a common question of law or fact. Specifically, both cases involve the appropriateness of Student's individualized education programs, called IEPs, during the 2025-2026 school year. In addition, consolidation furthers the interests of judicial economy because consolidating the cases will prevent inconsistent rulings regarding the same IEPs. Accordingly, consolidation is granted.

ORDER

1. The parties' joint motion to consolidate is granted.
2. Student's Case is designated as the primary case. All dates previously set in Sierra's Case, OAH case number 2026090122, are vacated.
3. The consolidated matters shall proceed on the dates previously set for hearing in Student's Case, OAH case number 2026080052.
4. The 45-day timeline for issuance of the decision in the consolidated cases shall be based on the date of the filing of the complaint in Student's Case, OAH case number 2026080052.

Paul Kamoroff

Paul H Kamoroff

Administrative Law Judge

Office of Administrative Hearings