

Before the
Administrative Hearing Commission
State of Missouri



, IN THE INTEREST OF,)	
)	
Petitioner,)	
)	
vs.)	No. 14-0449 ED
)	
RIDGEWAY R-V SCHOOL DISTRICT,)	
)	
Respondent.)	
)	
)	
)	

ORDER

On April 14, 2014, [redacted] filed a due process complaint on behalf of her daughter, (“Student”). The Ridgeway R-IV School District filed a challenge to the sufficiency of the complaint and a motion to dismiss the complaint on the ground that it is moot and does not present a cognizable issue under the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act. Because we agree the complaint is moot, we dismiss it on that basis. We also find the complaint was insufficient.

Petitioners’ complaint describes the appealed issue as “MAP-A Placement,” and the proposed remedy as “Take her off of MAP-A.” The MAP-A is Missouri’s alternative state-wide assessment test. It was administered in the District in March of this year. Per the District’s motion, Student’s IEP for this school year provided that she would take the MAP-A instead of the regular MAP test this year, but that issue will be redetermined for next year. Because her IEP team must reconvene on or before December 8, 2014, in order to conduct the annual review and revision of Student’s IEP, the issue will be determined anew at that time, prior to the 2015 administration of the MAP and MAP-A tests.

We convened a prehearing conference on April 25, 2014. At the prehearing conference the parties discussed the District’s motion. We agree with the District that Petitioners’ complaint is moot, and we dismiss it. However, the parties also discussed other issues regarding Student’s education that may be justiciable under the IDEA and not moot. Petitioners included some of

those issues in the prehearing conference statement they filed in this case on April 24, 2014. Petitioners may file another due process case with a more specific statement of IDEA-related issues and proposed resolutions. If they do so, we will timely schedule another prehearing conference and hearing.

Finally, we encourage the parties to explore informal resolution and mediation of the issues surrounding Student's placement, whether or not another due process complaint is filed.

SO ORDERED on April 25, 2014.

KAREN A. WINN
Commissioner