

Case Number	Hearing Officer	Prevailing Party at Hearing - Note that I am aware of a few cases that were later reversed in court, and this is noted where it is known.	District	Who filed?	Board Attorney	Parent attorney	Disability category	Notes
19-0269	Dixon	Parent	Amity Region 5	Parent	Sullivan	Pro Se ("pro se" means parents represented themselves)	SLD/Dyslexia	District did not implement IEP (Orton-Gillingham instruction with qualified instructor) and was required to provide compensatory education.
19-0156	Bird	Board	Avon	Parent	Santiago	Lawrence Berliner	OHI/ADHD	Student requested post-12th grade transition programming at Grove. Student previously placed at Grove through a settlement agreement. Student completed high school credit requirements. HO stated that that parties agreed that there was no issue of FAPE prior to graduation (no compensatory education needed). HO stated that student earned diploma prior to hearing being filed. HO dismissed the case, stating that it fails to state a claim for which relief can be granted.
17-0145	Bird	Parent/mixed	Canton	Parent	McKeon	Courtney Spencer	Multiple disabilities	Board program deemed appropriate one year and inappropriate another. HO stated that residential placement was unnecessary and that Middlebridge School not appropriate day placement. Compensatory education in math awarded.
17-0493	Bird	Board	Colchester	Parent	Littlefield	Pro Se	Autism	HO ordered that student should graduate once credits and IEP goals complete. Parent was seeking transition program at Grove to address independent living skills. Student's IEP did not indicate that independent living skills were an area of need.
18-0252	Powell	Board	CT Technical Schools	Parent	Dorsey	Pro Se	OHI/ADHD	Student behavior determined to not be manifestation of disability. Student had placed numbing cream (from dentist) on the teacher's straw, causing lips to go numb. Student suspended 10 days out of school.
18-0513/18-0520	Ho	Board (mother in agreement)	Darien	Parent/Board	Bellach	Phillip Cohn for father; Andrew Feinstein for mother	OHI (related to cerebral palsy)	District to provide evaluations, overriding father's lack of consent. Mother in agreement with Board. Mother's consolidated case was dismissed without prejudice.
17-0068	Bird	Board (parent appealed to federal court)	East Haddam	Parent	Dorsey	Andrew Feinstein and Jillian Griswold	Not stated - significant cognitive and physical disabilities	Board programs deemed appropriate. Parents seeking reimbursement for home/community-based program. NOTE THAT THIS CASE WAS APPEALED TO FEDERAL COURT, AND THE PARTIES REACHED AGREEMENT ON SATISFACTORY TERMS.
18-0145	Bird	Board	East Haddam	Parent	Dorsey	Pro Se	Multiple disabilities	Student has immune disorder, epilepsy, peanut allergy, global developmental delays, etc. The parent believed the student's program required a 1:1 nurse. The HO determined that the school nurse and a 1:1 para trained by the nurse were sufficient.
17-0322	Jerman	Board	Easton	Board	Moses	pro Se	not identified	Board evaluations deemed appropriate. Parent not entitled to IEEs.
18-0262	Dixon	Board	Enfield	Board	Chinni	Pro Se	OHI/ADHD	HO deemed district evaluations to be appropriate. Parent not entitled to IEE.
19-0225	Moyher	Board	Enfield	Board	Chinni	Pro Se	Speech/language impairment (possible student was dismissed when district eval. completed)	HO stated that district evaluations were appropriate and that parents were not entitled to IEE.
17-0388/17-0404/0450	Bird	Board	Fairfield	Board	Laubin	Pro Se	Not identified	HO ordered board-requested evaluations
16-0165	Fitton	Board (parent appealed to federal court)	Fairfield	Parent	Laubin	Andrew Feinstein	OHI/ADHD	District did offer FAPE for two years but did not offer FAPE for one year--when student was unilaterally placed at SPIRE. HO determined Spire was appropriate but denied reimbursement because parents had refused evaluation for a district program that the HO perceived would have provided services comparable to SPIRE but in a less restrictive environment. HO denied reimbursement for educational consultant. Etc. NOTE THAT FEDERAL COURT JUDGE REVERSED THE DECISION AND PARENT PREVAILED. 2017 WL 2918916
16-0221/16-0255	Fitton	Board	Fairfield	Parent	Moses	Pro se	Not stated	No findings of fact. Parents' case was dismissed with prejudice, apparently due to repeated delays and then their not showing up on the final day of hearing.
19-0052	Rigat	Board	Farmington	Parent	Fay	Pro Se	SLD (reading)	Student diagnosed with RAD and ADHD, in addition to reading disability. Parent unilaterally placed student at Cornerstone Christian Academy with no notice to the Board. Student had not yet had a PPT. Student re-referred to PPT two years later. District conducted neuropsychological evaluation and identified student for special education as a student with SLD. District proposed in-district program. The parents placed student at Miracle Mountain Ranch School of Discipleship in Pennsylvania without notifying the district in advance. Parents not entitled to reimbursement for either school.

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16-0170	Rosado	Board	Glastonbury	Parent	Dolphin	Yagaloff for mother and father pro se	Autism	Board programs appropriate. Parent not entitled to comp. ed. or placement at Ben Bronz. Not that parents were divorced and did not agree on what child needed. Mother and mother's attorney were deemed "disruptive" at PPT (included in findings of fact).
16-0220	Bird	Parent	Greenwich	Parent	Wadler	Meredith Braxton	Emotional disturbance	District program was inappropriate. Parents to be reimbursed for residential therapeutic placement in West Virginia (Greenbrier). Program addresses emotional needs and substance abuse. Student also enrolled in Trails North Carolina (wilderness program), and district required to provide reimbursement. Student returned to Easton Public Schools and was placed at Wellspring (doing well).
18-0361	Dixon	Parent	Greenwich	Parent	Wadler	Meredith Braxton	Autism	Parents to be reimbursed for tuition at Pinnacle and student to be placed there prospectively.
16-0051	Fitton	Parent	Greenwich	Parent	Wadler	Meredith Braxton	OHI (due to migraines)	The student was high-achieving but had extensive absences due to severe migraines. The HO determined that district committed child find violation because it failed to evaluate. The District erred in failing to identify student for special education once evaluations were completed. District required to reimburse parents for tuition at SPIRE. The bottom of Page 22 might be interpreted to indicate that students being assessed for 504 plans should routinely be assessed under IDEA
16-0176	Ho	Parent	Greenwich	Parent	Wadler	Gerry McMahon	SLD	Student had language-based learning disabilities. The District program did not provide FAPE. Pinnacle was FAPE. The hearing officer ordered reimbursement for Pinnacle, for tutoring with Lindamood Bell, for independent evaluations, and compensatory education. Note that student attended Eagle Hill School (sounds like Eagle Hill Southport) from Grades 3-8 at parent expense. The hearing officer indicates that, because the PPT did not consider the progress report from EHS, the 9th grade IEP was inappropriate, repeated goals that the student had already mastered, etc. The student failed to make progress in Grades 9 and 10 in Greenwich.
19-0032	Share	Board	Greenwich	Board	Wadler	Pro Se		HO determined that the district's OT evaluation was appropriate and that the parent was not entitled to an IEE. The HO denied the parent's request to present testimony from student's teacher and special education teacher, with the HO deeming it irrelevant. The HO deemed a number of parent exhibits—including an independent OT evaluation—irrelevant.
18-0240	Bird	Board	Madison	Parent	Laubin	Pro Se	OHI	The sole issue of the hearing appears to be whether the student requires additional time beyond the "extra time" requirements in the IEP. The hearing officer determined that what was in the IEP was appropriate.
18-0241	Shaw	Board	Madison	Board	Laubin	Pro Se	504 plan for depression and anxiety	HO ordered district to conduct an initial evaluation over parent objection.
16-0486/16-0617	Ho	Board	Monroe	Parent	Sullivan	Pro Se	OHI/ADHD	District programs were deemed appropriate. Board had also filed regarding an independent evaluation but later agreed to provide this, so that case was dismissed.
17-0575	Ho	Board	New Haven	Parent	Laubin	Pro Se	Not identified	Complaint dismissed with prejudice after lengthy hearing. Student 20 years old. Amended complaint was submitted more than two years after the student graduated from high school. Prior to hearing, Board offer of judgment to provide a year of private pre-college academic program as final resolution. Parent declined. HO stated that parent was unreasonable, disruptive, and unnecessarily prolonged hearing.
18-0062	Ho	Board with caveats	Norwalk	Student	Moses	Mark Sargent	OHI (FAS, PDD-NOS, ADHD)—note that student IQ is reported to be 53	Student was 21 at time of hearing (parents had guardianship) and had graduated in 2015. (Since there were post-graduation years, it's possible the hearing officer meant that the student had completed credits but had not accepted a diploma.) Board provided FAPE for one year but did not provide FAPE for two years. However, HO determined that failure to provide FAPE did not result in significant loss of educational benefit that would require compensatory education.
18-0549	Ho	Board	Norwalk	Parent	Moses	Pro Se	Not identified	HO determined that the student was not eligible for special education. After three days of hearing, the parent sent an email to withdraw her request for hearing, stating her belief that Eagle Hill was not appropriate. The Board proceeded with the final day of hearing (without the parent attending), and the HO issued a decision.
19-0038	Dixon	Board	Redding	Board	Laubin	Pro Se	Autism	The District's FBA was deemed appropriate. Parent not entitled to IEE.

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16-0011	Fitton	Parent	Region 6	Parent	Chinni	Elizabeth Moyes	SLD/Dyslexia	HO determined that student was eligible for special education despite passing grades. District denied FAPE. District denied parents meaningful participation in PPT by restricting input of experts. HO found that the district had not violated child find requirements because the district had completed evaluations. HO determined that parents were not eligible for reimbursement for evaluations because they had not expressed disagreement with the district's evaluations. HO denied reimbursement for tutoring.
18-0113	Fitton	Board	Ridgefield	Parent	Tracey/Yoder	Gerry McMahon	Autism	Parent seeking reimbursement for Eagle Hill. District program deemed appropriate for all years in hearing.
18-0106	Powell	Board with caveats	Ridgefield	Parent	Yoder/Tracey	Gerry McMahon	Autism	Parent seeking reimbursement for Eagle Hill. District program deemed appropriate for several years. One ESY period was deemed inappropriate, but parent had withdrawn request for compensatory education and so it was dismissed.
18-0088	Bird	Board	Shelton	Parent	Meuser	Pro Se	Developmental delay	Board's proposed placement in segregated in-district therapeutic program is appropriate. Parent had sought an appropriate inclusion program.
18-0458	Shaw	Board	Shelton	Parent	Meuser	Pro Se	SLD	District programs deemed appropriate. Presumably parent requests for reimbursement for WISE Learning and prospective placement at Glenholme were denied.
16-0115	Ho	Board	Southington	Parent	Meuser	Pro Se	SLD	District offered FAPE. Parents not entitled to reimbursement for Cheshire Academy.
17-0563	Ho	Board	Southington	Parent	Meuser	Courtney Spencer	SLD/Dyslexia	Board program deemed appropriate. HO denied parent request for reimbursement for BBA.
16-0517	Jerman	Board	Southington	Parent	Meuser	Pro Se	SLD	District programs deemed appropriate. Parents sought reimbursement for parochial school. Board referenced "inappropriate emails" and had these screened by principal and special ed. coordinator prior to directing to staff. HO concluded that this was OK.
17-0610	Kennedy	Parent	Southington	Student	Meuser	Courtney Spencer	SLD/Dyslexia	District did offer FAPE for two years but did not offer FAPE for one year. Parents to be reimbursed for one-year placement at Forman.
17-0240	Ho	Board	Trumbull	Board	Sullivan	no appearance	Emotional disturbance	Board filed for hearing in response to request for independent evaluation. Parents did not attend hearing. Board evaluation was deemed appropriate.
18-0100	Powell	Parent/mixed (parents appealed to court)	Trumbull	Parent	Sullivan	Mark Sargent	Multiple disabilities	Issue was whether student was entitled to multiple IEEs based on disagreement with board FBA. District initially refused all IEEs but then agreed to independent FBA. Hearing officer also granted a psycho-educational IEE but denied requests for multiple other evaluations. Parents appealed and lost at the federal court level.
19-0264	Rigat	Board	Trumbull	Parent	Sullivan	Pro Se	S/L impairment prior to being exited.	HO determined that District did not need to reinstate child to early education program because student no longer qualified for special ed.
17-0342	Rosado	Board	Trumbull	Parent	Moses	Jennifer Laviano	Autism	Board proposed program at High Roads appropriate. Parent proposed in-district program or Speech Academy deemed not appropriate. Parents not entitled to compensatory education.
19-0035	Bird	Board	Westport	Parent	Laubin	Elizabeth Moyes	Emotional disturbance	Parents seeking reimbursement for residential placement. Student was over 18, and the HO stated that there was no indication that the parents had standing. Parent also filed re: Section 504 and ADA claims, and the HO said she had no jurisdiction. HO dismissed the case for lack of standing and lack of jurisdiction.
17-0430	Fitton	Board	Westport	Student	Moses	Pro Se	Emotional disturbance	Summary judgment for board. Issue was whether Board had failed to provide FAPE due to interfering with student's ability to enroll in district. District offered assistance, but student did not respond for over a year.
17-0588	Ho	Board	Westport	Board	Moses	No appearance	Emotional disturbance	District's evaluations deemed appropriate. HO decided that parents not entitled to IEE.
16-0433	Bird	Board	Wethersfield	Board	Maher	Pro Se	Not stated	Parents did not disagree with board evaluation and so were not entitled to IEE.

Parents were represented by an attorney 42% of the time (funded by parents up front with the opportunity for reimbursement only if they prevailed)
Boards were represented by a taxpayer-funded attorney 100% of the time
When represented by an attorney, parents received a favorable decision 42% of the time.
When pro se, parents received a favorable decision approximately 4% of the time (1 case)
Parents received a favorable decision 20% of the time overall

Ho was the hearing officer for 10 cases and found for boards 90% of the time.
Bird was the hearing officer for 11 cases and found for boards approximately 82% of the time.
Fitton was the hearing officer for 6 cases and found for boards approximately 67% of the time.
Dixon was the hearing officer for 4 cases and found for boards 50% of the time.