

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

East Lansing, August 23, 2017

Members Present:

Scott Grimes, Grand Haven
Fred Smith, Benton Harbor
Vic Michaels, Detroit
Kris Isom, Adrian
Pat Watson, West Bloomfield

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 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 postseason 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.

Alba and Mancelona-North Central Academy High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls basketball between these two schools whose combined enrollment is 88 students. Alba sponsored basketball previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Northern Lakes Conference was submitted.

Ann Arbor-Father Gabriel Richard and Whitmore Lake High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in wrestling between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 849 students will place a new team in the Division 2 tournament. Both schools sponsored wrestling previously; Father Gabriel Richard will be the primary school. Support from the Catholic High School League was submitted.

Fowler and Middleton-Fulton High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in wrestling between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 342 students will place one team in the Division 4 tournament. Both schools sponsored wrestling previously; Fowler will be the primary school. Support from the Central Michigan Athletic Conference was submitted.

Grand Haven and Holland-Black River High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1 [F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls alpine skiing between these two schools. The combined enrollment of 2,347 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 1 tournament. Grand Haven sponsored skiing previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Greater Grand Rapids Ski Conference was submitted.

Hemlock and Merrill High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls soccer between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 591 students will continue placement of a girls soccer team in the 2017-18 Division 3 tournament. **The boys soccer agreement will not be effective until the 2018-19 school year.** Hemlock sponsored soccer previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Tri-Valley Conference was submitted.

Holt, Eaton Rapids, Portland & Potterville High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Potterville to a cooperative agreement in ice hockey among the other three schools whose combined enrollment of 3,318 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 1 tournament. Holt will continue as the primary school. Support from the Capital Area Activities Conference was submitted.

Jackson, Jackson-Northwest, Michigan Center and Parma-Western High Schools (Regulation I Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey between these four schools whose combined enrollment of 3,407 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 1 tournament. Springport was previously in this agreement with three schools and is being replaced by Michigan Center. Jackson will be the primary school. Support from the Capital Area Activities Conference was submitted.

Kingsford, Crystal Falls-Forest Park, Felch-North Dickinson, Iron Mountain, Iron River-West Iron County and Norway High Schools (Regulation I Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Forest Park and West Iron County High Schools to an agreement in ice hockey which currently exists between the other four schools. The combined enrollment is 1,557 students. The team has previously opted up into Division 2 and this new agreement will continue that request for a minimum of two years, resulting in the continued placement of the team in the Division 2 tournament. Kingsford will continue as the primary school. Support from the Great Lakes Hockey Conference was submitted.

Norway, Iron Mountain and Kingsford High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of boys and girls alpine skiing to a cooperative agreement which exists between these three schools in swimming & diving. The combined enrollment of 1,075 students will continue placement of teams in the Division 2 tournaments. Norway sponsored boys skiing previously and will be the primary school. Support from future opponents was submitted.

Royal Oak-Shrine, Clarkston-Everest Academy, Clawson, Madison Heights-Bishops Foley and Waterford Our Lady of the Lakes High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Bishop Foley to an ice hockey cooperative agreement among the other four schools. The combined enrollment of 1,403 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 3 tournament. Shrine will continue as the primary school. Support from the Catholic High School League was submitted.

Suttons Bay and Northport High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of girls basketball to a cooperative agreement which exists in several sports between these two schools whose combined enrollment is 188 students. Suttons Bay sponsored basketball previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Northwest Conference was submitted.

Whittemore-Prescott and Hale High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in wrestling between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 359 students will continue placement of one team in the Division 4 tournament. Whittemore-Prescott sponsored wrestling previously and will be the primary school. Support from the North Star League was submitted.

Holt High School (Regulation I, Sections 4 & 5) – A request to waive the maximum enrollment and/or competition portions of the eligibility regulation was made on behalf of a student who is entering his ninth and tenth semesters of school since beginning the 9th grade in 2013-14 at Lansing-Sexton. In the 9th grade, the student lived with his mother in an unstable situation wherein the student was acting as parent for three younger siblings. The student's mother struggled with substance abuse and the father was in jail. The family never had a stable place to stay and found themselves without a home on many nights. The student had to deal with homelessness and not having transportation to and from school. The student attended school sporadically during the second semester of 2013-14, including portions of 29 school days after the fourth Friday of February. The student was taken in by new legal guardians (his travel team basketball coach) in September 2014 and repeated the 9th grade at Holt High School in 2014-15. The student did not participate in athletics in 2014-15. He has progressed and is doing well, both academically and athletically. He was a CAAC Honorable Mention selection in basketball last season. Holt had requested consideration from the Executive Committee in 2014 but withdrew the request after clarification of the required elements of a Section 4 and 5 waiver (medical documentation) was presented to the school.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver, noting that the conditions for waiving these Sections do not exist.

Romeo High School (Regulation I, Sections 4 & 5) – A request to waive the maximum enrollment and/or competition portions of the eligibility regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who is a US citizen who has grown up and been educated in Switzerland. His transcript indicates that he attended 9th grade in 2013-14, 10th grade in 2014-15, 11th grade in 2015-16 and 12th grade in 2016-17 (four first semesters and four second semesters, for a total of eight) before he and his family relocated to Romeo to begin the 2017-18 school. Additional records were provided going back to the 2nd grade in 2006-07. The student is lacking courses unique to a US secondary school education and required for a Michigan diploma. The Swiss school system differs from Michigan in its structure and curriculum content. Students in Switzerland attend nine years of compulsory schooling before they progress on either a three- or four-year elective path beginning in the 10th school year. The student is interested in playing football; school sports are not part of the Swiss educational system. It is the position of the petitioners that the rule does not serve its intended purpose here, works an undue hardship on this student and that waiver does not create bad precedent.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver, noting that the specific requirements for waiving Sections 4 and 5 (*Handbook* p. 32) were not addressed.

Auburn Hills Avondale High School (Regulation I, Sections 7 & 9) – A request to waive the previous academic credit record and transfer regulations is made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose mother's poor health contributed to the student missing 27 of 177 school days last school year, including caring for his mother and their household in Muskegon during the second semester of the 2016-17 school year. In February 2017, the student's brother was killed. Late in the second semester of 2016-17, the student was dropped from Muskegon. The student relocated over the summer of 2017 to the home of an uncle in the Auburn Hills-Avondale School District. The student played freshman football at Muskegon High School.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Livonia-Stevenson High School (Regulation I, Section 7) – A request to waive the previous academic credit record regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student whose hospitalization and health issues caused the student to miss school and achieve one class less than 66 percent of full credit load potential for a full-time student during the second semester of the 2016-17 school year. In December 2016, the student began therapy. In May 2017, she was hospitalized for 12 days. The student is scheduled for a full load of classes in the fall of 2017-18.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver and determined that the second semester of the 2016-17 school year counts toward the maximum number of semesters allowed for athletic eligibility.

Wyoming High School (Regulation I, Section 7) – A request to waive the previous academic credit record regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who missed several days of school during both semesters of 2016-17 as he stayed home on several days during several months to care for his older brother. The student's parents had to work and could not care for the older brother.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Allendale High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who has learning disabilities and is on an IEP and attended Fruitport-Calvary Christian since the 7th grade after Freedom Christian School closed. The student struggled academically at the former school and seeks more aid and services for IEP students. The family had moved into Allendale while the student was in the 8th grade and the student continued to attend Calvary Christian.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Auburn Hills Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 74 (practicing with another team in August) was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who practiced football for two days (Aug. 7 & 8) with Lake Orion High School before registering to enroll at Auburn Hills Christian. The family was not informed until the first week of August that they would not be relocating to North Carolina for the father's employment and did not register the student until later. The student did not attend any summer football activities at Lake Orion. The request was for full eligibility as Oakland Christian and Auburn Hills Christian are in a cooperative agreement in football and do not sponsor subvarsity football.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for football at the subvarsity level only. The student is eligible for all other sports at any level.

Bark River-Harris 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 student from an Approved International Student Program whose host family lives in the Felch-North Dickinson School District. The host family has a 9th-grade daughter who has been home schooled her whole life and will be enrolling at Bark River-Harris to begin the 2017-18 school year. The mother of the host family is a teacher at Bark River-Harris.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Bark River-Harris 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 who has been placed in the home of foster parents who reside in the Escanaba School District. On Aug. 3, 2016, the Executive Committee approved a request for another foster student in the same home to attend Bark River-Harris. The request was made so that both foster students may attend the same school in 2017-18.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Bay City-All Saints Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who is Catholic, seeks a Catholic school education, and hopes to perform at a high level academically. While enrolled at Auburn-Bay City Western, the student participated in 11-player football. All Saints Central sponsors 8-player football.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Bloomfield Hills-Brother Rice 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 an 11th-grade student who made a residential change from Croswell to Northville after the mother accepted a teaching position at Brother Rice. Brother Rice is not the closest nonpublic school to the student's new home.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Bronson High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student whose stepfather died in the spring of 2017. The student resides in Bronson and his family needs the student to attend school closer to home to assist with his younger siblings. The student attended Bronson for the 9th grade and Coldwater for grades 10 and 11.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Burr Oak 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 Centreville for the 10th-grade while living with her mother who kicked the student out of their home in the summer of 2017. The student now resides with her grandfather in the Burr Oak School District and has reenrolled to begin the 2017-18 school year. Over her life, the student has been in and out of many households including with her father in California and with her mother's boyfriends. Her home environment has included abuse, neglect and alcoholism. The student attended the 9th grade at Burr Oak in the 2015-16 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver. No subsequent requests for waiver of this rule for this student will be considered by the Executive Committee.

Burr Oak High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who has a transient past with a lack of family support. The student has been passed around over his high school career between his mother, grandmother and aunts in the towns of Vicksburg, Three Rivers and Burr Oak. The last time the student attended school was the first semester of 2015-16 at Three Rivers and then ending the second semester in their virtual school. The student did not attend school during the 2016-17 school year. In September 2016, the student moved in with an aunt who has provided stability for the student who will be enrolling at Burr Oak to begin the 2017-18 school year. The student will turn 18 on Sept. 14, 2017, and is interested in playing football for Burr Oak.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver, pending a review by MHSAA staff of the student's complete transcript since first enrolling in the 9th grade so that compliance with the previous academic credit record and maximum enrollment/competition sections of the eligibility regulation can be assured.

Caledonia High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who experienced difficulty at her former school, Middleville-Thornapple Kellogg, causing the student to withdraw and enroll at Caledonia to begin the 2017-18 school year. The student was brought up to the varsity level as a 9th-grader and experienced difficulties with teammates.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Caro 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 from an Approved International Student Program whose host family lives in the Vassar School District. The host family has had two children who attended Caro Schools from Kindergarten through graduation in 2011 and 2014 and two foster children who also graduated years earlier from Caro.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Clinton High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 74 (practicing with another team in August) was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who practiced volleyball for three days (Aug. 9-11, 2017) with Tecumseh High School. The entire family of five students was accepted to attend Clinton Schools the week of Aug. 14, 2017. The request is for eligibility at the subvarsity level only. The student's parents attended Clinton, and the family intends to move into the school district sometime next spring. The student did not participate in a scrimmage or contest at either school.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for girls volleyball at the subvarsity level only. The student is eligible for all other sports at any level.

Freeland High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who is a resident of the Freeland School District and attended Midland-H. H. Dow for the 9th grade so he would be nearer a religious seminary class held in the early mornings. The student has arranged to take his religious studies classes online and will be enrolling at Freeland to begin the 2017-18 school year. The student participated in sports at H. H. Dow.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Freeland High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and the elements of a full and complete residential change was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose family has listed their home for sale in Midland and plan to build a new home commencing on Aug. 29, 2017, with an anticipated completion in four to six months. If the former home sells, the family will move into Freeland and rent until the completion of their new home. The student previously attended Midland High School and participated in athletics.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Fruitport-Calvary Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 74 (practicing with another team in August) was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who practiced girls volleyball for three days (Aug. 9-11, 2017) with Ravenna High School. The student had applied to attend Calvary Christian earlier in the summer. The student did not return to practice at Ravenna on Aug. 14, 2017 because the family found that they could afford tuition and the student would be able to attend Calvary Christian. The student did not participate in a scrimmage or contest at either school. Calvary Christian has a JV team, but with an enrollment of 62 students, the request was for eligibility at any level to move the student to the varsity if possible.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for girls volleyball at the subvarsity level only. The student is eligible for all other sports at any level.

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 an 11th-grade student whose father is retiring from the Army and whose family moved from the military base in Kentucky to Holland where the father has post-military employment. The family is Catholic, were previously members of a Catholic parish in Kentucky and members of a Catholic parish in Holland. The younger brothers are enrolled in Catholic grade school and will be attending Catholic Central at the end of 8th grade. Holland Christian is the closest nonpublic school; Catholic Central is the closest Catholic high school.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Holland-Calvary High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who attended Black River for the 9th grade and half of the 10th grade in the 2016-17 school year. He was then home schooled for the second half of the school year (less than 270 calendar days). He will be enrolling at Calvary to begin the 2017-18 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Houghton High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Houghton Schools through the 8th grade and whose father's job was changed, causing the family to relocate to Birch Run for the 2016-17 school year. The family was unhappy, put their home up for sale in Birch Run, and over the summer the mother, three siblings and the student moved in with friends in the Lake Linden-Hubbell School District. The family will be looking to purchase a home in the Houghton School District. The father will remain in Birch Run until the home is sold. The request was to waive the elements of a full and complete residential change due to employment and to permit eligibility at the former school, but not the school of residence.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Ionia 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 11th- and 10th-grade siblings who registered to enroll in the spring of 2017 and begin school at Ionia on Aug. 23, 2017. The students previously attended Saranac and participated in athletics.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver, noting the specific conditions for waiver (no previous high school participation) do not exist in this case.

Ionia 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 two international students from an Approved International Student Program whose host family lives in the Saranac School District (see above). The host family has 10th- and 11th-grade children who registered to enroll at Ionia in the spring of 2017 and begin classes on Aug. 23, 2017.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Ionia High School (Regulation I Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who has attended Saranac Public Schools his entire life and whose mother has a substance abuse problem and father is in jail. Child Protective Services has been involved twice in the past, and the student has often stayed with his grandmother in Ionia and commuted to school. The mother's current whereabouts are unknown and the student has moved permanently into the home of his grandmother. Support from the former school was submitted.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Jenison High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf a 10th-grade student whose mother has serious health issues which led the family to place the student with family friends in the Jenison School District. The parents continue to live in Grand Rapids and have given guardianship and Power of Attorney to the family friends. The student previously attended Holland, Pontiac and Hudsonville High Schools in the 9th grade and participated in athletics.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Jenison 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 international student from an Approved International Student Program (CSIET) whose host family lives in the Grandville School District. Grandville has reached its limit of foreign exchange students allowed to attend the school and Jenison was able to enroll the student.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Kalamazoo-Loy Norrix High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student whose mother has a substance abuse problem and who was living in an unhealthy environment in Cincinnati. The student's father is dying, and the student has been taken in by an uncle in the Kalamazoo Loy-Norrix attendance area.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Kingsley High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student whose parents are divorced and whose father died in 2015. The student was more aligned with his father and had difficulty living with his mother, which caused the student to move to the home of his uncle in Kingsley in March 2017, enrolling on April 7, 2017. The student previously attended Lake Orion and has interest in playing soccer for the first time at Kingsley. The student will turn 18 on Oct. 28, 2017.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Litchfield High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who lives in the Litchfield School District, attended Tekonsha where she played three sports, and has enrolled at Litchfield to begin the 2017-18 school year. Litchfield did not sponsor JV volleyball previously and intends to have two teams this fall. The school also hopes to have a JV girls basketball team.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Livonia-Stevenson High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and the elements of a full and complete residential change was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who has attended Livonia-Ladywood and whose family closed on a home in the Stevenson attendance area but whose occupancy has been delayed pending repairs mandated by the City of Livonia. The former home in Southfield has been on the market since April 25, 2017. It is estimated that the construction in Livonia will take a minimum of two months. The family will pay rent to the new owners of their Southfield home if they are unable to occupy the Livonia residence. The student's mother has changed the address on her driver's license, and utility bills have been charged to the new address.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Midland-Bullock Creek High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who began the 9th grade at Bullock Creek and lived between both parents and a family friend and attended three different schools since the 9th grade. The student was the subject of a bitter divorce and custody battle and was removed from a home in Bullock Creek by the father in 2014 and taken to Houghton Lake. After the divorce was final, the student moved with his mother to Arizona and played no sports. In April 2017, the student returned to Midland, living on his own, and attempted to reenroll at Bullock Creek but had missed the school of choice deadline and instead enrolled at Midland High School. As a 12th-grader, to begin the 2017-18 school year, the student has been accepted to return to Bullock Creek and now lives with the same family in Bullock Creek that he had lived with as a 9th-grader. The student played in three football games in the 9th grade and no soccer games in high school.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver. No subsequent requests for waiver of this rule for this student will be considered by the Executive Committee.

Negaunee High School (Regulation I, Section 9[C]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility in ice hockey was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who previously attended Ishpeming-Westwood and participated in the ice hockey cooperative program between these two schools during the 2016-17 school year. The student will be enrolling at Negaunee to begin the 2017-18 school year. Support from the former school was submitted.

The Executive Committee approved the request for ice hockey only during the first semester of the 2017-18 school year. The student is eligible for all sports on Jan. 15, 2018.

Owosso High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who previously attended Corunna and enrolled at Owosso on Feb. 28, 2017.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver following the student's 90th scheduled school day of enrollment at Owosso High School beginning Feb. 28, 2017.

Parchment High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation is made on behalf of an 11th-grade student whose mother was abusive and not able to provide for the student's basic living needs or housing. The student began the 9th grade at Parchment in 2015-16 until the mother lost her home and moved into a relative's unheated rental cottage in the Delton Kellogg School District. The student enrolled at Delton Kellogg for most of the 10th grade in 2016-17 until the mother lost that home. The mother married a man with a criminal record and moved to Washington State sometime after dropping the student off with the family in Kalamazoo. The student then reenrolled at Parchment on March 13, 2017. The Kalamazoo family has had their children attend Parchment their entire careers. The student has struggled academically but has a satisfactory previous semester record for the second semester of 2016-17 at Parchment.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Romeo High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who attended school for seven school days in Indiana (Aug. 7-15, 2017) and has reenrolled to begin the 2017-18 school year at Romeo. The student had gone to Indiana with her mother to care for her grandmother after the grandfather died in July 2017.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Royal Oak High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who attended Royal Oak Schools through the 8th grade before enrolling at Detroit-U of D Jesuit for the 9th and 10th grades. For academic reasons, the student enrolled at Royal Oak High School to begin the 2017-18 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

St. Ignace-LaSalle 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 who attended Howell High School and had limited participation in a few basketball games. Over the summer, for academic reasons, the student moved from his parents' home to reside with his grandparents in the St. Ignace School District. The student will be moving from a school with a class size of 650 to a school with a class size of 60 students. The student's teachers, administrators, therapists and doctor all indicate he has need for athletic participation.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver, noting the specific conditions for waiver (no previous high school participation) do not exist in this case.

Schoolcraft High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student whose father has serious health issues which led the father to place the student with family friends in the Schoolcraft School District. The father continues to live in Centreville and has given guardianship and Power of Attorney to the family friends. The student previously attended Centreville and participated in athletics.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Southfield Christian 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 an 11th-grade student whose adoption became final on Aug 17, 2017. The student's new parents have four children in attendance at Southfield Christian, which is not the closest nonpublic school to the family's residence. The student's mother died in December 2016. He was placed in foster care and attended Oakland Early College for the 10th grade in 2016-17.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Troy-Athens High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student whose family emigrated to Troy from Albania in June 2017 and were residing with the student's maternal grandparents in the Athens attendance area. The family had vacated their apartment in Albania. In late July 2017, the student's paternal grandmother in Albania broke both hips, and the parents and 4th-grade brother returned to care for the grandmother. Both students are registered to enroll in the Troy Schools and the mother had secured a management position in the area. The mother will resume her job and the 4th-grade student will reenroll in Troy Schools upon their return. The parents intend to return to Troy in late November 2017.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Vestaburg 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 father accepted a post as pastor of a church in the Carson City-Crystal School District. The church requires that the pastor live in the Crystal community. The student and two siblings enrolled in Vestaburg because the majority of teens the father ministers to in his church attend Vestaburg. The parents have been serving as missionaries in the Czech Republic for the past ten years. The student has been home schooled previously.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for immediate eligibility except at the sub-varsity level only until Jan. 15, 2018.

Vicksburg High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose father was appointed pastor of the Korean CRS Church of Kalamazoo over the summer and whose family moved into the church-owned home with a Vicksburg address but located in the Schoolcraft School District. The student and siblings lived in Grand Rapids. The student participated in tennis and track while enrolled at Grand Rapids Christian. The family speaks minimal English and assumed the Vicksburg home was in the Vicksburg School District.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Warren-Mott High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who moved to the residence of guardians in the Warren-Mott attendance area on Aug. 7, 2017. While enrolled in the 9th grade at Warren-Lincoln, a gun was pulled on the student and his brother. The student missed several school days because of the incident, was not progressing academically, and participated in football while at Lincoln. The student would participate in subvarsity athletics at Mott.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Waterford Kettering High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose father was employed by his former school and created difficulties for the student in front of other staff and students. The student has been in counseling since at least April of 2016. The student struggled emotionally and academically and played freshman football while at Novi-Detroit Catholic Central. He attended Waterford Schools through the 8th grade and will be reenrolling at Waterford Kettering to begin the 2017-18 school year. The student's parents never married. The student's mother has primary custody.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Wyoming—Tri-Unity Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who was diagnosed with a learning disability which resulted in academic struggles in both written expression and math calculation. The student attended Holland-Calvary, which contracted with an outside service to provide an IEP for the student. Due to financial difficulties, Calvary had to end its relationship with the provider and the student was compelled to withdraw from his previous school due to a lack of special education services. The student will be enrolling at Tri Unity Christian to begin the 2017-18 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Wyoming 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 student from an Approved International Student Program (CSIET) who arrived in the US from Italy with another student from the same program. The companion student's host family resides in the Wyoming School District. The student who is the subject of this request is residing with a host family in the Jenison School District and will be attending the same school as the student he arrived with from Italy (Wyoming). The host families are related. The exchange student living in Jenison is the son of the host family's father of the student living in Wyoming.

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
Adrian	10	Adrian-Lenawee Christian	Sept. 5, 2017	Jan. 15, 2018
Ann Arbor-Greenhills	10	Washtenaw International	Sept. 5, 2017	Jan. 15, 2018
Ann Arbor-Huron	10	Milan	Sept. 5, 2017	Jan. 15, 2018
Ann Arbor-Pioneer	10	Austria	Sept. 5, 2017	Jan. 15, 2018
Ann Arbor-Pioneer	10	Ann Arbor-Greenhills	Sept. 5, 2017	Jan. 15, 2018
Auburn Hills-Avondale	10	Pontiac Academy of Excellence	Sept. 5, 2017	Jan. 15, 2018
Berkley	10	Detroit-Henry Ford Acad, Creative Studies	Sept. 5, 2017	Jan. 15, 2018
Boyne City	10	Boyne City-Concord Academy Boyne	Sept. 5, 2017	Jan. 15, 2018
Canton-Plymouth	10	Novi-Detroit Catholic Central	Sept. 5, 2017	Jan. 15, 2018
Concord	10	Jackson-Lumen Christi	Aug. 23, 2017	Jan. 15, 2018
South Haven	10	Union City, FL	Sept. 5, 2017	Jan. 15, 2018
Sparta	10	Rockford	Sept. 5, 2017	Jan. 15, 2018

Flint-Michigan School for the Deaf (Regulation II, Section 6) – A request to waive the 600-mile round-trip travel limitation was made to permit participation in the Spike Out Volleyball Tournament held in Maryland on Oct. 6-7, 2017. Michigan School for the Deaf is 534 miles one way from the Maryland school. The other deaf schools that will play in Division II of the tournament include Marie Phillip School, MA (432 miles), Western Pennsylvania (337 miles), Lexington, NY (242 miles), Fanwood, NY (242 miles), and Rochester, NY (337 miles).

The Executive Committee tabled this request until a meeting when it can be provided with and discuss a complete list of all schools that will compete in the event, as well as any forms that may be required by state and national high school athletic associations for interstate events.

Highland-Milford High School High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 241, a request to waive the four-player rule for the 2017-18 school year was made on behalf of the girls gymnastics coach who is employed full-time by the Huron Valley Recreation and Community Education Department and runs the Huron Valley gymnastics youth program. The Huron Valley Gymnastics Program is open to the public, and for 2017-18, has 100 participants ages 18 months to 18 years old. Twenty-one are grades 7-12; nine students are current members of the Milford gymnastics team. In addition to Huron Valley Schools, the program involves students from Brighton, Walled Lake and Waterford School Districts as well as several nonpublic schools.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this coach for the 2017-18 school year.

Midland-H. H. Dow High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 241, a request to waive the four-player rule for the 2017-18 school year was made on behalf of the head boys swimming & diving coach who is employed full-time by the Kronos Aquatics Club. The Kronos Aquatics Club is open to the public, and for 2017-18 is anticipated to include approximately 41 participants ages 15-21. The program involves college age students as well as students from Auburn-Bay City Western, Freeland, Saginaw and Midland High Schools, and ten participants from the H. H. Dow boys swim team. A similar request has been approved for this coach and program each year since 2014-15.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this coach for the 2017-18 school year.

Alba and Mancelona-North Central Academy Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls basketball between these two member middle schools. Alba sponsored basketball previously and will be the primary school. The teams will be 6th, 7th and 8th grade combined. A corresponding high school cooperative program was also approved.

Grand Haven-Lakeshore and Grand Haven Christian Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of boys and girls tennis to a cooperative program that exists between these two member middle schools in several other sports. Lakeshore sponsored tennis previously and will be the primary school. Teams will be 7th and 8th grade combined.

North Muskegon, Muskegon-Western Michigan Christian and New Era Christian Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Western Michigan Christian to a cooperative program in football that has existed since 2010 between North Muskegon and New Era Christian. North Muskegon will continue as the primary school. The team will be 7th and 8th grade combined.

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 at the high school level only:

Pontiac-Arts and Technology Academy of Pontiac – This school’s charter is through Bay Mills and is managed by CS Partners. The school is a K-12 school and has operated for 15 years. A current 9-12 enrollment of 213 students is reported. ATAP recently moved to its current location in an office/industrial complex on Enterprise Drive in Pontiac with two addresses – one for the middle and high school complex and one for the elementary school. It is located next door to the Ultimate Soccer Arena that has ample indoor and outdoor fields. A gymnasium in the middle/high school complex has a tartan floor, seating for approximately 300 and also serves as the cafeteria. The school intends to sponsor boys and girls basketball and girls volleyball at the JV and varsity levels. The middle school did not seek MHSAA membership at this time. A signed 2017-18 Membership Resolution and Preliminary Classification Form were received on July 24, 2017. The Athletic Department Code of Conduct was submitted and two administrators attended an AD Orientation in August 2017. If a 2018-19 Membership Resolution is received prior to Sept. 28, 2018, and all other regulations are followed, the school will be eligible for MHSAA tournaments for the 2018-19 school year.

Executive Director’s Performance Agreement – The Executive Committee reviewed and approved the executive director’s 2017-18 Standards of Performance and contract extension.

Next Meetings – The next meetings of the Executive Committee are scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 6, 2017, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing; Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2017, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing; Wednesday, Nov. 1, 2017, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing; and Thursday, Nov. 30, 2017, at Noon in East Lansing (Audit and Finance Committee to follow and Representative Council meets next day).