



**ODR Stakeholder Council Meeting
March 21, 2024
Meeting Minutes
Office for Dispute Resolution
6340 Flank Drive
Harrisburg, PA 17112**

Participants

Cindy Duch
Betsy Gustafson
Nancy Giacomini
Jill Hrinda-Patten
Christa Jones
Gina Scala
Edward Titterton, Esquire
Jane Williams, Esquire

ODR

Kerry Smith, ODR Director
Heather Doyle, Administrative Project Specialist
Robert Sprenkle, Special Education Coordinator / ConsultLine Specialist
Ashley Smith, Special Education Coordinator / ConsultLine Specialist

Minutes

The December 2023 Stakeholder Council (SC) meeting minutes were adopted as written and will be published on the ODR website in both English and Spanish.

ConsultLine Spotlight

Two of ODR's ConsultLine Specialists attended the SC meeting to provide a spotlight on ConsultLine activity.

Dispute Resolution Activity

The ODR Director provided an update on dispute resolution activity. Trends continue to look positive. Due process requests are similar to last year, but trending down from earlier years. Mediation and IEP Facilitation are trending upwards.

The BSE Director has invited the ODR Director, a PATTAN representative, and a BSE Division Chief to work together as a team to create local level supports for schools and families. A pilot site has been chosen, and the first presentation for that LEA is April 17.



Evaluative Mediation

The ODR Director provided an update on evaluative mediation. The service is typically successful; however, participants have been expecting the mediator to tell them exactly how they should proceed, which is not the role of the mediator. SC members should reach out to ODR if they have any suggestions on how to message this more effectively.

OSEP Visit Preparation

The ODR Director provided an update regarding preparation for the upcoming OSEP audit. April 2025 Phase 1 begins, which is a document request. The engagement period is September 2025.

The meeting ended at 10:50am. The next quarterly meeting of the Stakeholder Council will be held on Thursday, June 20, 2024.