

BEFORE THE
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE CONSOLIDATED MATTERS INVOLVING:

PARENTS ON BEHALF OF STUDENT,

AND

SELMA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT,

OAH CASE NUMBER 2026090918

OAH CASE NUMBER 2026080158

ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO CONSOLIDATE

SEPTEMBER 29, 2026

On July 30, 2026, Selma Unified School District, called Selma, filed with the Office of Administrative Hearings, called OAH, a request for due process hearing in OAH case number 2026080158, Selma's Case, naming Student. On August 12, 2026, OAH granted the parties' continuance request, setting the prehearing conference, called a PHC, to October 19, 2026, and hearing to commence on October 27, 2026.

On September 21, 2026, Student filed a request for due process hearing in OAH case number 2026090918, Student's Case, naming Selma. OAH set the PHC on November 2, 2026, at 3:00 PM, and the hearing to commence on November 10, 2026.

On September 21, 2026, Student filed a motion to consolidate Selma's Case with Student's Case. On September 24, 2026, Selma filed a statement of non-opposition to the consolidation motion.

CONSOLIDATION

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, Selma's Case involves the issue of whether its May 2026 multidisciplinary assessment was appropriate. Student's Case involves child find issues and whether various individualized education programs, called an IEPs, including the May 15, 2026, IEP, offered Student a free appropriate public education. Consolidation furthers the interests of judicial economy because the same witnesses and exhibits will be presented in both cases as both cases involve the appropriateness of the May 2026 multidisciplinary assessment. Accordingly, consolidation is granted. This consolidated matter will proceed on the later dates in Student's Case.

ORDER

1. Student's motion to consolidate is granted.
2. Student's Case is designated as the primary case. All dates previously set in Selma's Case, OAH case number 2026080158, are vacated.

3. The consolidated cases will proceed on the dates in Student's Case. The PHC in the consolidated cases shall be held on November 2, 2026, at 3:00 PM, and the due process hearing in the consolidated cases shall be held on November 10 and 12, 2026, beginning at 9:30 AM on all days, continuing day to day as needed at the discretion of the Administrative Law Judge.
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 2026090918.

Sabrina Kong

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Administrative Law Judge

Office of Administrative Hearings