

ODR Stakeholder Council Meeting
March 17, 2016
Meeting Minutes
Office for Dispute Resolution
6340 Flank Drive
Harrisburg, PA 17112

Participants

Janice Cunningham
Cindy Duch
Janice Estabrook
Heidi Konkler-Goldsmith, Esquire
Debbie Leggens
Robyn Oplinger
Dr. Gina Scala
Edward Titterton
Jane Williams, Esquire

ODR

Kerry V. Smith, Esquire, Director
Suzanne McDougall, Program Director
Edward Titterton, Esquire, Legal Counsel
Cindy Judy, Legal Assistant
Heather Doyle, SC Secretary

Presenters

None

Minutes

The December 17, 2015 Stakeholder Council (SC) meeting minutes were adopted as written and will be published on the ODR website in both English and Spanish.

Telephone Assistance to Parents during Mediation (Cindy Duch)

A question was raised by a parent asking if there was any policy in place regarding an advocate participating in a mediation by phone. No policies are currently in place.

Cyber Charter Mediation (Suzanne McDougall)

The Office for Dispute Resolution has received several requests for remote participation in mediations. SC member feedback included accessibility of all parties, internet connection and call failures, online security, electronic taping, cost-effectiveness, saves time and allows parties out of area to participate.

Gifted Education Update (Kerry Smith)

The Office for Dispute Resolution interviewed a hearing officer candidate for Gifted-only due process hearings and has offered the position to Dr. Vicki McGinley.

Outreach Activities (Cindy Judy)

Cindy Judy updated the SC on ODR's outreach activities. Such activities include meetings with HUNE, PEAL Center staff, the Parent to Parent Executive Director, Mission Empower, School Administrators and an Attorney. ODR will be manning tables at upcoming trainings, provide coordinated training opportunities for hearing officers and mediators, and create a listserve on the ODR website for individuals to stay current with periodic job postings, news, and updates. ODR will also be sending a letter with ODR publications to legislative and pediatric offices this summer. SC members can provide potential presentation opportunities and leads for their constituency groups as outreach possibilities.

Outreach to Underserved Communities (Kerry Smith)

Kerry Smith met with the Bureau Director to discuss possible outreach activities for underserved communities. A meeting has been scheduled with HUNE to discuss possible collaboration.

Hearing Officer Settlement Conference Survey Monkey (Kerry Smith)

The Office for Dispute Resolution sent out a survey monkey link to constituents regarding the Hearing Officer Settlement Conference service. The survey consisted of questions asking for anonymous input and feedback to guide ODR's next steps.

CADRE/Parent Centers/ODR Project (Suzanne McDougall)

Pennsylvania (one of only 3-4 states) has been invited by CADRE to participate in a collaboration with the parent centers on the topic of "productive engagement". Suzanne McDougall will be the liaison among ODR, BSE and CADRE staff for this project.

CADRE Webinar (Suzanne McDougall)

Suzanne McDougall was asked to co-present a CADRE webinar in June. The webinar will focus on constructive individual and systemic approaches to helping individuals who may be difficult to talk to or seem unwilling or unable to problem-solve around their concern.

New Trainings (Kerry Smith and Suzanne McDougall)

Kerry Smith and Suzanne McDougall briefly discussed a few upcoming trainings, which included Committing to Conflict, *Creating Agreement* for paraprofessionals, and Trust Building.

SDOP IEP Facilitation Pilot (Kerry Smith)

Kerry Smith, Suzanne McDougall and a BSE staff member met with School District of Philadelphia (SDOP) staff to discuss an IEP Facilitation pilot.

Manual Updates (Kerry Smith)

Kerry Smith and Ed Titterton will be going through the IDEA Parent Guide for updates.

The meeting concluded at 11:17am. The next quarterly meeting of the Stakeholder Council will be held on Thursday, June 16, 2016.