

2024-25 Louisiana Special Education Due Process Hearing Dispositions

This document contains a copy of the decision or order that disposed of each Louisiana special education due process hearings filed on or between July 1, 2024, and June 30, 2025. Each case filed during the relevant timeframe is included in the informational table below. If a matter has been decided, the order or decision disposing of the matter will appear below. This document is updated at least monthly on the last business day of the month.

LDOE Case Number	Public Agency	Disposition	Date of Disposition
45-H-01	Orleans Parish	Withdrawn	August 7, 2024
45-H-02	Caddo Parish	Withdrawn	August 9, 2024
45-H-03	Iberville Parish	Dismissed	August 15, 2024
45-H-04	Livingston Parish	Withdrawn	May 14, 2025
45-H-05	East Baton Rouge Parish	Pending	
45-H-06-E	DeSoto Parish	Withdrawn	September 19, 2024
45-H-07	Orleans Parish	Withdrawn	January 3, 2025
45-H-08	Terrebonne Parish	Withdrawn	October 30, 2024
45-H-09	Livingston Parish	Pending	
45-H-10-E	Lafayette Parish	Withdrawn	February 7, 2025
45-H-11	Lincoln Parish	Pending	
45-H-12	Lincoln Parish	Pending	
45-H-13	Lincoln Parish	Pending	
45-H-14	St. James Parish	Dismissed	January 31, 2025
45-H-15-E	Livingston Parish	Withdrawn	March 14, 2025
45-H-16	St. James Parish	Dismissed	January 31, 2025
45-H-17	Lincoln Parish	Withdrawn	January 13, 2025
45-H-18	Bossier Parish	Pending	
45-H-19	Lincoln Parish	Dismissed	March 31, 2025
45-H-20	Orleans Parish	Dismissed	March 6, 2025
45-H-21	Bossier Parish	Withdrawn	March 31, 2025
45-H-22	Lincoln Parish	Consolidated	with 45-H-12
45-H-23	Lincoln Parish	Consolidated	with 45-H-11
45-H-24-E	Lincoln Parish	Consolidated	with 45-H-11
45-H-25	Calcasieu Parish	Withdrawn	April 29, 2025

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Department at <u>DisputeResolution.DOE@la.gov</u>.



45-H-26	Jefferson Parish	Pending	
45-H-27	Livingston Parish	Pending	
45-H-28	St. Tammany Parish	Pending	
45-H-29	St. Martin Parish	Withdrawn	April 9, 2025
45-H-30	East Baton Rouge Parish	Pending	
45-H-31-E	Lafayette Parish	Withdrawn	May 2, 2025
45-H-32	Ascension Parish	Dismissed	May 29, 2025
45-H-33-E	Lafayette Parish	Withdrawn	May 8, 2025
45-H-34	Jefferson Davis Parish	Withdrawn	May 20, 2025
45-H-35	East Baton Rouge Parish	Withdrawn	May 30, 2025
45-H-36	East Baton Rouge Parish	Pending	
45-H-37	Lycee Francais de la	Pending	
	Nouvelle-Orleans		
45-H-38	Lycee Francais de la	Pending	
	Nouvelle-Orleans		



SCHOOL DISTRICT	*	DOCKET NO. 2024-16866-DOE-IDEA
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF MINOR ¹	*	AGENCY LOG NO. 45-H-01
*****	*****	*****

ORDER TERMINATING ADJUDICATION

On July 22, 2024, Parent on behalf of Minor filed a request for a due process hearing. On July 24, 2024, Parent on behalf of Minor submitted a written request to withdraw the due process request stating that she will continue with her formal complaint filed on May 18, 2024. There is no pending conference or hearing scheduled. The request to withdraw a due process hearing is granted.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that Parent on behalf of Minor's Withdrawal of Hearing Request is GRANTED.

IT IS ORDERED that the matter entitled Parent on behalf of Minor bearing docket number 2024-16866-DOE-IDEA is **TERMINATED**.

Rendered and signed on August 7, 2024, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER

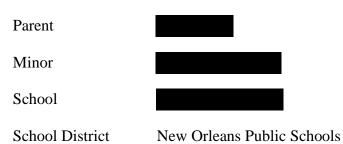
I certify that on <u>Thursday, August 08, 2024</u>, I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

Clerk of Court Division of Administrative Law

Stephanie E. Robin Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. *See* attached Legend for identifying information.

LEGEND



2

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the attached **Order Terminating Adjudication** in **Docket No. 2024-16866-DOE-IDEA** has been served to the following individuals by regular, first-class mail, certified mail, and/or electronic mail this 8th day of August 2024.

Clerk of Court

Division of Administrative Law

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL



BY CERTIFIED MAIL ONLY

Dr. Shayla G. Hilaire NOLA Public Schools 2401 Westbend Parkway New Orleans, LA 70114 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **2329**

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL ONLY

Dr. Avis Williams Superintendent NOLA Public Schools 2401 Westbend Parkway New Orleans, LA 70114

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Louisiana Department of Education E-mail: <u>*DisputeResolution.DOE@la.gov</u>*</u>



SCHOOL DISTRICT	*	DOCKET NO. 2024-17361-DOE-IDEA
	*	
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF MINOR CHILD ¹	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-02
******	***	******

ORDER TERMINATING ADJUDICATION

Parent on behalf of Minor Child requested an administrative hearing to challenge actions by School District. A telephone status conference was scheduled for August 9, 2024. On August 6, 2024, Parent agreed to and signed a resolution agreement withdrawing his request for a hearing. The request is granted.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that Parent on behalf of Minor Child's withdrawal of hearing request is

GRANTED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Parent on behalf of Minor Child's request for a hearing is **DISMISSED**, the adjudication under docket number 2024-17361-DOE-IDEA is **TERMINATED**, and the telephone status conference on August 9, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. is **CANCELED**.

Rendered and signed on August 8, 2024, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER

I certify that on <u>Thursday, August 08, 2024</u>, I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

Clerk of Court Division of Administrative Law

William H. Cooper III Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. *See* attached Legend for identifying information.

LEGEND

PARENT:

MINOR CHILD:

SCHOOL DISTRICT: Caddo Parish School Board

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the attached **Order Terminating Adjudication** in **Docket No. 2024-17361-DOE-IDEA** has been served to the following individuals by regular, first-class mail, certified mail, and/or electronic mail this 8th day of August 2024.

Clerk of Court

Division of Administrative Law

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL

BY CERTIFIED MAIL ONLY

Dr. Shelia Lockett Executive Director Caddo Parish Public Schools 2226 Murphy Street Shreveport, LA 71103 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **2343**

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL ONLY

Dr. T. Lamar Goree Superintendent Caddo Parish Public Schools 1961 Midway Avenue Shreveport, LA 71108

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Louisiana Department of Education E-mail: <u>*DisputeResolution.DOE@la.gov</u>*</u>



SCHOOL DISTRICT	*	DOCKET NO. 2024-18272-DOE-IDEA
	*	
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF CHILD	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-03
******	*****	******

ORDER GRANTING DECLINATORY EXCEPTION

On August 5, 2024, Parent¹ on behalf of Child filed a request for a due process hearing naming School District as a party. The Division of Administrative Law (DAL) received the due process hearing request from the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) on August 6, 2024. On August 8, 2024, School District received the due process hearing request from LDOE.

Parent's due process hearing request consists of her statement on the form provided by the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) in the violations section, "My son is not being placed in the correct classroom nor the correct parish...IEP and Behavior Plan is not correct. I request an IEP meeting and have not received."

On August 12, 2024, School District through counsel of record filed a Declinatory Exception of Improper Party.² In support of its exception, School District submitted documents showing that Child was not enrolled in School District until August 9, 2024, four days after the date Parent filed the due process hearing request. School District also submitted documentation that during the one-year prescriptive ("look-back") period allowed for due process hearings, which

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. *See* attached Legend for identifying information.

² Within fifteen days of receipt of the written request for due process hearing, the receiving party may file an exception to raise the insufficiency of the request, including through a Declinatory Exception of Improper Party. *See* Louisiana Administrative Code (LAC) 28:XLIII.508.B and La. Code of Civ. Proc. art. 925.

in this case is the 2023-2024 school year, Child was enrolled in a different High School under the jurisdiction of School District #2.

School District has shown that it could not be the proper party for a due process hearing request filed on August 5, 2024. Louisiana Administrative Code (LAC) 28:XLIII.507.A.2 provides that "the due process hearing request shall allege a violation that occurred not more than one year before the date the parent knew or should have known about the alleged action that forms the basis of the request for due process hearing." Because Child was not enrolled in School District, the alleged actions during the previous year could not have been committed by the named School District. The proper party is the School District that owed Child certain education rights under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) during the one-year period prior to the filing of the due process hearing request.

While some defects in a request for due process hearing may be cured by amending the complaint,³ naming the proper party cannot simply be cured by an amendment because due process requires notice and service through LDOE on the proper School District. This tribunal could not allow an amendment to the due process hearing request to substitute the proper party because LDOE and not the Division of Administrative Law is the agency responsible for ensuring due process notice and service on the correct School District. Additionally, once LDOE effects due process by serving the due process hearing request on a School District, that School District is required to meet certain regulation requirements, including participating in a resolution meeting to attempt a resolution, attending mediation if requested, and/or participating in the due process hearing. The School District named in Parent's request for due process hearing is not the party who owed the education rights under the IDEA to Child within one year prior to the filing of the

³ 34 C.F.R. § 300.508(d); LAC 28:XLIII.508.E.

due process request. The named School District is not the party required to conduct the resolution meeting, attend mediation, and/or participate in this due process hearing.

For these reasons, School District's Declinatory Exception is granted and Parent's request for a due process hearing is dismissed.

This tribunal notes that it cannot give legal advice to the parties, as it must remain independent and impartial. This tribunal is allowed to explain the proceedings to a self-represented party. While the granting of the Declinatory Exception of Improper Party results in a dismissal of this request for due process hearing, Parent is allowed to refile a request for due process hearing with LDOE against the correct School District.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that School District's Declinatory Exception of Improper Party is GRANTED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Parent on behalf of Child's due process hearing request, bearing docket number 2024-18272-DOE-IDEA, is **DISMISSED** and the adjudication is **TERMINATED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the initial telephone conference scheduled for August 28, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., is **CANCELLED**.

Rendered and signed on August 15, 2024, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Ether A. Redmann

Esther A. Redmann Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER

I certify that on <u>Monday, August 19, 2024</u>, I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

Clerk of Court Division of Administrative Law

LEGEND

School District

Parent

Minor Child

High School

School District #2

Iberia Parish School District



Ascension Parish School Board

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the attached **Order Granting Declinatory Exception** in **Docket No. 2024-18272-DOE-IDEA** has been served to the following individuals by regular, first-class mail, certified mail, and/or electronic mail this 19th day of August 2024.

Clerk of Court

Division of Administrative Law

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL

BY CERTIFIED MAIL ONLY

Ms. Pamela Moore Supervisor of Special Education Iberville Parish School District 58060 Plaquemine Street Plaquemine, LA 70764 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **2367** *pamelamoore@ipsb.education*

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL ONLY

Dr. Louis Voiron, Jr. Superintendent Iberville Parish School District 58060 Plaquemine Street Plaquemine, LA 70764

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Louisiana Department of Education E-mail: <u>DisputeResolution.DOE@la.gov</u>



SCHOOL DISTRICT ¹	*	DOCKET NO. 2024-18848-DOE-IDEA
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF MINOR	*	AGENCY LOG NO. 45-H-04
******	*****	*****

ORDER TERMINATING ADJUDICATION

On August 14, 2024, Parent on behalf of Minor filed a *Request for Due Process Hearing*. On January 30, 2025, Parent on behalf of Minor filed a *Motion to File Amended Request*. On February 14, 2025, an order was issued by this tribunal granting Parent on behalf of Minor's amended due process hearing request.

A telephone status conference is scheduled for May 14, 2025, at 10:00 a.m., and a due process hearing is scheduled for May 19, 20, 21, 22, and 23, 2025, commencing at 9:00 a.m., each day.

On May 12, 2025, Parent on behalf of Minor filed a motion requesting to withdraw the due process hearing complaint. The request is granted.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that Parent on behalf of Minor's request to withdraw the due process hearing complaint is **GRANTED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the matter entitled Parent on behalf of Minor bearing docket number *2024-18848-DOE-IDEA* is **TERMINATED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the telephone status conference scheduled for May 14, 2025, at 10:00 a.m., is **CANCELED**.

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. *See* attached Legend for identifying information.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the due process hearing scheduled for May 19, 20, 21,

22, and 23, 2025, commencing at 9:00 a.m. each day, is CANCELED.

Rendered and signed on May 14, 2025, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Anthony J. Russo

Anthony J. Russo Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER

I certify that on <u>Wednesday, May 14, 2025</u>, I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

<u>Clirk of Court</u> Division of Administrative Law

LEGEND

Parent

Minor

School District

Director of Special Education

Livingston Parish School Board

Dr. Eric Penalber

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the attached **Order Terminating Adjudication** in **Docket No. 2024-18848-DOE-IDEA** has been served to the following individuals by regular, first-class mail, certified mail, and/or electronic mail this 14th day of May 2025.

Clerk of Court

Division of Administrative Law

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL



BY CERTIFIED MAIL ONLY

Ms. Carlar M. Alexander Attorney at Law 2431 S. Acadian Thruway, Suite 600 Baton Rouge, LA 70809 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 5719

Mr. Parris A. Taylor Attorney at Law 2431 S. Acadian Thruway, Suite 600 Baton Rouge, LA 70809 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 5726

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL ONLY

Mr. Jody W. Purvis, Superintendent Livingston Parish Public Schools 13909 Florida Boulevard Livingston, LA 70754

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY Louisiana Department of Education

E-mail: DisputeResolution.DOE@la.gov





SCHOOL DISTRICT ¹	*	DOCKET NO. 2024-50003-DOE
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF MINOR	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-06-E
*****	*****	*****

ORDER TERMINATING ADJUDICATION

On September 19, 2024, Parent on behalf of Minor filed a *Withdrawal of Hearing Request.*² Parent's request for a due process hearing is dismissed, and the above-captioned adjudication is terminated.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that Parent on Behalf of Minor's request for a due process hearing is

DISMISSED and the above-captioned matter is **TERMINATED**.

Rendered and signed on September 19, 2024, in New Orleans, Louisiana.

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER I certify that on Monday, September 23, 2024., I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

> Clerk of Court Division of Administrative Law

Leighann N. Guilbeau Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. See attached Legend for identifying information.

² Administrative Law Judge Leighann N. Guilbeau conducted a telephone status conference on September 19, 2024. Parent on behalf of Minor, Wayne T. Stewart, counsel for School District, and a representative from School District appeared for the conference. The parties confirmed that an agreement was signed during the resolution meeting conducted on September 6, 2024. Counsel moved to dismiss Parent on behalf of Minor's due process complaint because the resolution agreement allowed the parties three days to void the agreement and Parent on behalf of Minor had not voided the agreement. Parent on behalf of Minor stated on the record that she was withdrawing her request for a due process hearing. Parent on behalf of Minor filed the *Withdrawal of Hearing Request* after the telephone status conference.

Legend

Parent

Minor

School

School District

School District Representatives

DeSoto Parish Schools

Francie Woods and Clay Corley

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the attached **Order Terminating Adjudication** in **Docket No. 2024-50003-DOE** has been served to the following individuals by regular, first-class mail, certified mail, and/or electronic mail this 23rd day of September 2024.

Clerk of Court

Division of Administrative Law

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL, ELECTRONIC MAIL, AND CERTIFIED MAIL



BY ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL

DeSoto Parish Schools Attn: Francie Woods 399 Jenkins Street Mansfield LA 71052 <u>francie.woods@desotopsb.com</u> CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **2404**

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL ONLY

DeSoto Parish Schools Attn: Clay Corley, Superintendent 399 Jenkins Street Mansfield, LA 71052

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Louisiana Department of Education E-mail: <u>DisputeResolution.DOE@la.gov</u>



SCHOOL AND SCHOOL DISTRICT ¹	*	DOCKET NO. 2024-50096-DOE
	*	
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF CHILD	*	AGENCY ID NO. 45-H-07
***************************************	*****	*******

ORDER TERMINATING ADJUDICATION

On December 23, 2024, Parent through her counsel, Sara Godchaux, filed a Motion to

Withdraw her hearing request, as the parties have agreed to a settlement.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that the above entitled and numbered case is terminated.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the hearing scheduled for the week of January 13-17,

2025, is canceled.

*

Rendered and signed on January 3, 2025, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER I certify that on Friday, January 03, 2025., I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

> Clerk of Court Division of Administrative Law

William H. Cooper Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. See attached Legend for identifying information.

Legend

Parent (Grandparent) Minor School District School

New Orleans, Louisiana (NOLA) Public Schools

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the attached **Order Terminating Adjudication** in **Docket No. 2024-50096-DOE** has been served to the following individuals by regular, first-class mail, certified mail, and/or electronic mail on January 3, 2025.

Clerk of Court

Division of Administrative Law

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL, ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL

Ms. S. Godchaux, Ms. E. Aucoin, Ms. A. Daigle Attorneys at Law 7214 St. Charles Avenue, Box 902 New Orleans, LA 70118 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **5054**

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. Wayne T. Stewart Attorney at Law 2431 South Acadian Thruway, Suite 600 Baton Rouge, LA 70808 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **5061**

Ms. Kristen Amond Attorney at Law 3640 Magazine Street New Orleans, LA 70115 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **5078**

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL

NOLA Public Schools Ms. Avis Williams 2401 Westbend Parkway New Orleans, LA 70114

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Louisiana Department of Education E-mail: <u>DisputeResolution.DOE@la.gov</u>



SCHOOL DISTRICT ¹	*	DOCKET NO. 2024-50201-DOE
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF MINOR	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-08
******	*****	***************************************
ORDER TERMIN	ATING	ADJUDICATION

On October 30, 2024, Parent on behalf of Minor submitted a *Withdrawal of Hearing Request* withdrawing her request and waiving her right to a hearing. The telephone status conference scheduled for November 8, 2024, at 1:00 p.m., is canceled.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that the adjudication entitled School District in the matter of Parent

on Behalf of Minor bearing docket number 2024-50201-DOE is TERMINATED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the telephone status conference scheduled for

November 8, 2024, at 1:00 p.m., is CANCELED.

Rendered and signed on October 30, 2024, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER I certify that on Thursday, October 31, 2024 , I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

> Clerk of Court Division of Administrative Law

Stephanie E. Robin Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this *Conference Report and Order. See* attached **Legend** for identifying information.

Legend

Parent

Minor

School District

School District Representative



Terrebonne Parish School District Blaise Pellegrin





SCHOOL DISTRICT ¹	*	DOCKET NO. 2024-53369-DOE-IDEA
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF MINOR	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-10-E
***************************************	*****	******

ORDER TERMINATING ADJUDICATION

On January 29, 2025, Parent on behalf of Minor filed a *Withdrawal of Hearing Request*. Parent on behalf of Minor's request is granted. Parent on behalf of Minor's request for a due process hearing is dismissed, the above-captioned adjudication is terminated, and the telephone status conference scheduled for February 7, 2025, is canceled.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that Parent on behalf of Minor's *Withdrawal of Hearing Request* is GRANTED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Parent on behalf of Minor's request for a hearing is **DISMISSED**, and the adjudication bearing docket number 2024-53369-DOE-IDEA is **TERMINATED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the February 7, 2025, telephone status conference is **CANCELED**.

Rendered and signed on January 30, 2025, in New Orleans, Louisiana.

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER

I certify that on <u>Thursday, January 30, 2025</u>, I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

Clerk of Court Division of Administrative Law

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Leighann N. Guilbeau Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. *See* attached Legend for identifying information.

LEGEND

Parent

Minor Child

School District

School

School District Representative

Lafayette Parish School System

Holly Ortego

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the attached **Order Terminating Adjudication** in **Docket No. 2024-53369-DOE-IDEA** has been served to the following individuals by regular, first-class mail, certified mail, and/or electronic mail on January 30, 2025.

Clerk of Court

Division of Administrative Law

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL, ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL



BY ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. Wayne T. Stewart Attorney at Law 2431 South Acadian Thruway, Suite 600 Baton Rouge, LA 70808 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **5115** <u>wstewart@hamsil.com</u>

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

Lafayette Parish School System c/o Mr. Francis Touchet, Jr. 202 Rue Iberville Lafayette, LA 70508-1502

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Louisiana Department of Education E-mail: <u>DisputeResolution.DOE@la.gov</u>









STATE OF LOUISIANA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

SCHOOL DISTRICT ¹	*	DOCKET NO. 2024-54456-DOE-IDEA
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF MINOR	*	AGENCY LOG NO. 45-H-14
*****	*****	*****

ORDER ON MINOR'S RESIDENCY

Minor does not reside within School District's geographical boundaries; therefore, School District does not have a duty to provide a free appropriate public education (FAPE) to Minor.

On November 27, 2024, the Louisiana Department of Education received a written request for a due process hearing from Kimona Hogan, counsel for Parent on behalf of Minor. Parent alleged that School District denied Minor a FAPE when it violated the rights of both Parent and Minor by (1) failing to conduct a thorough investigation or provide Parent with sufficient notice of her rights to appeal School District's residency determination that Minor is not a resident in School District's geographical area; and (2) refusing and failing to convene an Individualized Education Program team meeting or implement any services after finding Minor eligible for special education services. Parent requested an Independent Education Evaluation (IEE) at public expense² and sought an order of stay-put.

A stay-put order was granted, which allowed Minor to remain in School during the pendency of the due process proceedings. School District, through its counsel, Wayne T. Stewart, filed a peremptory exception of lack of subject matter jurisdiction (Exception) and Parent, through her counsel, Ms. Hogan, filed an opposition to School District's Exception.

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. See attached Legend for identifying information.

² School District filed a request for a due process hearing regarding Parent's IEE request.

Zoom Hearing on Minor's Residency

A Zoom hearing was conducted on January 16, 2025, before Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Adaora Chukudebelu, on the limited issue of Minor's residency, which is the crux of the issue in this case. Present for the hearing were Parent and her counsel, Ms. Hogan; Mr. Stewart, counsel for School District, and the following School District personnel: School District representative, Chief of Schools and Student Support, and Risk Management Staff.

At the hearing Parent, School District representative, Risk Management Staff, and Chief of Schools and Student Support testified.³ Based on their testimony and exhibits presented, these are the relevant facts to the question of Minor's residency during enrollment at School and disenrollment from School:

- Minor is a student with an exceptionality.⁴ Minor is eligible for special education services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).⁵
- 2. In August 2024, Minor was enrolled in School.⁶
- 3. School is in SJP, which is School District's geographical boundaries.⁷
- On or about November 8, 2024, School District disenrolled Minor claiming Minor did not reside within School District's geographical boundaries.⁸
- 5. Parent is Minor's mother.⁹ Parent is not divorced.¹⁰ Minor is not a foster child.¹¹

³ Parent's exhibits were admitted as marked: P-1 (35 pages), and P-9 (four pages). School District's exhibits were admitted as marked: SD-1 (35 pages) and SD-5 (eight pages). Because Exhibits P-I and SD-1 are identical, this *Order* cites only P-1.

⁴ P-9, testimony of School District representative and Chief of Schools and Student Support.

⁵ P-9, testimony of School District representative and Chief of Schools and Student Support.

⁶ Testimony of Chief of Schools and Student Support.

⁷ Testimony of Chief of Schools and Student Support.

⁸ P-1 at p. 29 and P-9.

⁹ Testimony of Parent.

¹⁰ Testimony of Parent.

¹¹ Testimony of Parent.

- 6. Parent did not relinquish custody of Minor.¹²
- School District's 2024-2025 Student Enrollment Packet completed by Parent documents that Parent and Student's physical address is in SJBP.¹³
- Parent completed the Louisiana Student Residency Questionnaire Form and indicated that a third party, AD, cares for Minor.¹⁴
- Parent completed an enrollment form for School and indicated that Minor's home address is AD's home address located in SJP.¹⁵
- Parent provided an affidavit and a notarized statement attesting that she and Minor live with AD at an address located in SJP.¹⁶
- 11. AD provided proof of residency in SJP.¹⁷
- 12. At Minor's enrollment and disenrollment, Parent's legal residence was in SJBP.¹⁸
- School District staff reviewed the application and affidavit before enrolling Minor in School.¹⁹

Minor Does Not Reside Within School District's Geographical Boundaries

Under the IDEA and Louisiana law, the Local Education Agencies, like School District, have a duty to provide a FAPE to every student with exceptionality residing within their geographical boundaries.²⁰ Louisiana Law also provides that the residence of a student is the resident of the student's parent or parents.²¹ As part of School District's admission policy,

¹² Testimony of Parent.

¹³ P-1 at p. 2.

¹⁴ *Id.* at p. 10.

¹⁵ *Id.* at p. 13.

¹⁶ *Id.* at pp. 14 and 15.

¹⁷ *Id.* at pp. 17 - 20.

¹⁸ Testimony of Parent.

¹⁹ Testimony of Chief of Schools and Student Support.

²⁰ 20 U.S.C. § 1415(j); 34 C.F.R. § 300.101 (2024); La. R.S. 17:1941; and Louisiana Administrative Code 28:XLIII, Bulletin 1706, Chapter 5, Subchapter A, § 230(B).

parents or legal guardians must present a completed registration packet and other identifying information including proof of residency.²² School District's admission policy also requires parents or legal guardians of enrolling students who reside within the household of a SJP resident, without a rental or lease agreement, to complete and notarize a School District Affidavit.²³

Parent completed and presented a Student Enrollment Packet and notarized affidavit to School District. The Student Enrollment Packet shows that the physical address for Parent and Minor is in SJBP, not in SJP.²⁴ Parent attested in the notarized affidavit that she and Minor reside with AD in SJP.²⁵ Upon questioning by the ALJ, Parent acknowledged that she does not reside in SJP, that she resides in SJBP.

Parent's testimony and the Student Enrollment Packet submitted to School District confirm that her residence is within the geographical boundaries of SJBP, not that of SJP.²⁶ Because her legal residence is in SJBP, Minor's residence for purposes of IDEA is in SJBP and the resulting duty to provide a FAPE falls on the school district in SJBP, and not School District, which is in SJP.

Parent argued that she did not intentionally mislead School District; therefore, Minor should remain at School. Parent's argument is unpersuasive. For purposes of this case, Parent's intent is irrelevant and so is School District's failure to conduct a thorough review of the Student Enrollment Packet and affidavit. The relevant question is whether Minor resides in School

²⁵ *Id.* at p. 15.

²¹ La. R.S. 17:1942(B)(3)(a). *See also* La. R.S. 17:1942(B)(3)(b) and (c) (which address residency of students whose parents are divorced and who is in foster care, respectively). Because Minor is not in foster care and Minor's parents are not divorced, La. R.S. 17:1942(B)(3)(b) and (c) are not applicable to the facts of this case, and they will not be discussed in this *Order*.

²² P-1 at pp. 25-28.

²³ *Id.* at pp. 27-28.

²⁴ *Id.* at pp. 2-3.

²⁶ Parent under questioning by the ALJ acknowledged that she is not divorced, she has not relinquished her custody of Minor, and Minor is not in foster care.

District's geographical boundaries. Because Parent's residence is Minor's residence for purposes of IDEA, the answer to that question is no.

Considering the above Parent's due process hearing request is dismissed as moot. School

District's Peremptory Exception of Lack of Subject Matter Jurisdiction is granted.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that Minor, for the purposes of the Individuals with Disabilities

Education Act, is a not a resident within School District's geographical boundaries.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that School District's Peremptory Exception of Lack of

Subject Matter Jurisdiction is **GRANTED.**

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Parent on behalf of Minor's request for a due process

hearing is **DISMISSED**, and the adjudication in this matter is **TERMINATED**.

Rendered and signed on January 31, 2025, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER I certify that on Monday, February 03, 2025., I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

Clerk of Court
Division of Administrative Law

adava Chikudike

Adaora Chukudebelu Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

REVIEW RIGHTS

This hearing decision is final unless it is appealed. Any aggrieved party has the right to appeal the findings and decision by filing a civil action within ninety (90) days from the date of this decision in a state court of competent jurisdiction or in a district court of the United States in accordance with Louisiana Administrative Code 28:XLIII.516.

	Legend
Parent	
Minor	
AD	
School	
School District	St. James Parish School System
School District representative	Senecca Boudreaux
Chief of Schools and Student Support	Amy Laiche
Risk Management Staff	Kelly Cook
SJP	St. James Parish
SJBP	St. John the Baptist Parish

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the attached **Order on Minor's Residency** in **Docket No. 2024-54456-DOE-IDEA** has been served to the following individuals by regular, first-class mail, certified mail, and/or electronic mail on February 3, 2025.

Clerk of Court

Division of Administrative Law

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL, ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL

Ms. Kimona Hogan Attorney at Law 176 Misty Pike Drive Raleigh, NC 27603 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **5122** *hoganlawfirm@yahoo.com*

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. Wayne T. Stewart Attorney at Law 2431 South Acadian Thruway, Suite 600 Baton Rouge, LA 70808 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **5139** *wstewart@hamsil.com*

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL

St. James Parish Schools c/o Mr. Chris Kimball, Superintendent 1876 West Main Street Lutcher, LA 70071

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Louisiana Department of Education E-mail: <u>DisputeResolution.DOE@la.gov</u>



STATE OF LOUISIANA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

SCHOOL DISTRICT ¹	*	DOCKET NO. 2024-54832-DOE-IDEA
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF MINOR	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-15-E
*****	*****	*****

ORDER TERMINATING ADJUDICATION

On March 14, 2025, Parent on behalf of Minor through her counsel, Kenneth Kolb, withdrew her request for a due process hearing on the grounds the matter had been settled. The request is granted, the adjudication is terminated, and the hearing scheduled for March 17, 18, and 20, 2025 is canceled.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that the matter entitled *School District in the matter of Parent on behalf of Minor* bearing docket number 2024-54832-DOE-IDEA is **TERMINATED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the hearing scheduled for March 17, 18, and 20,

2025, is CANCELED.

Rendered and signed on March 14, 2025, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER I certify that on Monday, March 17, 2025., I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

> Clerk of Court Division of Administrative Law

William H. Cooper Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. See attached Legend for identifying information.

Legend

Parent		
Minor		
School District	Livingston Parish Public School	ls
School District Repre	sentative Eric Penalbar	

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the attached **Order Terminating Adjudication** in **Docket No. 2024-54832-DOE-IDEA** has been served to the following individuals by regular, first-class mail, certified mail, and/or electronic mail on March 17, 2025.

Clerk of Court

Division of Administrative Law

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL, ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. Kenneth Kolb Attorney at Law 8325 Oak Street New Orleans, LA 70118 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **5214** *kkolb@disabilityrightsla.org*

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. Timothy Riveria Mr. Wayne T. Stewart Attorneys at Law 2431 S. Acadian Thruway, Suite 600 Baton Rouge, LA 70808 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **5221** <u>triveria@hamsil.com</u> <u>wstewart@hamsil.com</u>

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL

Mr. Jody W. Purvis Superintendent c/o Livingston Parish Public Schools 13909 Florida Boulevard Livingston, LA 70754

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Louisiana Department of Education E-mail: <u>DisputeResolution.DOE@la.gov</u>



STATE OF LOUISIANA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

SCHOOL DISTRICT ¹	*	DOCKET NO. 2024-55926-DOE-IDEA
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-16
MINOR		
******	*******	***************************************

ORDER TERMINATING ADJUDICATION

On November 27, 2024, the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) received a request for a due process hearing from Kimona Hogan, counsel for Parent on behalf of Minor, alleging that School District denied Minor a free appropriate public education. Parent in her request sought, among other things, an Independent Education Evaluation at public expense.

On December 20, 2024, LDOE received a request for a due process hearing from School District to show that its evaluation of Minor is appropriate.

Because Parent's request for a due process hearing has been dismissed and the adjudication in that matter terminated, School District's request for a due process hearing to show that its evaluation of Minor is appropriate is moot. School District's request for a due process hearing is dismissed, and the adjudication in this matter is terminated.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that School District's request for a due process hearing to show that its evaluation of Minor is appropriate is **DISMISSED**, and the adjudication in this matter is **TERMINATED**.

Rendered and signed on January 31, 2025, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER I certify that on Monday, February 03, 2025, I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

*

Clerk of Court Division of Administrative Law

Adaora Chikudebelu

Adaora Chukudebelu Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. See attached Legend for identifying information.

REVIEW RIGHTS

This hearing decision is final unless it is appealed. Any aggrieved party has the right to appeal the findings and decision by filing a civil action within ninety (90) days from the date of this decision in a state court of competent jurisdiction or in a district court of the United States in accordance with Louisiana Administrative Code 28:XLIII.516.

	Legend
Parent	
Minor	
School	
School District	St. James Parish School System
School District representative	Senecca Boudreaux

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the attached **Order Terminating Adjudication** in **Docket No. 2024-55926-DOE-IDEA** has been served to the following individuals by regular, first-class mail, certified mail, and/or electronic mail on February 3, 2025.

Clerk of Court

Division of Administrative Law

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL, ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL

Ms. Kimona Hogan Attorney at Law 176 Misty Pike Drive Raleigh, NC 27603 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **5146** *hoganlawfirm@yahoo.com*

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. Wayne T. Stewart Attorney at Law 2431 South Acadian Thruway, Suite 600 Baton Rouge, LA 70808 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **5153** *wstewart@hamsil.com*

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

St. James Parish Schools c/o Mr. Chris Kimball, Superintendent 1876 West Main Street Lutcher, LA 70071

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Louisiana Department of Education E-mail: <u>DisputeResolution.DOE@la.gov</u>



STATE OF LOUISIANA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

SCHOOL DISTRICT ¹	*	DOCKET NO. 2025-0151-DOE-IDEA
	*	
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF MINOR	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-17
*****	******	******

ORDER TERMINATING ADJUDICATION

On January 10, 2025, Parent on behalf of Minor submitted a request to the Division of Administrative Law to withdraw her request for a due process hearing.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that the adjudication entitled School District In the Matter of Parent

on Behalf of Minor bearing Division of Administrative Law Docket Number 2025-0151-DOE-

IDEA is **TERMINATED**.

*

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the telephone status conference scheduled for

January 21, 2025, at 11:00 AM is CANCELED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the due process hearing scheduled for February 12,

2025, at 9:00 AM is **CANCELED**.

Rendered and signed on January 13, 2025, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER I certify that on Wednesday, January 15, 2025, I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

> Clerk of Court Division of Administrative Law

Lynette Roberson Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. *See* attached Legend for identifying information.

Legend

Parent

Minor

School District

School District Representatives

Lincoln Parish Schools

Rickey Durrett and Phaedra Blake

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the attached **Order Terminating Adjudication** in **Docket No. 2025-0151-DOE-IDEA** has been served to the following individuals by regular, first-class mail, certified mail, and/or electronic mail on **January 15, 2025**.

Clerk of Court

Division of Administrative Law

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL, CERTIFIED MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL



BY CERTIFIED MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

Lincoln Parish Schools c/o Ms. Phaedra Blake 410 South Farmerville Street Ruston LA 71270 *phaedra.blake@lincolnschools.org* CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **5092**

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL

Lincoln Parish Schools c/o Mr. Ricky Durrett, Superintendent 410 South Farmerville Street Ruston, LA 71270

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Louisiana Department of Education E-mail: <u>DisputeResolution.DOE@la.gov</u>





STATE OF LOUISIANA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

SCHOOL DISTRICT ¹	*	DOCKET NO. 2025-1838-DOE-IDEA
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF MINOR	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-19
***************************************	*****	***************************************

ORDER GRANTING SCHOOL DISTRICT'S DECLINATORY EXCEPTION OF LACK OF SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION

On January 29, 2025, Parent on behalf of Minor filed a *Request for Special Education Due Process Hearing*. On February 7, 2025, School District filed a *Declinatory Exception of Lack of Subject Matter Jurisdiction (Exception)*.

Administrative Law Judge Anthony J. Russo conducted a telephone hearing on School District's *Exception* on March 17, 2025. Present for the telephone hearing were Carlar M. Alexander and Timothy Riveria, counsel of record for School District, and Parent on behalf of Minor.²

In the due process hearing request, Parent on behalf of Minor alleged School District subjected Parent and Minor to a "toxic, illegal, unsafe and retaliatory environment" and subjected them to "fear" for advocating for their rights. Parent on behalf of Minor's only request for relief or proposed solution was for School District to provide financial payments for all four of Parent's minor children, including the Minor at issue in this adjudication, to attend a school outside of School District for "the entirety of their education."

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. See attached Legend for identifying information

² Parent was ordered to file any opposition to School District's *Exception* by March 7, 2025, as per an order issued to the parties on February 12, 2025. Parent did not file a written opposition to School District's *Exception*, but Parent was allowed to make oral arguments in opposition to the *Exception* during the March 17, 2025, telephone hearing.

Attached to Parent on behalf of Minor's due process hearing request was a four-page email from Minor to School District regarding an alleged sexual assault that occurred at School, including Minor's request that School District investigate the alleged incident as a felony. Also attached was a five-page chronology of events which allegedly took place between October 16, 2024, through January 16, 2025, which included references to Title IX violations, allegations of criminal actions, and illegal searches of Minor.

In its *Exception*, School District argued that all allegations made by Parent fall outside the scope of issues eligible for a due process hearing under Section 507(A)(1) of Bulletin 1706. School District requested that Parent on behalf of Minor's due process hearing request be dismissed.

School District's *Exception* is granted, and Parent on behalf of Minor's *Request for* Special Education Due Process Hearing is dismissed.

The undersigned has jurisdiction under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to hear due process issues with respect to matters relating to the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of a student with a disability, or the provision of FAPE.³

The allegations listed in Parent's due process hearing request, as well as the attachments, involve issues that fall outside the scope of this tribunal's jurisdiction under the IDEA. Therefore, this tribunal does not have jurisdiction over any of the issues contained in the request. Accordingly, School District's *Exception* is granted, and Parent on behalf of Minor's *Request for Special Education Due Process Hearing* is dismissed, and the above-captioned adjudication is terminated.

³ Louisiana Administrative Code 28:XLIII.507 (Louisiana Bulletin 1706 § 507).

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that School District's Declinatory Exception of Lack of Subject Matter

Jurisdiction is GRANTED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Parent on behalf of Minor's *Request for Special Education Due Process Hearing* is **DISMISSED**, and the adjudication under docket number 2025-1838-DOE-IDEA is TERMINATED.

Rendered and signed on March 31, 2025, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER

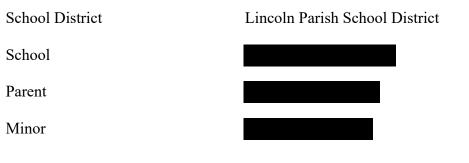
I certify that on Monday, March 31, 2025 , I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

Clerk of Court Division of Administrative Law

Anthony J Russo

Anthony J. Russo Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

<u>LEGEND</u>



CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the attached **Order Granting School District's** *Declinatory Exception of Lack of Subject Matter Jurisdiction* in **Docket No. 2025-1838-DOE-IDEA** has been served to the following individuals by regular, first-class mail, certified mail, and/or electronic mail on March 31, 2025.

Clerk of Court

Division of Administrative Law

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL, ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL



BY ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL

Ms. Carlar M. Alexander Mr. Timothy Riveria Attorneys at Law 2431 South Acadian Thruway, Suite 600 Baton Rouge, LA 70808 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **5245** *calexander@hamsil.com triveria@hamsil.com*

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL

Mr. Ricky Durrett, Superintendent c/o Lincoln Parish Schools 410 South Farmerville Street Ruston, LA 71270

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Louisiana Department of Education E-mail: <u>DisputeResolution.DOE@la.gov</u>



STATE OF LOUISIANA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

SCHOOL DISTRICT ¹	*	DOCKET NO. 2025-2345-DOE-IDEA
	*	
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
PARENTS ON BEHALF OF MINOR	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-20
***************************************	*****	***************************************
ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO 	DISM	ISS DUE PROCESS COMPLAINT

On February 5, 2025, Parents on behalf of Minor, through counsel, Chris Edmunds, filed a request for due process hearing seeking an order barring School from using entry achievement assessment tests, specifically the IOWA assessment, as an admissions criteria, alleging the admissions criteria discriminates against individuals with disabilities in violation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) by denying Minor a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE), the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and the Louisiana Human Rights Act (LHRA). Parents on behalf of Minor also seek a permanent injunction, declaratory relief, damages, and attorney's fees.

On February 14, 2025, School, through counsel, Ashley Jackson, Melissa Lessell, and Casey Wendling, filed a *Motion to Dismiss Due Process Complaint* and an incorporated memorandum in support. On February 17, 2025, counsel for Parent on behalf of Minor filed an opposition, entitled "*Opposition to School's Rule 508 Challenge, improperly styled as 'Motion to Dismiss.*" On February 24, 2025, counsel for School filed a reply memorandum in response to Parents on behalf of Minor's opposition.

On February 27, 2025, a telephone hearing on School's *Motion to Dismiss Due Process Complaint* was held before Administrative Law Judge Esther A. Redmann. Participating in the

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. *See* attached Legend for identifying information.

hearing were Chris Edmonds, counsel for Parents on behalf of Minor, and Ashley Jackson, Melissa Lessell, and Casey Wendling, counsel for School. Also participating was Special Education Director for School.²

Parents on behalf of Minor allege that School systemically discriminates against individuals with disabilities, particularly intellectual disabilities, by requiring applicants to achieve an unattainable threshold score on the IOWA achievement test as a condition for admission. Counsel for Parents argued that the admissions criteria impede disabled students' abilities to gain admission into School and thereby denies FAPE in violation of the rights afforded disabled students under the IDEA, and the protections afforded disabled students in the ADA and LHRA.

School requested dismissal of the due process complaint because the allegations are premature and speculative, and the due process complaint fails to state a claim under the IDEA. Counsel for School argued that Minor has been offered reasonable accommodations to ensure Minor has equal access to the admissions process and that the admissions process is legal but does not guarantee placement at School because School District determines placement under a unified enrollment process.

Louisiana Administrative Code (LAC) 28:XLIII.507.A .1 provides that a parent or public agency may file a Request for Due Process Hearing on any of the matters described in LAC 28:XLIII.504.A.1 and 2, relating to the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of a

 $^{^2}$ The undersigned disclosed to the parties that she is related to School's Special Education Director, as his mother and her are first cousins. The undersigned disclosed that she has not had any recent communications with Special Education Director, and she has not discussed this matter with any relatives, including Special Education Director. The undersigned stated that her ability to remain impartial when adjudicating this matter is not affected by the relationship.

student with a disability, or the provision of FAPE to the student."³ The matters described in LAC 28:XLIII.504.A.1 and A.2 are as follows:

§504.A.1 - The public agency "proposes to initiate or change the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of the student or the provision of a free appropriate public education to the student." §504.A.2 - The public agency "refuses to initiate or change the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of the student or the provision of a free appropriate public education to the student."⁴

The allegations of systemic discriminatory admissions practices, as well as the issues alleged under the ADA and the LHRA, are unrelated to the identification, evaluation, or educational placement, or the provision of FAPE to Minor. The issues are, therefore, outside the

jurisdiction of this tribunal. School's Motion to Dismiss Due Process Complaint is granted.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that School's Motion to Dismiss Due Process Complaint is

GRANTED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Parents on behalf of Minor's request for due process

hearing is dismissed and all proceedings in 2025-2345-DOE-IDEA are terminated.

Rendered and signed on March 6, 2025, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER I certify that on Wednesday, March 12, 2025., I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

> Clerk of Court Division of Administrative Law

Either A Redmann

Esther A. Redmann Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

³ 34 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 300.507 (2024); LAC 28:XLIII.507.A.

⁴ LAC 28:XLIII.504.A.1 and A.2.

LEGEND

Parents

Minor

School District

School

Special Education Director for School

NOLA Public Schools

Dr. Jeffrey Chenier

REVIEW RIGHTS

This decision or order is final unless it is appealed. Any aggrieved party has the right to appeal the findings and decision by filing a civil action within ninety (90) days from the date of this decision in a state court of competent jurisdiction or in a district court of the United States in accordance with Louisiana Administrative Code 28:XLIII.516.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the attached **Order Granting Motion to Dismiss Due Process Complaint** in **Docket No. 2025-2345-DOE-IDEA** has been served to the following individuals by regular, first-class mail, certified mail, and/or electronic mail on March 12, 2025.

Clerk of Court

Division of Administrative Law

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL, ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL



BY ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL

Ms. Ashley B. Jackson Attorney at Law 450 Laurel Street, Suite 1900 Baton Rouge, LA 70801 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **5177** *ashley.jackson@arlaw.com*

Ms. Melissa M. Lessell Ms. Casey B. Wendling Attorneys at Law 755 Magazine Street New Orleans, LA 70130 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **5184** <u>mlessell@deutschkerrigan.com</u> <u>cwendling@deutschkerrigan.com</u>

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL

Ms. Nicolette London c/o The Willow School 5624 Freret Street New Orleans, LA 70115

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Louisiana Department of Education E-mail: <u>DisputeResolution.DOE@la.gov</u>



STATE OF LOUISIANA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

SCHOOL DISTRICT ¹	*	DOCKET NO. 2025-2912-DOE-IDEA
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF MINOR	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-21
*****	*****	·*************************************

ORDER TERMINATING ADJUDICATION

Parent filed a due process hearing request on behalf of Minor. During a telephone status conference on March 27, 2025, Parent and School District Representatives advised the parties had settled the issues contained in Parent's due process hearing request through mediation. On March 28, 2025, Parent filed a *Withdrawal of Hearing Request*. The request is granted. Parent's due process hearing request is dismissed, and the above-captioned adjudication is terminated.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that Parent's Withdrawal of Hearing Request is GRANTED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Parent's request for a hearing is DISMISSED, and

the adjudication bearing docket number 2025-2912-DOE-IDEA is TERMINATED.

Rendered and signed on March 31, 2025, in New Orleans, Louisiana.

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER I certify that on Tuesday, April 01, 2025., I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

Clerk of Court
Division of Administrative Law

Leighann N. Guilbeau Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. See attached Legend for identifying information.

Legend

Parent:	
Minor:	
School:	

School District: Bossier Parish Schools

School District Representative: Vicki Younger

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the attached **Order Terminating Adjudication** in **Docket No. 2025-2912-DOE-IDEA** has been served to the following individuals by regular, first-class mail, certified mail, and/or electronic mail on April 1, 2025.

Clerk of Court

Division of Administrative Law

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL, CERTIFIED MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL



BY CERTIFIED MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

Mr. Wayne T. Stewart Attorney at Law 2431 South Acadian Thruway, Suite 600 Baton Rouge, LA 70808 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **5269** <u>wstewart@hamsil.com</u>

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL

Mr. Jason Rowland, Superintendent c/o Bossier Parish Schools 410 Sibley Street Benton, LA 71006

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Louisiana Department of Education E-mail: <u>DisputeResolution.DOE@la.gov</u>



STATE OF LOUISIANA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

SCHOOL DISTRICT ¹	* DOCKET NO. 2024-53752-DOE-IDEA
	* CONSOLIDATED WITH 2025-3481-
	* DOE-IDEA
	*
IN THE MATTER OF	*
	*
PARENT ON BEHALF OF MINOR	* AGENCY ID. 45-H-12
	* AGENCY ID. 45-H-22
	*
*****	*****

ORDER ON SCHOOL DISTRICT'S MOTION TO CONSOLIDATE

On November 18, 2024, Parent on behalf of Minor filed a *Request for Special Education Due Process Hearing* which was docketed under Division of Administrative Law (DAL) Docket Number 2024-53752-DOE-IDEA. On February 17, 2025, Parent on behalf of Minor filed a *Request for Special Education Due Process Hearing* which was docketed under DAL Docket Number 2025-3481-DOE-IDEA. School District filed responses to each of the due process hearing requests.

On March 25, 2025, School District filed *Motions to Consolidate and Incorporated Memoranda*, requesting that the adjudication bearing Docket Number 2025-3481-DOE-IDEA be consolidated with Docket Number 2024-53752-DOE-IDEA. Parent filed timely oppositions to each of the motions filed by School District.

Administrative Law Judge Anthony J. Russo conducted a telephone hearing on School District's *Motions to Consolidate* on April 1, 2025. Present for the telephone hearing were Carlar M. Alexander and Timothy Riveria, counsel of record for School District, and Parent.

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. *See* attached Legend for identifying information.

Counsel for School District argued that all matters involve common issues of fact and law pertaining to claims by Parent under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) on behalf of the same Minor involving the same School and School District. Parent argued that the adjudications should not be consolidated as Parent believes that certain allegations will not be considered if the matters are consolidated.

Louisiana Administrative Code (LAC) Title 1, Part III, Chapter 7, Section 701 provides for consolidation of adjudications. Section 701 provides that, when two or more actions involving common issues of law or fact are separately pending before the Division of Administrative Law, the administrative law judge may, upon his or her motion or that of any party, order the consolidation of the matters. The Division of Administrative Law Rules applicable to consolidation of matters mirror those contained in the LAC.

The above-referenced matters involve common issues of law and fact. The matters involve the same Minor, the same School and School District, and there are numerous overlapping allegations contained in each of the due process hearing requests. Neither party will be prejudiced by the consolidation of these matters. All matters contained in each of the consolidated cases will be heard, other than matters that have been disposed of through prehearing motions or exceptions.

School District's *Motions to Consolidate* are granted and the cases shall now be docketed under the oldest case number – 2024-53752-DOE-IDEA. The federal decision deadline in that matter is May 1, 2025, and that deadline is now applicable to the consolidated matters.

A telephone status conference will be conducted on April 30, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., for the parties to inform the undersigned on the status of state-facilitated mediation. If mediation efforts

2

are terminated or unsuccessful, it is the undersigned's intention to schedule the consolidated matters for a due process hearing during the April 30, 2025, telephone status conference.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that School District's Motions to Consolidate are GRANTED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the above-referenced matters be docketed under the oldest case number – 2024-53752-DOE-IDEA.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the federal decision deadline for both matters is May 1, 2025.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a telephone status conference in the consolidated matters is scheduled for April 30, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. Dialing instructions for participating in the telephone status conference are attached.

Rendered and signed on April 4, 2025, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER I certify that on Friday, April 04, 2025., I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

> Clerk of Court Division of Administrative Law

Anthony J Russo Anthony J. Russo

Anthony J. Russo Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

LEGEND

Parent

Minor

School District

School

Lincoln Parish School District

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW Telephone Conference Instructions Read and follow the instructions below carefully.

This information is only for Docket # 2024-53752-DOE-IDEA. Do not use the dial-in number and passcode for any other case. After the telephone hearing, the dial-in number and passcode are no longer useful. If you have any problems using the dial-in number and passcode, please call (225) 342-1800.

1. Dial 1-888-990-7540.

2. The recording that you will hear depends on whether the judge has joined the call yet.

• If the judge has NOT joined the call, you will hear:

"Welcome to Zoom. If you are the meeting host, please enter your host key followed by pound. If you are a participant, please press pound to continue."

Do This: Press the *#* key on the phone.

You will then hear this: "The meeting has not started. Please wait or try again later."
 Do This: Wait for the judge to join the call. When the judge joins, you will hear:

"Please enter the meeting password followed by #."

Do This: Enter **5794** then press the *#* key on the phone.

• If the judge HAS joined the call, you will hear:

"Welcome to Zoom. Please enter the meeting password followed by #."

Do This: Enter **5794** then press the *#* key on the phone.

3. After you have entered the passcode, you will hear this:

"After the tone, please record your name. When you have finished recording press pound."

Do This: Say your name and then press #. [You MUST say your name after the tone.]

4. You will then hear this recording:

"You are in the meeting now. There is (__) other participant in the meeting. You have been added to the waiting room. You cannot talk or listen until the host admits you to the meeting."

If you have difficulty joining the hearing, or if the judge has not joined after 15 minutes, immediately contact DAL at (225) 342-1800 for further instructions.

Telephone Conference Tips

- 1. If at any time you think you cannot be heard by the judge, hang up and follow the same instructions to call back.
- 2. The "host" is the administrative law judge.
- 3. The appellant, respondent, his/her attorney (if s/he has one), and any witnesses are the "participants."
- 4. Speak naturally and say your name each time before you begin speaking.
- 5. Pause for others to speak. DO NOT INTERRUPT OTHERS.
- 6. Spell out unusual terms, names, and numbers.
- 7. Do not rustle pages or make distracting noises; everyone can hear it.
- 8. Avoid putting your phone on hold. Phone systems with music-on-hold will disrupt the teleconference service.
- 9. At the end of the hearing, the judge will let you know when you can hang up.



STATE OF LOUISIANA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

SCHOOL DISTRICT ¹	*	DOCKET NO. 2024-53747-DOE-IDEA
	*	CONSOLIDATED WITH 2025-3489-
	*	DOE-IDEA AND
	*	2025-4410-DOE-IDEA
	*	
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF MINOR	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-11
	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-23
	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-24
*****	*****	******

ORDER ON SCHOOL DISTRICT'S MOTION TO CONSOLIDATE

On November 18, 2024, Parent on behalf of Minor filed a *Request for Special Education Due Process Hearing* which was docketed under Division of Administrative Law (DAL) Docket Number 2024-53747-DOE-IDEA. On February 17, 2025, Parent on behalf of Minor filed a *Request for Special Education Due Process Hearing* which was docketed under DAL Docket Number 2025-3489-DOE-IDEA. On February 26, 2025, Parent on behalf of Minor filed an *Expedited Due Process Hearing Request*² which was docketed under DAL Docket Number 2025-4410-DOE-IDEA. School District filed responses to each of the due process hearing requests.

On March 25, 2025, School District filed *Motions to Consolidate and Incorporated Memoranda*, requesting that the adjudications bearing Docket Number 2025-3489-DOE-IDEA

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. *See* attached Legend for identifying information.

² The undersigned granted Parent's oral motion at a previous telephone status conference to convert this matter from "expedited" to "non-expedited."

and Docket Number 2025-4410-DOE-IDEA be consolidated with Docket Number 2024-53747-DOE-IDEA.³ Parent filed timely oppositions to each of the motions filed by School District.

Administrative Law Judge Anthony J. Russo conducted a telephone hearing on School District's *Motions to Consolidate* on April 1, 2025. Present for the telephone hearing were Carlar M. Alexander and Timothy Riveria, counsel of record for School District, and Parent.

Counsel for School District argued that all matters involve common issues of fact and law pertaining to claims by Parent under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) on behalf of the same Minor involving the same School and School District. Parent argued the adjudications should not be consolidated as Parent believes that certain allegations will not be considered if the matters are consolidated.

Louisiana Administrative Code (LAC) Title 1, Part III, Chapter 7, Section 701 provides for consolidation of adjudications. Section 701 provides that, when two or more actions involving common issues of law or fact are separately pending before the Division of Administrative Law, the administrative law judge may, upon his motion or the motion of any party, order the consolidation of the matters. The Division of Administrative Law Rules applicable to consolidation of matters mirror those contained in the LAC.

The above-referenced matters involve common issues of law and fact. The matters involve the same Minor, the same School and School District, and there are numerous overlapping allegations contained in each of the due process hearing requests. Neither party will be prejudiced by the consolidation of these matters. All matters contained in each of the

³ In its motion, School District also requested that the adjudication bearing Docket Number 2025-1838-DOE-IDEA be consolidated. The portion of School District's motion pertaining to that matter is moot as an order was issued by the undersigned dismissing that matter.

consolidated cases will be heard, other than matters that have been disposed of through prehearing motions or exceptions.

School District's *Motions to Consolidate* are granted and the cases shall now be docketed under the oldest case number – 2024-53747-DOE-IDEA. The federal decision deadline in that matter is May 1, 2025, and that deadline is now applicable to the consolidated matters.

A telephone status conference will be conducted on April 30, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., for the parties to inform the undersigned on the status of state-facilitated mediation. If mediation efforts are terminated or unsuccessful, it is the undersigned's intention to schedule the consolidated matters for a due process hearing during the April 30, 2025, telephone status conference.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that School District's Motions to Consolidate are GRANTED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the above-referenced matters be docketed under the oldest case number – 2024-53747-DOE-IDEA.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the federal decision deadline for all matters is May 1, 2025.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a telephone status conference in the consolidated matters is scheduled for April 30, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. Dialing instructions for participating in the telephone status conference are attached.

Rendered and signed on April 4, 2025, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER

I certify that on Friday, April 04, 2025, I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

Clerk of Court Division of Administrative Law

Anthony J Russo

Anthony J. Russo Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

LEGEND

Parent

Minor

School District

School

Lincoln Parish School District

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW Telephone Conference Instructions Read and follow the instructions below carefully.

This information is only for Docket # 2024-53747-DOE-IDEA. Do not use the dial-in number and passcode for any other case. After the telephone hearing, the dial-in number and passcode are no longer useful. If you have any problems using the dial-in number and passcode, please call (225) 342-1800.

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You will then hear this: "The meeting has not started. Please wait or try again later."
 Do This: Wait for the judge to join the call. When the judge joins, you will hear:

"Please enter the meeting password followed by #."

Do This: Enter **5794** then press the *#* key on the phone.

• If the judge HAS joined the call, you will hear:

"Welcome to Zoom. Please enter the meeting password followed by #."

Do This: Enter **5794** then press the *#* key on the phone.

3. After you have entered the passcode, you will hear this:

"After the tone, please record your name. When you have finished recording press pound."

Do This: Say your name and then press #. [You MUST say your name after the tone.]

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"You are in the meeting now. There is (__) other participant in the meeting. You have been added to the waiting room. You cannot talk or listen until the host admits you to the meeting."

If you have difficulty joining the hearing, or if the judge has not joined after 15 minutes, immediately contact DAL at (225) 342-1800 for further instructions.

Telephone Conference Tips

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- 3. The appellant, respondent, his/her attorney (if s/he has one), and any witnesses are the "participants."
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- 7. Do not rustle pages or make distracting noises; everyone can hear it.
- 8. Avoid putting your phone on hold. Phone systems with music-on-hold will disrupt the teleconference service.
- 9. At the end of the hearing, the judge will let you know when you can hang up.



STATE OF LOUISIANA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

SCHOOL DISTRICT ¹	*	DOCKET NO. 2024-53747-DOE-IDEA
	*	CONSOLIDATED WITH 2025-3489-
	*	DOE-IDEA AND
	*	2025-4410-DOE-IDEA
	*	
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF MINOR	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-11
	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-23
	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-24
*****	*****	******

ORDER ON SCHOOL DISTRICT'S MOTION TO CONSOLIDATE

On November 18, 2024, Parent on behalf of Minor filed a *Request for Special Education Due Process Hearing* which was docketed under Division of Administrative Law (DAL) Docket Number 2024-53747-DOE-IDEA. On February 17, 2025, Parent on behalf of Minor filed a *Request for Special Education Due Process Hearing* which was docketed under DAL Docket Number 2025-3489-DOE-IDEA. On February 26, 2025, Parent on behalf of Minor filed an *Expedited Due Process Hearing Request*² which was docketed under DAL Docket Number 2025-4410-DOE-IDEA. School District filed responses to each of the due process hearing requests.

On March 25, 2025, School District filed *Motions to Consolidate and Incorporated Memoranda*, requesting that the adjudications bearing Docket Number 2025-3489-DOE-IDEA

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. *See* attached Legend for identifying information.

² The undersigned granted Parent's oral motion at a previous telephone status conference to convert this matter from "expedited" to "non-expedited."

and Docket Number 2025-4410-DOE-IDEA be consolidated with Docket Number 2024-53747-DOE-IDEA.³ Parent filed timely oppositions to each of the motions filed by School District.

Administrative Law Judge Anthony J. Russo conducted a telephone hearing on School District's *Motions to Consolidate* on April 1, 2025. Present for the telephone hearing were Carlar M. Alexander and Timothy Riveria, counsel of record for School District, and Parent.

Counsel for School District argued that all matters involve common issues of fact and law pertaining to claims by Parent under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) on behalf of the same Minor involving the same School and School District. Parent argued the adjudications should not be consolidated as Parent believes that certain allegations will not be considered if the matters are consolidated.

Louisiana Administrative Code (LAC) Title 1, Part III, Chapter 7, Section 701 provides for consolidation of adjudications. Section 701 provides that, when two or more actions involving common issues of law or fact are separately pending before the Division of Administrative Law, the administrative law judge may, upon his motion or the motion of any party, order the consolidation of the matters. The Division of Administrative Law Rules applicable to consolidation of matters mirror those contained in the LAC.

The above-referenced matters involve common issues of law and fact. The matters involve the same Minor, the same School and School District, and there are numerous overlapping allegations contained in each of the due process hearing requests. Neither party will be prejudiced by the consolidation of these matters. All matters contained in each of the

³ In its motion, School District also requested that the adjudication bearing Docket Number 2025-1838-DOE-IDEA be consolidated. The portion of School District's motion pertaining to that matter is moot as an order was issued by the undersigned dismissing that matter.

consolidated cases will be heard, other than matters that have been disposed of through prehearing motions or exceptions.

School District's *Motions to Consolidate* are granted and the cases shall now be docketed under the oldest case number – 2024-53747-DOE-IDEA. The federal decision deadline in that matter is May 1, 2025, and that deadline is now applicable to the consolidated matters.

A telephone status conference will be conducted on April 30, 2025, at 9:00 a.m., for the parties to inform the undersigned on the status of state-facilitated mediation. If mediation efforts are terminated or unsuccessful, it is the undersigned's intention to schedule the consolidated matters for a due process hearing during the April 30, 2025, telephone status conference.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that School District's Motions to Consolidate are GRANTED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the above-referenced matters be docketed under the oldest case number – 2024-53747-DOE-IDEA.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the federal decision deadline for all matters is May 1, 2025.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a telephone status conference in the consolidated matters is scheduled for April 30, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. Dialing instructions for participating in the telephone status conference are attached.

Rendered and signed on April 4, 2025, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER

I certify that on Friday, April 04, 2025, I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

Clerk of Court Division of Administrative Law

Anthony J Russo

Anthony J. Russo Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

LEGEND

Parent

Minor

School District

School

Lincoln Parish School District

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW Telephone Conference Instructions Read and follow the instructions below carefully.

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Do This: Enter **5794** then press the *#* key on the phone.

• If the judge HAS joined the call, you will hear:

"Welcome to Zoom. Please enter the meeting password followed by #."

Do This: Enter **5794** then press the *#* key on the phone.

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- 3. The appellant, respondent, his/her attorney (if s/he has one), and any witnesses are the "participants."
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- 5. Pause for others to speak. DO NOT INTERRUPT OTHERS.
- 6. Spell out unusual terms, names, and numbers.
- 7. Do not rustle pages or make distracting noises; everyone can hear it.
- 8. Avoid putting your phone on hold. Phone systems with music-on-hold will disrupt the teleconference service.
- 9. At the end of the hearing, the judge will let you know when you can hang up.



STATE OF LOUISIANA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

SCHOOL DISTRICT ¹	*	DOCKET NO. 2025-5372-DOE-IDEA
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF MINOR	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-25

ORDER TERMINATING ADJUDICATION

On April 29, 2025, Parent on behalf of Minor submitted a document to withdraw her request for a due process hearing.

IT IS ORDERED that the adjudication in the above entitled and numbered case is terminated.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the in-person hearing scheduled for May 9 and 12, 2025, is

CANCELED.

Rendered and signed on April 29, 2025, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER I certify that on Thursday, May 01, 2025., I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

> Clerk of Court Division of Administrative Law

arra Chikuduk

Adaora Chukudebelu Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. See attached Legend for identifying information.

Legend

Parent

Minor

School

School District

School District Representative

Calcasieu Parish School Board

Michael Hill

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that the attached **Order Terminating Adjudication** in **Docket No. 2025-5372-DOE-IDEA** has been served to the following individuals by regular, first-class mail, certified mail, and/or electronic mail on May 1, 2025.

Clerk of Court

Division of Administrative Law

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL, ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL



BY ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. Wayne T. Stewart Attorney at Law 2431 S. Acadian Thruway, Suite 600 Baton Rouge, LA 70808 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **5306** wstewart@hamsil.com

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL

Mr. Jason VanMetre Superintendent c/o Calcasieu Parish School Board 3310 Broad Street Lake Charles, LA 70615

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY

Louisiana Department of Education E-mail: <u>DisputeResolution.DOE@la.gov</u>









STATE OF LOUISIANA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

SCHOOL DISTRICT ¹	*	DOCKET NO. 2025-6281-DOE-IDEA
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF MINOR	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-29
******	*****	******

ORDER TERMINATING ADJUDICATION

On March 24, 2025, the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) received a written request for a due process hearing from Grandparent/Guardian on behalf of Minor. On March 24, 2025, the LDOE forwarded Parent's request to the Division of Administrative Law (DAL).

On April 7, 2025, the parties filed a *Resolution Meeting Verification Form*, documenting their attendance at a **resolution meeting held on April 3, 2025**.

On April 7, 2025, the parties also filed a *Due Process Resolution Results Form*, documenting the terms of their executed agreement resolving all issues in the due process hearing request. Included with the resolution documents was Grandparent/Guardian on behalf of Minor's *Request to Withdraw Hearing Request* based on the executed and full resolution reached between the parties. The *Request to Withdraw Hearing Request* is granted, and all proceedings are terminated, including the telephone conference scheduled for April 17, 2025.

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. See attached Legend for identifying information.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that the matter entitled Parent on behalf of Minor bearing docket number 2025-6281-DOE-IDEA is dismissed and all proceedings are **TERMINATED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the telephone conference scheduled for April 17,

2025, at 10:00 a.m., is **CANCELLED**.

Rendered and signed on April 9, 2025, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER I certify that on Thursday, April 10, 2025., I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

> Clerk of Court Division of Administrative Law

Either A Redmann

Esther A. Redmann Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

Grandparent/Guardian	
Minor	
School	
School District	St. Martin Schools
School District Representative/Supervisor Special Education	Cheryl Mitchell

I certify that the attached **Order Terminating Adjudication** in **Docket No. 2025-6281-DOE-IDEA** has been served to the following individuals by regular, first-class mail, certified mail, and/or electronic mail on April 10, 2025.

Clerk of Court

Division of Administrative Law

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL, CERTIFIED MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL



BY CERTIFIED MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

Mr. Parris A. Taylor Attorney at Law 2431 S. Acadian Thruway, Suite 600 Baton Rouge, LA 70808 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **5283** *ptaylor@hamsil.com*

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL

Mr. Frederick Wiltz Superintendent c/o St. Martin Parish Schools P. O. Box 1000 Breaux Bridge, LA 70517

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY





STATE OF LOUISIANA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

SCHOOL DISTRICT ¹	*	DOCKET NO. 2025-7927-DOE-IDEA
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF MINOR	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-31-E
*****	*****	*****

ORDER TERMINATING ADJUDICATION

On May 1, 2025, Parent filed a *Withdrawal of Hearing Request*. The request is granted. Accordingly, Parent's request for a due process hearing is dismissed, the telephone status conference scheduled for May 2, 2025, and the due process hearing scheduled for May 14, 2025, and May 15, 2025, are canceled, and the above-captioned adjudication is terminated.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that Parent's Withdrawal of Hearing Request is GRANTED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the telephone status conference scheduled for May 2,

2025, and the due process hearing scheduled for May 14, 2025, and May 15, 2025, are

CANCELED.

*

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the adjudication bearing docket number 2025-7927-

DOE-IDEA is **TERMINATED**.

Rendered and signed on May 2, 2025, in New Orleans, Louisiana.

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER I certify that on Monday, May 05, 2025., I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

> Clerk of Court Division of Administrative Law

Leighann N. Guilbeau Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. See attached Legend for identifying information.

Parent

Minor

School District

Lafayette Parish School System

School District Representative

Holly Ortego

I certify that the attached **Order Terminating Adjudication** in **Docket No. 2025-7927-DOE-IDEA** has been served to the following individuals by regular, first-class mail, certified mail, and/or electronic mail on May 5, 2025.

Clerk of Court

Division of Administrative Law

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL, ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL



BY ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL

Carlar M. Alexander Timothy J. Riveria Attorneys at Law 2431 S. Acadian Thruway, Suite 600 Baton Rouge, LA 70808 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **5320** *calexander@hamsil.com triveria@hamsil.com*

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL

Francis Touchet, Jr. Superintendent c/o Lafayette Parish School System 202 Rue Iberville Lafayette, LA 70508-1502

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY



STATE OF LOUISIANA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

SCHOOL DISTRICT ¹	*	DOCKET NO. 2025-8269-DOE-IDEA
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF MINOR	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-32
*****	*****	*****

ORDER GRANTING SCHOOL DISTRICT'S PEREMPTORY EXCEPTION OF LACK OF SUBJECT MATTER JURISDICTION

*

On April 18, 2025, Parent on behalf of Minor filed a request for a due process hearing, contesting an action by School District. On May 9, 2025, School District filed a *Peremptory Exception of Lack of Subject Matter Jurisdiction*, arguing that Parent's complaint does not fall within the scope of an administrative law judge's jurisdiction under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 United States Code (U.S.C.) §1415 *et seq.*, and Louisiana Administrative Code (LAC) 28, Part XLIII, Bulletin 1706, §101. On May 12, 2025, Parent responded and filed an objection to School District's exception, arguing that her complaint relates to the identification of her child under FAPE, that is, identifying her child in the video, and the review of the educational records, which she alleges includes the video sought to be reviewed in this matter. On May 23, 2025, both parties timely filed pre-hearing statements and exhibits intended for introduction at the hearing.

The administrative law judge's jurisdiction is delineated in the applicable law, rules and regulations.² That jurisdiction is limited only to issues related to identification, evaluation, placement, and provision of free appropriate public education (FAPE).³ The due process hearing request is dismissed because the allegations made by Parent in the complaint, if taken as true, do

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² 34 C.F.R. § 300.507 (2024); LAC 28:XLIII.507.A ; LAC 28:XLIII.511. See also LAC 28:XLIII.504.A.

³ 34 C.F.R. § 300.507 (2024); LAC 28:XLIII.507.A ; LAC 28:XLIII.511. See also LAC 28:XLIII.504.A.

not relate to identification, evaluation, placement, or provision of FAPE. Consequently, the undersigned administrative law judge does not have subject matter jurisdiction.

Parent alleged School District violated the Federal Educational and Privacy Rights Act, 20 U.S.C. § 1232 *et seq.* and 34 Code of Federal Regulations, Subpart A, Part 99 *et seq.*, by not allowing her to review video of Minor in the gymnasium interacting with other children. Parent is concerned with the appearance of certain behavioral changes in Minor and believes the video may show events at school that would explain Minor's behavioral changes. Parent contends that School District's refusal to allow her to view the video is a denial of Minor's right to a FAPE.

Parent's allegations in the due process hearing request do not address any matters covered by Bulletin 1706 § 504.A.1 and 2, relating to the identification, evaluation, educational placement, or provision of a FAPE to Minor. Consequently, the tribunal does not have subject matter jurisdiction.⁴

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that School District's *Peremptory Exception of Lack of Subject Matter Jurisdiction* is **GRANTED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the due process hearing request filed by Parent on behalf of Minor is **DISMISSED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the hearing scheduled for June 4 - 5, 2025, is CANCELED.

Rendered and signed on May 29, 2025, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

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William H. Cooper Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER I certify that on Friday, May 30, 2025, I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

Clerk of Court
Division of Administrative Law

⁴ LAC 28:XLIII.507.A.1.

Parent	
Minor	
School District	Ascension Parish School
School District Representative	Adina Million and Edith Walker

REVIEW RIGHTS

This hearing decision is final unless it is appealed. Any aggrieved party has the right to appeal the findings and decision by filing a civil action within ninety (90) days from the date of this decision in a state court of competent jurisdiction or in a district court of the United States in accordance with Louisiana Administrative Code 28:XLIII.516.

I certify that the attached **Order Granting School District's Peremptory Exception of Lack of Subject Matter Jurisdiction** in **Docket No. 2025-8269-DOE-IDEA** has been served to the following individuals by regular, first-class mail, certified mail, and/or electronic mail on May 30, 2025.

Clerk of Court

Division of Administrative Law

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL, ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL



BY ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL

Timothy J. Riveria Attorney at Law 2431 S. Acadian Thruway, Suite 600 Baton Rouge, LA 70808 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **5429** *triveria@hamsil.com*

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

Edith Walker, Superintendent c/o Ascension Public Schools 1100 Webster Street Donaldsonville, LA 70346

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY



STATE OF LOUISIANA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

SCHOOL DISTRICT ¹	*	DOCKET NO. 2025-9051-DOE-IDEA
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF MINOR	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-33-E
*****	*****	*****

ORDER TERMINATING ADJUDICATION

On May 6, 2025, School District Representative submitted a Resolution Meeting Agreement signed by the parties, in which Parent on behalf of Minor agreed to withdraw her request for a due process hearing.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that the adjudication in the above-entitled and numbered matter is terminated.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the telephone prehearing conference scheduled for May 16, 2025, at 9:00 AM is **CANCELED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the hearing scheduled for May 22, 2025, at 9:00 AM is **CANCELED**.

Rendered and signed on May 8, 2025, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER I certify that on Monday, May 12, 2025., I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

*

Clerk of Court Division of Administrative Law

Lynette Roberson Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. See attached Legend for identifying information.

Parent

Minor

School District

Lafayette Parish School System

School District Representative

Francis Touchet, Jr. and Holly Ortego

I certify that the attached **Order Terminating Adjudication** in **Docket No. 2025-9051-DOE-IDEA** has been served to the following individuals by regular, first-class mail, certified mail, and/or electronic mail on May 12, 2025.

Clerk of Court

Division of Administrative Law

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL, ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL



BY ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL

Holly Ortego c/o Lafayette Parish School System 202 Rue Iberville Lafayette LA 70508 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **5344** *hcortego@lpssonline.com*

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL

Francis Touchet Jr. Superintendent c/o Lafayette Parish School System 202 Rue Iberville Lafayette, LA 70508-1502

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY



STATE OF LOUISIANA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

SCHOOL DISTRICT ¹	*	DOCKET NO. 2025-9215-DOE-IDEA
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF MINOR	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-34
*****	*****	*****
ORDER TERMI	NATI	NG ADJUDICATION

On May 16, 2025, Parent on behalf of Minor submitted a *Withdrawal of Hearing Request* withdrawing her request and waiving her right to a hearing. The telephone prehearing conference scheduled for May 23, 2025, at 1:00 p.m., and the hearing on the merits tentatively scheduled for June 27, 2025, are canceled.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that the adjudication entitled School District in the matter of Parent

on Behalf of Minor bearing docket number 2025-9215-DOE-IDEA is TERMINATED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the telephone prehearing conference scheduled for May 23, 2025, at 1:00 p.m., is **CANCELED**.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the hearing on the merits tentatively scheduled for June 27, 2025, is **CANCELED**.

Rendered and signed on May 20, 2025, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER I certify that on Wednesday, May 21, 2025, I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

> Clerk of Court Division of Administrative Law

Stephanie E. Robin Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. *See* attached Legend for identifying information.

Parent Minor School District

School District Representative

Jefferson Davis Parish School District

Jeremy Fuselier, Special Education Supervisor

I certify that the attached **Order Terminating Adjudication** in **Docket No. 2025-9215-DOE-IDEA** has been served to the following individuals by regular, first-class mail, certified mail, and/or electronic mail on May 21, 2025.

Clerk of Court

Division of Administrative Law

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL, ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL



BY ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL

Jeremy Fuselier c/o Jefferson Davis Parish Schools 203 E. Plaquemine Street Jennings, LA 70546 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **5382** *Jeremy.Fuselier@JDPSBK12.org*

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

John Hall, Superintendent c/o Jefferson Davis Parish Schools 203 E. Plaquemine Street Jennings, LA 70546

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY



STATE OF LOUISIANA DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

SCHOOL DISTRICT ¹	*	DOCKET NO. 2025-9330-DOE-IDEA
	*	
IN THE MATTER OF	*	
	*	
PARENT ON BEHALF OF MINOR	*	AGENCY ID. 45-H-35
******	*****	******

ORDER TERMINATING ADJUDICATION

On May 28, 2025, the Louisiana Department of Education forwarded to the Division of Administrative Law Parent on behalf of Minor's written request to withdraw his request for a due process hearing, stating that an agreement was reached during the resolution meeting.

ORDER

IT IS ORDERED that Parent on behalf of Minor's request for a due process hearing is

DISMISSED, and the matter bearing docket number 2025-9330-DOE-IDEA is TERMINATED.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED the telephone hearing scheduled for June 5, 2025, at

10:00 a.m., is **CANCELLED**.

Rendered and signed on May 30, 2025, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

NOTICE OF TRANSMISSION OF DECISION OR ORDER I certify that on Monday, June 02, 2025. I have sent a copy of this decision/order to all parties of this matter.

> Clerk of Court Division of Administrative Law

Esther A Redmann

Esther A. Redmann Administrative Law Judge Division of Administrative Law

¹ Due to confidentiality requirements, all specific identifying information has been redacted from this order. See attached Legend for identifying information.

Parent

Minor

School District

School District Representative

East Baton Rouge Parish

Dr. Janet Harris

I certify that the attached **Order Terminating Adjudication** in **Docket No. 2025-9330-DOE-IDEA** has been served to the following individuals by regular, first-class mail, certified mail, and/or electronic mail on June 2, 2025.

Clerk of Court

Division of Administrative Law

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL, ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL



BY ELECTRONIC MAIL AND CERTIFIED MAIL

Dr. Janet A. Harris c/o East Baton Rouge Parish School System 1050 S. Foster Drive Baton Rouge LA 70806 CERTIFIED MAIL #7019 2280 0000 0865 **5443** *janetharris@ebrschools.org*

BY REGULAR, FIRST-CLASS MAIL

Lamont Cole Superintendent c/o East Baton Rouge Parish School System 1050 S. Foster Drive Baton Rouge, LA 70806-7221

BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY





