



**ODR Stakeholder Council Meeting  
September 26, 2024  
Meeting Minutes  
Office for Dispute Resolution  
6340 Flank Drive  
Harrisburg, PA 17112**

**Participants**

Cindy Duch  
Betsy Gustafson  
Nancy Giacomini  
Luz Hernandez  
Christa Jones  
Staci Kenney  
Gina Scala  
Edward Titterton, Esquire  
Jane Williams, Esquire

**ODR**

Kerry Smith, ODR Director  
Heather Doyle, Administrative Project Specialist

**Minutes**

The June 2024 Stakeholder Council (SC) meeting minutes were adopted as written and will be published on the ODR website in both English and Spanish.

**SC Member Introduction**

The SC welcomed Staci Kenney to the Council. Ms. Kenney is the Division Chief of Eastern Operations and Monitoring with the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) Bureau of Early Intervention Services & Family Supports (BEISFS). She oversees monitoring and operations of the Eastern Infant Toddler (Part C) and Preschool (Part B) Early Intervention programs.

**ODR 2023/2024 Annual Report**

The ODR Director provided a brief overview of ODR's 2023/2024 Annual Report. Mediation and IEP Facilitation are higher compared to the previous year.

**AI Usage**

The SC discussed the usage of artificial intelligence in the educational setting.



### **Miscellaneous**

The ODR website is continuously being reviewed for accessibility. ODR is also updating forms to meet accessibility standards.

ODR has hired a new ConsultLine specialist.

A small workgroup focusing on dispute resolution has been formed. This workgroup is comprised of CADRE, CASE, and the Principal Researcher from American Institutes for Research. The workgroup has asked the ODR Director to speak to the group about recommendations for improving mediation and due process.

ODR is assisting a Drexel University graduate student, in limited capacity, with an IEP Facilitation research project. This research may give insight on reasonings of use/non-use of IEP facilitation.

ODR and PEAL will be presenting two sessions at the upcoming PDE Conference in February.

### **Stakeholder Council Agenda Items**

An Early Intervention conference will be held in October. The conference is open to birth-5 leaders, childcare centers, PTI centers, and other key partners.

The meeting ended at 11:13am. The next quarterly meeting of the Stakeholder Council will be held on Thursday, December 12, 2024.