

BEFORE THE
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE CONSOLIDATED MATTERS INVOLVING:
PARENT ON BEHALF OF STUDENT,

and

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT,
OAH CASE NUMBER 2026080570
OAH CASE NUMBER 2026061279

ORDER GRANTING STUDENT'S MOTION TO
CONSOLIDATE AND GRANTING JOINT REQUEST FOR
MEDIATION AND CONTINUANCE

SEPTEMBER 15, 2026

On June 26, 2026, Los Angeles Unified School District filed with the Office of Administrative Hearings a Request for Due Process Hearing in OAH case number 2026061279, District's Case, naming Student.

On August 11, 2026, Student filed a Request for Due Process Hearing in OAH case number 2026080570, Student's Case, naming Los Angeles.

On August 18, 2026, Student filed a Motion to Consolidate the cases to the timeline in the District's Case. Los Angeles did not file a response to the motion. On September 14, 2026, the parties filed a joint request for continuance in order to set a date for mediation and continue the prehearing conference and due process hearing in the consolidated cases. The parties previously obtained a continuance of the District filed case, on July 9, 2026, before consolidation.

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, both cases involve a common question of law or fact, specifically, the legal sufficiency of District's May 11, 2026 psychoeducational assessment. District does not oppose the motion. In addition, consolidation furthers the interests of judicial economy due to the overlapping witnesses and other evidence involved in the respective cases. Accordingly, consolidation is granted.

CONTINUANCE

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. (Cal. Rules of Court,

rule 3.1332(c).) OAH considers requests to mediate before hearing good cause for a continuance.

The parties seek a continuance to afford time for a mediation, subsequent to consolidation. These matters have been relatively recently filed and OAH favors attempts to resolve matters prior to hearing. Here, the parties demonstrated good cause for the continuance request, which is granted.

ORDER

1. Student's Motion to Consolidate is granted.
2. Student's Case is designated as the primary case. All dates previously set in District's Case, OAH case number 2026061279, are vacated.
3. 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 Primary Case, OAH case number 2026080570.
4. The parties' joint request for mediation and continuance is granted. Mediation in the above-captioned case shall be held on Wednesday, October 28, 2026 from 1:30 PM to 5:00 PM, the Prehearing Conference shall be held on November 30, 2026, at 1:00 PM, and the Due Process

Hearing shall be held on December 8, 2026, through December 10, 2026, beginning at 9:30 AM on all days, continuing day to day as needed at the discretion of the Administrative Law Judge.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Ted Mann

Ted Mann

Administrative Law Judge

Office of Administrative Hearings