

ODR Stakeholder Council Meeting
March 16, 2023
Meeting Minutes
Office for Dispute Resolution
6340 Flank Drive
Harrisburg, PA 17112

## **Participants**

Cindy Duch
Betsy Gustafson
Nancy Giacomini
Luz Hernandez
Christa Jones
Jill Hrinda-Patten
Amy McShane, substitute for Janice Estabrook
Edward Titterton, Esquire
Jane Williams, Esquire

### **ODR**

Kerry Smith, ODR Director Samantha Pudloski, ODR Program Manager Heather Doyle, Administrative Project Specialist

#### **Minutes**

The December 15, 2022 Stakeholder Council (SC) meeting minutes were adopted as written and will be published on the ODR website in both English and Spanish.

## **SC Member Replacement Update**

The Council member representing the Gifted community will be retiring at the end of the fiscal year. A recommendation for a replacement has been made. The SC welcomed Amy McShane, who attended the meeting as a substitute. Ms. McShane has been involved in gifted education for years and currently contracts with PDE to serve as the Western Pennsylvania Gifted Liaison for PDE, offering support on gifted education and Chapter 16 throughout the state.

### **Update on ODR Professional Development**

The ODR Director updated the SC on recent professional development for ODR staff. Sessions were focused on dispute resolution from various perspectives (LEA, parent, and hearing officers).



## **Key2Ed Training Update**

The ODR Director provided an update on targeted training with Key2Ed. Discussions are ongoing on how to move forward with additional training.

# **Update on Spanish Annual Report**

The ODR Program Manager provided an update on the Spanish translation of ODR's 21/22 Annual Report. Translation has been completed and is undergoing the accessibility process before being posted to the ODR website.

### **Current Due Process Statistics**

The ODR Director provided statistics for due process. Currently, the number of requests for due process is lower than the number of requests for the same time period as the year before. SC Members discussed potential reasons for this change.

### **Mediation Update**

The ODR Program Manager provided an update on mediation, as well as IEP facilitation. Both services have increased in the number of requested cases.

ODR will be seeking to add new mediators to its active roster. More information will be available in the near future.

ODR continues to offer training to ODR-contracted mediators.

The meeting ended at 11:02am. The next quarterly meeting of the Stakeholder Council will be held on Thursday, June 15, 2023.