

**ODR Stakeholder Council Meeting
September 24, 2020
Meeting Minutes
Office for Dispute Resolution
6340 Flank Drive
Harrisburg, PA 17112**

Participants

Cindy Duch
Janice Estabrook
Betsy Gustafson
Nancy Giacomini
Luz Hernandez
Kevin Kane
Heidi Konkler-Goldsmith
Gina Scala
Edward Titterton, Esquire
Julie Trbovich
Jane Williams, Esquire

ODR

Kerry Smith, Director
Samantha Pudloski, Program Manager
Jake McElligott, Hearing Officer
Heather Doyle, Administrative and Technical Specialist

BSE

Carole Clancy, Director

Minutes

The June 25, 2020 Stakeholder Council (SC) meeting minutes were adopted as written and will be published on the ODR website in both English and Spanish.

BSE Update (Carole Clancy)

BSE Director Carole Clancy provided a BSE update. Pennsylvania guidance during the pandemic has been updated on the website.

Due Process Update (Jake McElligott)

Hearing Officer McElligott provided an update on due process hearings during the COVID-19 pandemic. Hearings successfully continue to move forward virtually. Since April, approximately 145 hearing sessions have been held virtually and 20 decisions have been issued with some or all hearings involved taken place virtually. The hearing officers are putting together protocols on what in-person hearings may look like once they resume. ODR is beginning to receive more due process requests regarding the return to school.

2019/2020 Annual Report

ODR's 2019/2020 Annual Report has been completed and will be posted in early October after it has undergone the accessibility process. Additionally, the Spanish version will be posted to the ODR website after it has been translated and made accessible.

Attorneys at Mediation

The Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP) is reviewing the possibility of allowing attorneys to attend mediation sessions. The ODR Director presented at SEAP on the topic and is scheduled to present at another SEAP meeting at the end of September. SEAP will make the final decision in the near future.

ODR Updates

ODR's new website is now up and running. A few new sections have been added, including conflict engagement with creating agreement modules. Stakeholder Council members can send any recommended changes or additions to the ODR Program Manager.

The meeting concluded at 11:16am. The next quarterly meeting of the Stakeholder Council will be held on Thursday, December 17, 2020.