

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

East Lansing, June 15, 2011

Members Present:

Jim Derocher, Negaunee
Vic Michaels, Detroit
Fred Smith, Buchanan
Ken Dietz, Watervliet
Arnetta Thompson, Grand Rapids

Staff Members Present:

Tom Rashid
Jack Roberts (Recorder)

Executive Committee Authority and Responsibility – The Executive Committee reviewed its authority under Article VII of the MHSAA Constitution and specifically its responsibility to consider each application for waiver of an eligibility requirement on its individual merits, determining if the regulation serves the purpose for which it was intended in each case or if the regulation works an undue hardship on any student who is the subject of a request for waiver. (These underlying criteria may not be restated for every subject of these minutes.)

The Executive Committee was reminded that it was the responsibility of each member school involved to provide sufficient factual information about the specific request for the Executive Committee to reach a decision without further investigation. If information is incomplete, contradictory or otherwise unclear or has been received too late to be studied completely, the Executive Committee may deny the request for waiver or delay action. Such requests may be resubmitted to the Executive Committee with additional information at a subsequent meeting or appealed to the full Representative Council.

It is possible that some of the information presented as facts to the Executive Committee by school personnel and others may be inaccurate. However, to avoid constant repetition in this report of phrases such as “it was alleged” or “it was reported,” no attempt is made in the introduction of each waiver request to distinguish between truth, allegation, hearsay, opinion, summary or conclusion. If any information provided to the Executive Committee is inaccurate, any decision of the Executive Committee to grant waiver of a regulation shall be null and void.

The Executive Committee is not authorized to approve waiver based on alleged or actual differences between schools based on “environment,” demographics, curriculum or extracurricular offerings. A determination of undue hardship is a matter addressed to the discretion of the Executive Committee within the educational philosophy and secondary role of voluntary extracurricular competitive athletics in the academic environment. The Executive Committee will avoid making exceptions that would create precedent that effectively changes a rule without Representative Council action or local board of education adoption, which would exceed Executive Committee authority. The contract the MHSAA has with member schools obligates the MHSAA to not change rules during the school year.

Students for whom waiver of a particular regulation is approved must be eligible in all other respects under all sections and interpretations of the regulations prior to their participation.

Adoption of these regulations, as well as policies, procedures and schedules of MHSAA tournaments, is a choice schools make locally when they consider their option of MHSAA membership. Consistent with rulings of the Attorney General and Michigan Supreme Court, schools are not bound by the decisions of the Executive Committee, but the association may limit participation in the post-season tournaments it sponsors to those schools which choose to apply rules and penalties as promulgated by the MHSAA and adopted by each member school’s board of education. The MHSAA exercises no independent authority over schools or students.

Athens and Climax-Scotts High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in wrestling between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 387 students will continue placement of one team in the Division 4 tournament. Both schools sponsored wrestling previously. Athens will be the primary school. Support from the Southern Central Athletic Association was submitted.

Boyne City and Boyne Falls High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls alpine skiing between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 482 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 2 tournament. Boyne City sponsored skiing previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Lake Michigan Conference was submitted.

Detroit-Northwestern and Detroit-Diplomas Now High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls basketball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls swimming & diving, boys and girls golf, boys and girls track & field, boys and girls tennis, girls volleyball, baseball, girls softball and football between these two schools of the same district with a combined projected 2011-12 enrollment of 870 students. Diplomas Now will be a new Detroit Public High School operating with a 9th grade for the first time in the fall of 2011-12 with an anticipated enrollment of 160 students. The new school will be housed in a wing of Northwestern High School and issue its own diploma and transcript. Northwestern will be the primary school. Support from the Detroit Public School League was submitted.

Gladwin, Beaverton, Harrison and Houghton Lake High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Houghton Lake High School to an ice hockey cooperative agreement which has existed since 2001 between the other three schools. The combined 2011-12 enrollment of 1,935 students will move the team from Division 2 to the Division 1 tournament. Gladwin will continue as the primary school. Support from the Northern Michigan Hockey League was received.

Holland-West Ottawa, Holland Christian and Holland-Black River High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey between these schools whose combined 2011-12 enrollment of 3,383 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 1 tournament. West Ottawa sponsored hockey previously and will be the primary school. Support from the OK Conference was received.

Mesick and Buckley High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in football between these two schools with a combined 2011-12 enrollment of 346 students. Mesick has sponsored football previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Northwest Conference was received.

Norton Shores-Mona Shores, Muskegon—Reeths-Puffer and Muskegon-Western Michigan Christian High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – On April 20, 2011, the Executive Committee tabled until not later than its June 15 meeting a partially completed application for the addition of Western Michigan Christian to a girls swimming & diving cooperative program between Muskegon and Mona Shores High Schools. Since the breakup of agreements in excess of 3,500 students in 2006, one-half of Muskegon High School's enrollment has been placed with Mona Shores High School, the other half with Reeths-Puffer High School. A parallel boys cooperative program was approved in October of 2010. The combined enrollment for classification purposes of 2,211 students would have continued placement of a team in the Division 1 tournament. Completed applications and support from the OK Conference were received.

Subsequent to this request on June 2, 2011, Muskegon High School dropped swimming & diving as a sponsored sport for both boys and girls, leaving the remaining schools to rent the pool from Muskegon High School which previously contributed pool use as a member of the agreement. The schools now request that the agreement be returned to its original status before the 2006 breakup to comply with the 3,500-student enrollment limit but with the proposed addition of Western Michigan Christian to the girls cooperative program. This would result in a total combined enrollment of 2,801 students for boys the girls and boys cooperative programs. Mona Shores and Reeths-Puffer are schools of the same district. Mona Shores would continue as the primary school. Support of the new agreement from the OK Conference is anticipated and pending over the summer due to the late announcement by Muskegon High School.

Contingent upon the approval of the OK Conference prior to any competition, the Executive Committee approved the cooperative programs in boys and girls swimming & diving between Muskegon-Mona Shores (primary), Reeths-Puffer and Western Michigan Christian High Schools.

Saginaw-Nouvel Catholic Central High School and Saginaw Arts and Sciences Academy (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in girls swimming & diving between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 592 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 3 tournament. Nouvel Catholic Central sponsored swimming previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Independent Swimming Conference was received.

Wyoming-West Michigan Lutheran and Wyoming-The Potters House Christian High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls cross country between these two schools whose 2011-12 combined enrollment of 228 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 4 tournament. West Michigan Lutheran was in an agreement previously with Byron Center-Zion Christian which has dissolved. West Michigan Lutheran will be the primary school. Approval from future opponents was received.

Ypsilanti-Lincoln, Belleville and Ypsilanti-Willow Run High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – A request was made to waive the 3,500-student enrollment limitation to allow one 12th-grade student from Willow Run High School to be grandfathered into a newly forming ice hockey cooperative agreement between these three schools for the 2011-12 school year. Since 2004-05, Willow Run and Belleville High Schools have operated an ice hockey cooperative program. In the summer of 2010 the program was dissolved. In the late fall of 2010-11, Lincoln dropped its hockey program due to low participation and asked Belleville/Willow Run if its four former players could skate with them as a non-MHSAA tournament team which also did not have approval as a cooperative program. The school will be forfeiting all of its 2010-11 contests. The request was for a cooperative program with Ypsilanti-Lincoln (1,530 students) Belleville (1,697 students) and Willow Run (426 students). Lincoln and Belleville's combined enrollment is 3,227 students; the addition of Willow Run totals 3,663 students and would be for one year in order to allow one student to continue. If the Executive Committee approves the concept, the schools will submit applications and league approval.

The Executive Committee approved the participation of this one 12th-grade student only for the 2011-12 school year only in anticipation of a cooperative agreement application being submitted prior to Aug. 15, 2011.

Cooperative Program Renewals (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) –

- a. Pursuant to instructions revised by the Representative Council in December 2006, the MHSAA staff identified Cooperative Team Renewal Forms that required Executive Committee review, including those involving Class A or B schools or three or more schools of any size which indicate large numbers of students trying out or being cut, or a significant win/loss record. All agreements include conference approvals. The Executive Committee approved the following renewals:

- South Lyon and South Lyon East in ice hockey.
 - Troy Athens and Auburn Hills-Avondale in girls gymnastics.
- b. Pursuant to instructions of the Representative Council in 1997, the Executive Committee must review Cooperative Team Renewal Forms for cooperative agreements in boys bowling, girls bowling, girls golf and girls competitive cheer where the combined enrollment exceeds 1,000 students. The Executive Committee approved the following renewals:
- Battle Creek-Central and Battle Creek-Pennfield in girls golf.
 - Zeeland East and Zeeland West in girls and boys bowling.

Livonia-Stevenson High School (Regulation I, Sections 4 & 5) – A request to waive the maximum enrollment and competition portions of the eligibility regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who began the 9th grade in the second semester of the 2007-08 school year. The student's fourth first semester will be this coming fall, 2011-12. The school requested eligibility for the second semester of 2011-12 because the student was only enrolled in two classes and adjusting to the loss of the family home due to fire in 2006.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Ann Arbor-Pioneer High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended Ann Arbor-Skyline High School for the 9th grade and is returning to begin the 2011-12 school year at the school of her attendance area (Pioneer), preferring its academic philosophy. The student participated in subvarsity sports in the fall of the 2010-11 school year at Skyline.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Edwardsburg High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student (2011-12) to waive the transfer regulation to allow the completion of an Educational Transfer Form for this student whose parents have not lived as husband and wife for six years and who have not completed a divorce proceeding.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Farmington High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – On March 24, 2011, the Executive Committee did not approve a request to waive the transfer regulation on behalf of a 10th-grade student (2011-12) who began high school at Farmington, participated in the preseason football scrimmage and broke his leg in the first freshman football game of the season. As a result of the injury, his academic schedule was altered and the parents decided to enroll the student at Brother Rice High School at the end of the first trimester. At the start of the third trimester on March 21, 2011, the student reenrolled at Farmington High School. Because the student has been ineligible or not participating for almost the entire 9th grade, the school requested eligibility for fall sports in 2011 or eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment beginning March 21, 2011.

Subsequent to the March 24, 2011 meeting, significant additional information was received including the student's medical history and the fact that it was administrators at Farmington High School who advised the family to wait until mid-March to reenroll.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st school day of reenrollment at Farmington High School.

Flint-Powers Catholic High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade (2011-12) student who lived with his parents and grandmother since the 7th grade and has attended Flushing High School. Over the previous two years, the parents relocated and left the student to live with the grandmother. In May 2010, the grandmother entered an elder care facility, at which time the student moved in with an aunt and uncle in Flushing. The student continued to attend Flushing High School for the 2010-11 school year. The aunt and uncle have two children who will be attending Powers Catholic in September 2011; an 8th grader who previously attended Flushing Junior High and a 12th grader who has been enrolled at Powers since 9th grade.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Gladwin High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student from Texas whose mother abandoned him as an infant. In March 2011, the student and father visited an aunt and uncle in Gladwin. The father returned to Texas and left the student with his aunt, eventually sending guardianship documents. The student enrolled on March 21, 2011. If immediate eligibility is not approved, the school requested eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment due to compelling circumstances.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st school day of enrollment at Gladwin High School.

Gladwin High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student whose parents are divorced and whose custody has been contested. The student lived with her mother in Harrison Township, attending L'Anse Creuse High School, and has moved to the residence of her father and step-siblings in the Harrison School District, enrolling at Gladwin High School on March 4, 2011. If immediate eligibility is not approved, the school requested eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment after March 4, 2011.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st school day of enrollment at Gladwin High School.

Jackson-Lumen Christi High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (closest nonpublic school) was made on behalf an 11th-grade student (2011-12) who previously attended Livonia-Stevenson High School while living with his divorced father. The student will move to the residence of his mother in Brooklyn and enroll at Lumen Christi to begin the 2011-12 school year. The student's new residence is closer to Jackson Christian than to Lumen Christi. The mother and student are both Catholic. The student attended a Catholic school through the 8th grade. An otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Jonesville High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment. The student previously attended Hillsdale Academy before enrolling at Jonesville on March 7, 2011.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st school day of enrollment at Jonesville High School.

Petoskey High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who is moving between divorced parents. The student lived with his mother and younger brother in Colorado. The student and his 8th-grade brother are moving to the father's residence in Pellston and enrolling at Petoskey Schools to begin the 2011-12 school year. The student participated in three football games in Colorado.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Rochester Hills-Lutheran High School Northwest (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (closest nonpublic school) was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who is moving with his family from Kentucky where he attended Community Christian Academy because a Lutheran high school was not available. The closest Christian school to the new home is 4.8 miles; Lutheran Northwest is 5.3 miles. The student and his family are practicing Lutherans.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Union City High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student (10th grade in 2011-12) who attempted to return to live with his mother and enrolled at Clio High School for the second trimester of 2010-11. Due to the environment in the mother's home, the student has returned to live with a family in Union City that took him into their home to begin the school year. The student's father died when he was four years old. The student has not lived with his mother on a regular basis since the 3rd grade, living with grandparents and relatives on and off over most of his life. The family he presently resides with was arranged for by a church in Union City. The student had poor academic performance in Clio and did not participate in athletics prior to reenrolling at Union City on March 16, 2011.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Subvarsity Waiver Requests Meeting All Conditions of Section 9(B) – The Executive Committee approved immediate eligibility at the subvarsity level for the following transferring 9th- or 10th-grade students (after entering 9th grade, before completing 10th grade) **who have not previously participated in an interscholastic scrimmage or contest in any MHSAA sport at the high school level** (whether MHSAA member schools or not) and who do not qualify for one of the 15 stated exceptions to the transfer regulation and have transferred for reasons having nothing to do with athletics, discipline or family finances and would not require Executive Committee evaluation or comparison of school demographics or curriculum:

Requesting High School	Grade	Former High School	Date of Enrollment	Length of Subvarsity Eligibility Status
Birmingham-Seaholm	10	Bloomfield Hills-Brother Rice	Sept. 2011	Jan. 16, 2012
Oxford	10	Bay Village, Ohio	Sept. 2011	Jan. 16, 2012
Romeo	10	Eastpointe-Eaton Academy	Sept. 2011	Jan. 16, 2012

Canton-Plymouth High School (Regulation II, Section 6) – A request was made to waive the 600-mile round-trip travel limitation to allow Plymouth High School to play Illinois-Rock Island High School on its ninth date (Oct. 21, 2011). Rock Island is 410 miles from Canton and appears to be open with no agreement. Plymouth had a verbal agreement which was rescinded late for the ninth date and was turned down by several schools.

The Executive Committee found that there was a suitable in-state option for the school to schedule and did not approve the request for waiver.

Grosse Pointe North High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to 2011-12 *Handbook* Interpretation 236, a request to waive the three (or four) player rule for the 2011-12 school year was made on behalf of the head boys and girls varsity swimming coach who is also employed full-time by the Pointe Aquatics Club and runs a program called Grosse Pointe Swim Camps. The program is open to the general public and includes 24 students in grades 7-12 and 60 students below the 6th grade. Seven of the 7th-12th grade students attend Grosse Pointe Public Schools. The program involves students from 11 schools or districts including Grosse Pointe. Approval has been granted for this coach and this program in years past.

The Executive Committee approved the request for this coach for this sport for the 2011-12 school year.

Holland High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to 2011-12 *Handbook* Interpretation 236, a request to waive the three (or four) player rule for the 2011-12 school year was made on behalf of the head boys and girls varsity swimming coach who is also employed full-time by the Holland Community Aquatics Center as club coach and supervisor of all competitive programs. The program is open to the general public ages 5-24 and anticipates 325 participants, 24 who are Holland students grades 7-12. The program involves students from 15 schools or districts including Holland. Approval has been granted for this coach and this program in years past.

The Executive Committee approved the request for this coach for this sport for the 2011-12 school year.

Okemos High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to 2011-12 *Handbook* Interpretation 236, a request to waive the three (or four) player rule for the 2011-12 school year was made on behalf of the head boys and girls varsity swimming coach who is also employed full-time by the Spartan Swim Club. The program is open to the general public ages 6-18 and mostly involves Haslett and Okemos residents with 20 percent of the participants coming from six other school districts. There are approximately 100 participants total, 25-30 who are Okemos students grades 7-12.

The Executive Committee approved the request for this coach for this sport for the 2011-12 school year.

Regulation III, Section 1(C) – Pursuant to 2011-12 *Handbook* Interpretation 261, waiver of the enrollment regulation has been approved for the following junior high/middle schools to permit 6th-grade students to participate with and against 7th and/or 8th graders for the sports listed in the 2011-12 school year only.

Junior High/ Middle School	Sport(s)	High School Enrollment	Middle School Enrollment
Burr Oak	boys & girls basketball, girls volleyball	76	17 7th graders 20 8th graders
DeTour	boys & girls basketball, girls volleyball	66	50 7th & 8th graders
Holland-Calvary	boys & girls basketball, boys & girls soccer, girls volleyball	78	32 7th & 8th graders
Litchfield	boys & girls cross country, boys & girls basketball, boys & girls track & field, girls volleyball	114	19 7th graders 23 8th graders

Junior High/ Middle School	Sport(s)	High School Enrollment	Middle School Enrollment
Northport	boys & girls basketball, boys soccer, girls volleyball	49	25 7th & 8th graders
Sault Ste. Marie-JKL Bahweting	boys & girls basketball, boys & girls cross country, boys & girls track & field, girls volleyball	N/A	54 7th & 8th graders
Tekonsha	boys & girls cross country, boys & girls basketball, boys & girls track & field, girls volleyball	98	40 7th & 8th graders

Boyne City and Boyne Falls Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls alpine skiing. Boyne City sponsored middle school alpine skiing previously and will be the primary school.

Multimedia Regulations – The Executive Committee approved the “2011-12 Multimedia Regulations” incorporating the *Handbook*-related changes passed by the Representative Council in May and other editorial changes and updates.

Personnel – The Executive Committee approved the Executive Director’s Standards of Performance for 2011-12 and contract through 2013-14.

Next Meetings – The next meetings of the Executive Committee are scheduled for Wednesday, Aug. 10, 2011, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; Tuesday, Aug. 30, 2011, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2011, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; Monday, Oct. 3, 2011, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; Wednesday, November 2, 2011, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; and Thursday, December 1, 2011, at 1:30 p.m. in East Lansing.