

**ODR Stakeholder Council Meeting
June 15, 2017
Meeting Minutes
Office for Dispute Resolution
6340 Flank Drive
Harrisburg, PA 17112**

Participants

Cindy Duch
Janice Estabrook
Betsy Gustafson
Jill Hrinda-Patten
Heidi Konkler-Goldsmith, Esquire
Debbie Leggens
Kay Lipsitz
Dr. Gina Scala
Julie Trbovich
Jane Williams, Esquire

ODR

Kerry V. Smith, Esquire, Director
Edward Titterton, Esquire, ODR Legal Counsel
Cathy Skidmore, Hearing Officer
Michael McElligott, Hearing Officer
Lucinda Judy, Legal Assistant

Presenters

Ann Hinkson-Hermann, BSE Director
Diane Funsten, PaTTAN Consultant

Minutes

The March 16, 2017 Stakeholder Council (SC) meeting minutes were adopted as written and will be published on the ODR website in both English and Spanish.

Welcome and Introductions

The SC welcomed the new BSE Director, Ann Hinkson-Hermann. Ms. Hinkson-Herman offered her background and provided brief remarks on BSE and PaTTAN, and parent engagement as a component of PaTTAN initiatives.

IDEA Work Group Training Ideas (Diane Funsten)

PaTTAN Consultant Diane Funsten oversees the IDEA Work Group, which is responsible for identifying emerging trends and topics which PaTTAN then uses to focus its training for the upcoming year. SC Members provided these ideas for possible training topics for PaTTAN: transgender/ gender issues; parent engagement; Chapter 16; truancy; placement; NOREP training; and service animals.

ODR/PTI/CADRE Project Update (Cindy Duch)

Pennsylvania's plan is to create an internet-based vehicle which will assemble resources and hyperlinks in a central location to assist constituents with a variety of special education topics.

Virtual Hearings Update (Hearing Officers Cathy Skidmore and Michael McElligott)

Hearing Officers Skidmore and McElligott explained in detail the multi-year pilot project for virtual hearings. A demonstration was given, and discussion ensued. Virtual hearings will be offered as a choice to stakeholders.

ODR Updates

Robyn Oplinger has retired from DRN and the SC. The SC will nominate and vote for replacements for the positions which are currently open on the Council.

The meeting concluded at 12:45pm. The next quarterly meeting of the Stakeholder Council will be held on Thursday, September 14, 2017.