

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

East Lansing, August 6, 2014

Members Present:

Jim Derocher, Negaunee
Scott Grimes, Grand Haven
Vic Michaels, Detroit
Fred Smith, Buchanan
Kris Isom, Adrian

Staff Members Present:

Cody Inglis
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 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.

Summary of 2013-14 Waivers – During the 2013-14 program year, there were 449 (versus 522 in 2012-13, 506 in 2011-12, 462 in 2010-11, 500 in 2009-10, 540 in 2008-09, 524 in 2007-08, 448 in 2006-07, 518 in 2005-06, 436 in 2004-05, 355 in 2003-04 and 408 in 2002-03) requests by member schools to waive regulations, of which 345 (versus 416 in 2012-13, 386 in 2011-12, 337 in 2010-11, 366 in 2009-10, 419 in 2008-09, 396 in 2007-08, 326 in 2006-07, 387 in 2005-06, 297 in 2004-05, 24 in 2003-04 and 215 in 2002-03) were approved by the Executive Committee. Of the total, 316 (versus 338 in 2012-13, 352 in 2011-12, 320 in 2010-11, 320 in 2009-10, 354 in 2008-09, 372 in 2007-08, 282 in 2006-07, 276 in 2005-06, 295 in 2004-05, 232 in 2003-04 and 291 in 2002-03) requests involved the transfer regulation, of which 229 were approved (259 in 2012-13, 265 in 2011-12, 219 in 2010-11, 217 in 2009-10, 263 in 2008-09, 275 in 2007-08, 198 in 2006-07, 204 in 2005-06, 196 in 2004-05, 144 in 2003-04 and 130 in 2002-03).

Rationale for Transfer Regulation – The following rationale for the transfer regulation, first established by the Executive Committee on Aug. 6, 1985 and last reviewed Aug. 7, 2013, was reaffirmed:

- a. The rule tends to insure equality of competition in that each school plays students who have been in that school and established their eligibility in that school.
- b. The rule tends to prevent students from "jumping" from one school to another.
- c. The rule prevents the "bumping" of students who have previously gained eligibility in a school system by persons coming from outside the school system.
- d. The rule tends to prevent interscholastic athletic recruiting.
- e. The rule tends to prevent or discourage dominance of one sport at one school with a successful program, i.e., the concentration of excellent baseball players at one school to the detriment of surrounding schools through transfers and to the detriment of the natural school population and ability mix.
- f. The rule tends to create and maintain stability in that age group, i.e., it promotes team stability and team work expectation fulfillment.
- g. The rule is designed to discourage parents from "school shopping" for athletic purposes.
- h. The rule is consistent with educational philosophy of going to school for academics first and athletics second.
- i. It eliminates family financial status from becoming a factor on eligibility, thus making a uniform rule for all students across the state of Michigan (i.e., tuition and millage considerations).
- j. It tends to encourage competition between nonpublic and public schools, rather than discourage that competition.
- k. It tends to reduce friction or threat of students changing schools because of problems they may have created or because of their misconduct, etc.

Bloomfield Hills-Academy of the Sacred Heart, Livonia-Ladywood and Royal Oak-Shrine High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Shrine High School to a cooperative program in girls skiing which has existed between Academy of the Sacred Heart and Ladywood since 2012. The combined enrollment is 1,053 students. The former agreement opted up to Division 1, and this will continue with the new agreement. Academy of the Sacred Heart will continue as the primary school. Support from the Catholic High School League was received.

Carleton-Airport, Flat Rock and Romulus-Summit Academy High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Summit Academy to a cooperative program in ice hockey which has existed between Airport and Flat Rock since 2012. The combined enrollment of 2,084 students will place a new team in the Division 2 tournament. Airport will continue as the primary school. Support from the Huron Conference was received.

Clarkston-Everest Collegiate, Auburn Hills Christian and Marine City-Cardinal Mooney Catholic High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – A request was made to permit a cooperative team application to proceed after the April 15 deadline because Waterford-Our Lady of the Lakes withdrew from agreements with Everest Collegiate in June 2014.

The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys soccer between Everest, Auburn Hills Christian and Cardinal Mooney Catholic where the combined enrollment of 318 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 4 tournament. Everest Collegiate will be the primary school. Support from the Catholic High School League was received.

Grand Haven and Spring Lake High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 2,762 students will place a new team in the Division 1 tournament. Grand Haven sponsored hockey previously and will be the primary school. Support from the OK Conference was received.

Lincoln-Alcona and Oscoda High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys golf between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 651 students will place a new team in the Division 3 tournament. Both schools sponsored boys golf previously; Alcona will be the primary school. Support from four future opponents was received.

Linden, Fenton and Linden-Lake Fenton High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in girls gymnastics between these three schools which have not sponsored gymnastics previously. The combined enrollment of 2,736 students will place a new team in the tournament. Linden will be the primary school. Support from the Flint Metro League was received.

Marine City-Cardinal Mooney Catholic and Clarkston-Everest Collegiate High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – A request was made to permit a cooperative team application to proceed after the April 15 deadline because Waterford-Our Lady of the Lakes withdrew from agreements with Everest Collegiate in June 2014.

The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls cross country between Cardinal Mooney Catholic and Everest Collegiate where the combined enrollment of 262 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 4 tournament. Cardinal Mooney Catholic will be the primary school. Support from the Catholic High School League was received.

Otisville-LakeVille, Dryden, Goodrich, Imlay City and North Branch High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Imlay City to an ice hockey cooperative program which has previously existed among the other schools since 2007. LakeVille will continue as the primary school. The combined enrollment of 2,842 students will place a new team in the Division 1 tournament. Support from the Tri-Valley Conference was submitted.

Saginaw-Swan Valley, Hemlock, Merrill, Midland-Bullock Creek and Sanford-Meridian Early College High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Merrill to a cooperative program in ice hockey which has existed among the other schools since 2006. Swan Valley will continue as the primary school. The combined enrollment of 2,245 students will place a new team in the Division 1 tournament. Support from several future opponents was received.

Troy and Auburn Hills-Avondale High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in girls gymnastics between these two schools whose combined enrollment is 3,374 students. Avondale and Troy-Athens recently dissolved a gymnastics cooperative program; Troy High School previously sponsored a stand-alone team and will be the primary school. Support from the Oakland Activities Association was received.

Grand Rapids Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 2) – A request was made to waive or interpret the age rule to permit undocumented birthdates for two unaccompanied minors who are refugees from Ethiopia and are residing as wards of the state with a family for whom Grand Rapids Christian is the closest nonpublic school. The students will be enrolling as 9th-graders to begin the 2014-15 school year and have no previous educational record. One student's birthdate is noted on a state department document as April 5, 1998; the other student has been assigned a birthdate of Jan. 1, 1997.

The Executive Committee approved the government-assigned birthdates.

Wyoming-Godwin Heights High School (Regulation I, Section 2) – A request was made to waive or interpret the age rule to permit an undocumented birthdate for an unaccompanied minor from Nairobi whose parents are deceased and who lived with relatives for a time and applied for asylum with the United Nations. The student is a refugee and ward of the state residing with a family in Godwin Heights. The student enrolled as a first-time 9th-grader, mid-term 2013-14 on Feb. 11, 2014, and has no previous educational record. The student has been assigned a birthdate of Jan. 1, 1998.

The Executive Committee approved the government-assigned birthdate.

Adrian-Madison High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose parents have joint physical and legal custody and who is being court ordered to attend Madison High School. The student attended Madison Schools previously and there are two siblings in the mother's care who have attended Madison Schools since the parents divorced. An Educational Transfer Form is in process.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Athens High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of an 11th-grade foreign exchange student from an Approved International Student Program. The host family lives in the Colon School District but has had three children in attendance at Athens Schools (grades 6, 9 and 11) for the past four years.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Auburn Hills-Avondale Regulation I, Section 9[B]) – A request was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only. The student attended Oakland Christian to begin the 9th grade in 2013-14. His mother was the elementary school principal there. The mother stepped down from her position and the student was home schooled through Great Lakes Cyber School for the second semester through an online learning school. Two siblings were also home schooled. The student participated in athletics at Oakland Christian during the first semester.

Noting the student did not meet the 270 consecutive day requirement of Exception 11 for enrollment in the home school prior to the transfer to Avondale and citing the specific condition of this Section that the student has not previously participated in school sports, the Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Battle Creek-Lakeview High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of an 11th-grade foreign exchange student from an Approved International Student Program. The host family lives in the Harper Creek School District but has two children in attendance at Lakeview Schools (grades 4 and 8) and another child who graduated from Lakeview. A waiver has been approved for this family twice in previous years.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Bloomington High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose father has worked in Bloomington for several years and whose mother has accepted an administrative position there to begin the 2014-15 school year. The student has a 9th-grade brother who will be eligible immediately, enrolling to begin the school year. The student was previously enrolled and participated in athletics at Paw Paw where the family continues to reside.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Britton Deerfield High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 12th-grade foreign exchange student from an Approved International Student Program. The host family lives in the Tecumseh School District but has an 11th-grade daughter who has been in attendance at Britton-Deerfield Schools since 2007. An older brother attended Britton Deerfield for middle school and graduated from Tecumseh High School in June 2014.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Brooklyn-Columbia Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who was removed from his mother's home in Jackson by Child Protective Services in January 2014 and placed with his grandmother in the Columbia Central School District. The student completed the 2013-14 school year at Jackson High School and intends to enroll at Columbia Central to begin the 2014-15 school year. The mother has left the Jackson area; there is no father in the student's life.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Byron Center-Zion Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and the language of Exception 2 (parents, single parent if divorced, or only living parent) was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who is returning from two years at Howe Military Academy (a boarding school in Indiana) to reside jointly in the homes of his separated parents in Hudsonville and Byron Center. The parents have lived apart since December 2012. On breaks and at non-school times, the student would reside half-time with each parent; the father then in Indiana, and the mother at the original home in Byron Center. The father has since moved to Hudsonville, ten minutes from Zion Christian, which is the closest nonpublic school to the mother's home in Byron Center.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Clare High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who is returning with his stepfather to Clare from Arizona but whose mother is remaining until Jan. 15, 2015, to fulfill an employment contract and to sell the family home. The student attended Clare for the 9th and 10th grades before the family moved to Arizona for employment where the student enrolled for the 11th grade and participated in athletics. The stepfather and student are living with an aunt in Clare. The student will reenroll at Clare to begin the 2014-15 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Eaton Rapids High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who was the victim of a felonious crime by a classmate who pled guilty and will continue enrollment at Lansing Catholic High School. The student has been in counseling since Jan. 13, 2014.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Fair Haven-Anchor Bay High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose father has been unemployed for over a year and recently found employment in Cadillac. The family remains in Anchor Bay while the father returns home on weekends. The student attended Anchor Bay Schools through the 8th grade before enrolling at Warren-De La Salle Collegiate for the 9th grade in 2013-14 where an older brother recently graduated. A sister attends Anchor Bay Schools. To minimize disruption to the family, the student intends to enroll at Anchor Bay to begin the 2014-15 school year. The student participated in athletics at De La Salle.

Citing the specific condition of this Section that the student has not previously participated in school sports, the Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids-Catholic Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (closest nonpublic school) was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student whose family is relocating to Grand Rapids from Minnesota and enrolling at Catholic Central to begin the 2014-15 school year. The student attended a public high school in Minnesota because a Catholic school was not available. Catholic Central is not the closest nonpublic school but it is the closest Catholic school to the new residence. The student attended Catholic elementary school through the 8th grade and the family registered in a Catholic parish in both Minnesota and Grand Rapids.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids-Catholic Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and Interpretation 62 (closest nonpublic school) was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose father's employment will be returning to Grand Rapids in January 2015 and whose family has left their rental home in New York to reside in their former home which is closer to Grand Rapids-West Catholic than to Catholic Central. Three siblings attended Catholic Central previous to the family moving to New York three years ago. The father will be commuting for six months between Grand Rapids and New York and has a studio apartment in New York until his employment is complete.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids-Ottawa Hills 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 Grand Rapids Christian High School and whose parents are going through a divorce and bankruptcy. The family has five children and can no longer afford tuition.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Lake Orion High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who previously attended Lake Orion through the 9th grade before enrolling and commuting to Orchard Lake-St. Mary where he did not participate in athletics. Because of financial hardship and a winter of precarious driving, the student reenrolled at Lake Orion to begin the 2014-15 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Leroy-Pine River High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who was removed from foster parents while in attendance at Reed City High School and is residing with a family in the Pine River School District. The student's residence was changed for his personal safety.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Linden High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who is moving between divorced parents into the Fenton School District and choosing to attend Linden High School. The student lived with his mother and stepfather and began the 9th grade at Newport-Lutheran South. The student then transferred to Woodhaven High School to begin the 10th grade and was ineligible for fall sports in 2013-14.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Manchester High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student whose mother died in June 2014 and whose father is incarcerated. The student previously attended Hillsdale High School and will be residing with a sister in Manchester and enrolling at Manchester High School to begin the 2014-15 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Marcellus High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who lived with his grandmother in Marcellus his entire life except for a portion of the 2013-14 school year when he lived with his birth mother in Three Rivers. The situation was unstable and unstructured and the student has returned to live with his grandmother in Marcellus and will reenroll to begin the 2014-15 school year. The request is to apply Exception 2 as the grandmother is more the parent than the mother. The student did not participate in athletics at Three Rivers but did play in three football games for Marcellus before moving to his mother's home.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Michigan Center High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who previously attended Jackson Christian and will be enrolling at Michigan Center with three siblings to begin the 2014-15 school year. The family has suffered financial loss over the past three years.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

North Adams-Jerome High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 10th- or 11th-grade international student from an Approved International Student Program whose host family resides in the Addison School District. The student has already arrived in the US and the host family was unable to receive information from Addison Schools over the summer. The student participated in 9th-grade volleyball while in Spain.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Otsego High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of an 11th-grade international student from an Approved International Student Program whose host family resides in the Plainwell School District. The host family has an 11th-grade student enrolled at Plainwell since the 7th grade. A similar request was approved for this family in 2013-14.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Pickford High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who is returning to Pickford from Minnesota without her parent. The student attended Pickford Schools through the 10th grade when the family lost their home and moved to Minnesota where the student attended school for the 11th grade but did not participate in athletics. The student's father was killed in an auto accident during this year and the student has returned to live with a cousin in Pickford and is enrolling to begin the 2014-15 school year at Pickford. The mother remains in Minnesota.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Rochester Hills-Lutheran High School Northwest (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (closest nonpublic school) was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended Frankenmuth High School, did not participate in sports and has moved with his family to Warren. The student's father has become the principal at Royal Oak-St. Paul Lutheran School. A 12th-grade sibling attended Valley Lutheran School and is eligible as Lutheran Northwest is the closest Lutheran school to the new residence. An incoming 9th-grade sibling is also enrolling at Lutheran Northwest. St. Paul is a feeder school of Lutheran Northwest.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Saugatuck High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) – A request was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence) to permit subvarsity eligibility only. The student's family relocated from Texas due to the father's employment change, but due to the distance involved in the relocation, was unable to find a residence in Saugatuck. The student played subvarsity sports in Texas.

Citing the specific condition of this Section that the student has not previously participated in school sports, the Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Sterling Heights-Parkway Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive or interpret the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 78 (bona fide home school student) was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who has been home schooled for the 9th and 10th grades except for one class each semester of 2013-14 at Clintondale High School. Clintondale erroneously informed the student that only one class was needed for home school eligibility and then played the student in football and basketball games during 2013-14 which the school has forfeited to opponents. Parkway Christian has accepted the home school credits from the previous semester and is the closest nonpublic school to the student's new residence.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Suttons Bay High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who resides with his grandparents in Suttons Bay after departing an unstable situation in Chicago on April 3, 2014. The student is enrolled in summer school and will begin the 2014-15 school year at Suttons Bay.

The Executive Committee did not approve 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
Detroit-U of D Jesuit	10	Royal Oak	August 2014	Jan. 19, 2015
Durand (2)	10	Home School	Sept. 2, 2014	Jan. 19, 2015
Fenton	10	Novi-Detroit Catholic Central	Sept. 2, 2014	Jan. 19, 2015
Fowlerville	10	Lansing Christian	Sept. 2, 2014	Jan. 19, 2015
Leroy-Pine River	10	Reed City	Sept. 2, 2014	Jan. 19, 2015
Negaunee	10	Marquette	Sept. 2, 2014	Jan. 19, 2015
Pontiac-Notre Dame Prep	10	Rochester Hills-Stoney Creek	August 2014	Jan. 19, 2015
Rochester Hills-Stoney Creek	10	East Side, South Carolina	Sept. 2, 2014	Jan. 19, 2015

Approved International Student Programs (AISP) – At the June 11, 2014 meeting, the Executive Committee took action to designate most AISP programs for 2014-15. The committee received material and reports from two programs and approved one member school based program which set a maximum of five international students allowed to participate in varsity athletics during any academic year. The Executive Committee did **not** approve the application of a program which has had an opportunity to be considered by CSIET for both 2013-14 and 2014-15 but has failed to access that opportunity.

The Executive Committee approved the following two programs for 2014-15 and 2015-16:

- **Oak International Academies**, which places students in schools operated by an order of Catholic priests known as the Legionnaires of Christ, with the understanding that a maximum of five international students will be allowed to participate on varsity interscholastic programs at Clarkston-Everest Collegiate High School during any academic year.
- **St. Joseph-Michigan Lutheran High School**, for which CSIET did not have a review process for 2014-15 (maximum of five international students will be allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during any academic year).

The Executive Committee did **not** approve the application of a third program which has had the opportunity to be considered by CSIET for both 2013-14 and 2014-15 but has failed to access that opportunity.

Powers-North Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9[E]) – On April 23, 2014, the Executive Committee tabled a request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who previously attended Bark River-Harris before enrolling at North Central on March 10, 2014. An allegation that the change of schools was primarily for athletic reasons was submitted by the former school and was being processed by the MHSAA. On May 2, 2014, the executive director presented a finding that the student's transfer was

primarily for athletic reasons and the student will be ineligible for 180 scheduled school days. North Central appealed the decision of the executive director and submitted additional information for consideration by the Executive Committee that appeared to request eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment or Jan. 19, 2015 (MLK Day).

On June 11, 2014, the Executive Committee tabled the appeal of the executive director's decision regarding an athletic-related transfer and also the request for waiver of the transfer regulation, asking that the student's former school (Bark River-Harris) be allowed an opportunity to respond to the information provided by the father of the transferring student and North Central subsequent to May 2, 2014. Bark River-Harris submitted a letter from the athletic director and superintendent in response.

The Executive Committee affirmed the May 2, 2014 decision of the executive director and did not approve the request to permit the student's eligibility on his 91st school day of enrollment at North Central High School.

Grosse Pointe North High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 241, a request to waive the three- (or four-) player rule for the 2014-15 school year was made on behalf of the head boys and girls varsity tennis coach who is also a contracted tennis teaching professional employed full-time by the Wimbledon Racquet Club which houses the Wimbledon Junior Development program. The program contracts court time and tennis professionals to run coed year-round tennis camps. The program currently has 90 participants and approximately 45 of these are in grades 7-12 from several different schools including the two Grosse Pointe Public Schools (12-13 students from Grosse Pointe North and eight from Grosse Pointe South). With limited numbers of available indoor tennis courts in the area and a limited supply of five courts, it is typical to have eight or more students from Grosse Pointe Schools on a court during the winter months. The Executive Committee approved the request for 2012-13 and 2013-14 only to the extent that the coach is allowed to work with three students from Grosse Pointe North on one court at one time while others may be present from other Grosse Pointe Public Schools (i.e., apply the three-player rule to students of the high school only in this specific employment situation and not the entire district).

The Executive Committee approved the request for this coach for the 2014-15 school year with the same stipulation as in previous years, that the coach is allowed to work with three students from Grosse Pointe North on one court at one time while others may be present from other Grosse Pointe Public Schools.

Waterford Kettering and Waterford Mott High Schools (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 241, a request to waive the three- (or four-) player rule for the 2014-15 school year was made on behalf of an assistant girls and boys swimming coach of this cooperative program who is also employed full-time by the Waterford Kingfish Aquatic Club. The program is open to the general public and includes 150 participants ages 6-17. The program involves students from seven school districts including Waterford (Berkley, Clarkston, Hartland, Huron Valley, Lake Orion and Livonia). It is anticipated that ten Waterford students in grades 7-12 will be among the 87 students older than 7th grade that are involved in the program. Approval has been granted this program previously.

The Executive Committee approved the request for this coach for the 2014-15 school year.

White Lake-Lakeland High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 241, a request to waive the three- (or four-) player rule for the 2014-15 school year was made on behalf of the head girls swimming coach who is also employed full-time by the Huron Valley Penguins Swim Club. The program is open to the general public and includes 96 participants ages 5-18. The program involves students from six school districts including Huron Valley (Brighton, Fenton, Holly, Walled Lake, and Waterford). It is anticipated that six girls swim team members will be among the 34 students in grades 7-12 in the program. Sixty-two students are in the 6th grade or below. Approval has been granted this program and coach previously.

The Executive Committee approved the request for this coach for the 2014-15 school year.

Regulation III, Section 1(C) – Pursuant to *Handbook* Interpretation 265, the Executive Committee approved waiver of the enrollment regulation 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 2014-15 school year only (unless otherwise indicated below).

Junior High/ Middle School	Sport(s)	High School Enrollment	Middle School Enrollment
Battle Creek-Calhoun Christian	Boys & girls basketball, girls volleyball	55	11 7 th -graders 12 8 th -graders
Byron Center-Zion Christian	Boys & girls basketball, boys & girls soccer, baseball, girls volleyball	75	41 7 th - & 8 th -graders
Climax-Scotts	Boys & girls basketball, boys & girls track & field, girls volleyball	169	39 7 th -graders 43 8 th -graders
Escanaba-Holy Name	Boys & girls basketball, boys & girls soccer, boys & girls track & field, girls volleyball	N/A	43 7 th - & 8 th -graders
Fairview	Boys & girls basketball, boys & girls cross country, boys & girls track & field	103	22 7 th -graders 17 8 th -graders
Hillsdale Academy	Boys & girls basketball, boys & girls track & field, girls volleyball	73	34 7 th - & 8 th -graders
McBain-Northern Mich Christian	Boys & girls basketball, boys & girls soccer, girls volleyball	83	33 7 th - & 8 th -graders
Petoskey-St. Francis Xavier	Boys & girls basketball, girls volleyball	N/A	40 7 th - & 8 th -graders
Powers-North Central	Boys & girls basketball, boys & girls cross country, boys & girls track & field	129	22 7 th -graders 30 8 th -graders
Rock-Mid Peninsula	Boys & girls basketball, boys & girls cross country, boys & girls track & field	82	29 7 th - & 8 th -graders
Sault Ste. Marie-JKL Bahweting	Boys & girls basketball, boys & girls cross country, boys & girls track & field, girls volleyball	N/A	70 7 th - & 8 th -graders
Tekonsha	Boys & girls basketball, boys & girls cross country, boys & girls track & field, girls volleyball	90	40 7 th - & 8 th -graders
Walkerville	Boys & girls basketball, boys & girls cross country, boys & girls track & field, girls volleyball	63	19 7 th -graders 21 8 th -graders
Watersmeet	Boys & girls basketball, boys & girls track & field	53	22 7 th - & 8 th -graders
Watervliet-Grace Christian	Boys & girls basketball, boys & girls track & field, boys soccer, girls volleyball	63	26 7 th - & 8 th -graders
Zeeland-Borculo Christian	Boys & girls basketball, baseball, girls softball, girls volleyball	N/A	13 7 th -graders 8 8 th -graders

Holland-Macatawa Bay and Holland-Corpus Christi Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D])

– The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these two member middle schools in boys and girls swimming & diving and boys and girls tennis. Because Corpus Christi has not submitted a Membership Resolution previously, past participation in violation of the enrollment regulation was reported by both schools. Membership Resolutions for 2014-15 have been submitted by both schools. Macatawa Bay, a middle school connected to Holland-West Ottawa High School, will be the primary school.

Lapeer—Rolland-Warner and Lapeer-Chatfield Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) –

The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in 7th-grade football between these two middle schools. Chatfield is a new MHSAA member middle school in 2014-15. Rolland-Warner will be the primary school.

Lapeer-Zemmer and Lapeer-Chatfield Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in 8th-grade football between these two middle schools. Zemmer will be the primary school.

New Member Schools – Pursuant to the MHSAA Constitution adopted by member schools and according to procedures for MHSAA membership adopted by the Representative Council on March 27, 1997, the Executive Committee approved membership for the following school:

Detroit-Westside Christian Academy High School is a nonpublic school whose membership lapsed during the 2013-14 school year. In accordance with procedures, the Executive Committee must review the application of a school whose membership has lapsed for one or more years. On April 23, 2014, the Executive Committee approved a cooperative team application in football with Detroit-Public Safety Academy pending a WCA Membership Resolution submission and approval. This football agreement would be non-tournament, but its games would count for playoff points for other opponents in football. DPSA was a late joining new member school in 2013-14 whose first year of full membership – non-tournament – is also 2014-15. In addition, the Executive Committee did not approve a request to deviate from the first year of membership for Westside Christian as non-tournament in basketball. Because WCA has a history of poor communication and several violations under former staff members, greater care was exercised in the school's return to MHSAA membership. MHSAA staff has had numerous communications and an onsite visit with the new principal and athletic director regarding MHSAA regulations, past and future concerns.

Westside Christian Academy has made application to the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference. The high school enrollment is projected at 65 students and the school intends to sponsor football (in a cooperative agreement with DPSA), boys and girls cross country, girls volleyball, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls track & field and possibly girls softball. The school has some outdoor field space but a practice-only gym. It plays many games on the road and will use DPSA's gym for basketball games.

A signed 2014-15 Membership Resolution and Preliminary Classification Form were received June 19, 2014. If a 2015-16 Membership Resolution is received prior to Oct. 2, 2015, and all other regulations are followed, the school will serve its non-tournament year in 2014-15 and be eligible for MHSAA tournaments beginning with the 2015-16 school year.

Cross Country Regionals – Due to internal school district issues, a four-division mid-Michigan Regional cross country site must be moved from long-time traditional host Carson City-Crystal to St. Johns Cider Mill hosted by Ovid-Elsie High School. The cider mill is unable to host the quad Regional event (eight races) on Saturday. Ovid-Elsie and MHSAA staff recommend beginning the Regionals at 1 pm on Friday, Oct. 24, 2014. This conflicts with Representative Council action of May 2004 that permits Regionals to be moved to a Friday with a starting time of 4 pm or later.

The Executive Committee approved a 1:00 pm start for this Regional in 2014 only, with the understanding that divisions scheduled earliest will have the greatest number of schools in closest proximity.

Boys Tennis Regionals – The tennis Participating School Tournament Information does not permit a tennis Regional to be scheduled on more than one school day. On a subsequent school day, a suspended event must begin after the classroom instructional day. MHSAA staff has interpreted this to mean that if a Thursday meet cannot be completed, the suspended meet may be completed on Friday after 2:00 pm. Schools without indoor facilities often request to reconvene a suspended Regional on Friday earlier in the day than 3 pm, in some cases so that the participants can play in another sport that day.

The Executive Committee did not approve a change in the policy or the staff's administration of that policy. If a Thursday event is postponed entirely prior to schools' departure for the venue, then the event may be rescheduled at any time on a subsequent school day.

Tobacco and Alcohol Policy – The Executive Committee approved the following changes to the *Handbook* and tournament managers materials as follows (underscored is new):

Tournament Managers Materials for 2014-15:

Use of alcohol or tobacco, including e-cigarettes or other smoking devices, is prohibited at MHSAA tournament events by players, coaches and spectators. Managers should stress in coaches meetings that they are not to use tobacco at the tournament venue.

Page 101 of the 2015-16 *Handbook* (with Council approval):

For coaches and officials at all MHSAA tournaments, use of tobacco products including e-cigarettes or other smoking devices of any kind within sight of players and spectators and use of alcohol during a contest or at any time before it on the day of the contest is prohibited.

Committees – The Executive Committee reviewed and approved the appointment of members and meeting dates for committees which meet prior to Jan. 1, 2015. Committees which meet after Jan. 1, 2015 will be approved at the Nov. 5, 2014 Executive Committee Meeting.

Executive Director Performance Agreement – The Executive Committee approved executive director's employment contract and 2014-15 Standards of Performance.

Next Meetings – The next meetings of the Executive Committee are scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 26, 2014, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing; Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2014, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; Wednesday, Oct. 1, 2014, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; Wednesday, Nov. 5, 2014, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; and Thursday, Dec. 4, 2014, at 1 p.m. in East Lansing.