

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

East Lansing, December 8, 2010

Members Present:

Jim Derocher, Negaunee
Scott Grimes, Grand Haven
Vic Michaels, Detroit
Dan Flynn, Escanaba
Arnetta Thompson, Grand Rapids

Staff Members Present:

Tom Rashid
Jack Roberts (Recorder)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Pickford, Cedarville and Kinross-Maplewood Baptist Academy High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Kinross-Maplewood Baptist Academy to a baseball cooperative agreement which has existed between Pickford and Cedarville since 2004. The combined enrollment of 293 students will continue placement of one team in the Division 4 tournament. Pickford will continue as the primary school. Support from five future opponents was received.

Wolverine and Vanderbilt High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of softball to a cooperative agreement which already exists between these two schools in baseball. The combined enrollment will place one team in the Division 4 tournament. Both schools sponsored softball previously; Wolverine will be the primary school. Support from the Northern Lakes Conference was received.

Ypsilanti-Willow Run High School (Regulation I, Sections 1 & 8) – A request to waive the enrollment and current academic credit record regulations was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who is the subject of an IEP and who previously attended an out-of-state facility for the 9th grade and now resides with his mother in the Willow Run School District. The student is enrolled in the Forest School, a non-MHSAA member alternative school for special needs students operated by the Ypsilanti Public Schools with funding from the Washtenaw Intermediate School District. By rule, the student is not eligible under Interpretation 5 as the assigned school (Forest) is not a member school. Willow Run High School's February 2010 Enrollment Declaration Form neither counts non-traditional school students nor lists Forest School.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Dollar Bay and Chassell High Schools (Regulation I, Section 8) – A request was made to waive or otherwise interpret the current academic credit record regulation, and specifically references to base-original school. The Bridge School was a non-traditional school consortium operated by the Copper Country Intermediate School District until March 2010. To begin the 2010-11 school year, the Dollar Bay-Tamarack City Area Schools became the governing body of the Bridge School. The Dollar Bay-Tamarack Bridge Alternative School became a "school of choice" effective Aug. 1, 2010. Dollar Bay maintains that Bridge Alternative School students are now enrolled in the Dollar Bay School District.

Based on previous interpretations of existing policy, current Bridge students have eligibility at their base-original school and not at Dollar Bay, unless Dollar Bay is the base-original school for a student as under Interpretation 47 d (school of residence for incoming 9th graders or previous school for those who enroll after the 9th grade). It is believed that there are two students who reside in Chassell seeking eligibility on Jan. 17, 2011 at Dollar Bay High School. Dollar Bay lists the Bridge Alternative School on its 2010-11 Enrollment Declaration Form. Chassell does not count or list the Bridge School; and although Chassell was advised it could request a change in its 2010-11 form under the classification policy (Page 92, Item 8 b), it has not indicated a desire to do so.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Adrian High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously lived in Alabama with his family, participated in sports and was sent to Michigan for a new environment. The student is living with an uncle.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Ann Arbor-Gabriel Richard 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 Novi-Detroit Catholic Central and enrolled at Gabriel Richard on Oct. 26, 2010, due to academic and instructional conflicts.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Ann Arbor Huron High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who has lived with her grandmother for the past five years because her parents travel due to their jobs. In July 2010, the grandmother died and the student moved in with an aunt in the Huron attendance area. The student attended Ann Arbor-Gabriel Richard High School for the 9th and 10th grades. The student played while ineligible in a girls basketball game on Dec. 2, 2010, which Huron High School is forfeiting.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Bellevue 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 Olivet High School and changed schools at the end of the first trimester because of social issues. The student's residence is in Bellevue but she spent some time with an older sister who lives in Olivet. The mother teaches in Bellevue. A friend of the student is pressing charges for sexual harassment against a boy who the student had known while at Olivet.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Big Rapids-Crossroads Charter Academy (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request was made to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment on behalf of a 12th-grade student who previously attended Covert High School before enrolling at Crossroads on March 9, 2010.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st school day of enrollment at Crossroads Charter Academy starting March 9, 2010.

Big Rapids-Crossroads Charter Academy (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended Reed City High School, was forced to leave her home by her father, moved into the grandparents' home and enrolled at Crossroads Charter Academy to begin the 2010-11 school year. The student participated in one soccer scrimmage for Reed City in the 9th grade.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Blanchard-Montabella High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose parents are divorced. The student lived with his mother while enrolled at Grand Rapids-Northview for the 9th grade before moving to the residence of his father in the Remus-Chippewa Hills School District. The parents never married, the father is listed on the birth certificate, and an Educational Transfer Form is in process as allowed under Interpretation 88. The student is enrolling at Montabella because the father graduated from Montabella and an uncle is currently enrolled there.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Bloomfield Hills-Lahser High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who previously attended Brother Rice High School, participated in athletics and enrolled at Lahser due to circumstances at Brother Rice which caused him to enroll at his school of residence.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Brown City High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of two 10th-grade twin brothers who previously attended North Branch High School before enrolling with two siblings in the Brown City Schools to begin the 2010-11 school year. The mother was the subject of a Board of Education recall election and political pressures which led to threats and harassment of these students at North Branch. The North Branch superintendent supports the request for immediate eligibility.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Burton-Faith High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (closest nonpublic school) was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who is moving between divorced parents and submitted an Educational Transfer Form partially incomplete because Flint-The Valley School is just under one mile closer to the student's new residence than is Faith High School. The student attended Faith Schools from the 3rd – 5th grades and is a member of the church which houses the school. Two older siblings are graduates of Faith High School. The student previously attended Grand Blanc High School before enrolling at Faith High School to begin the 2010-11 school year.

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 61 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who attended Clinton High School for the 9th and 10th grades while living with his divorced mother in Clinton. The student then attended a golf academy in Florida while living with his grandfather. The student has returned to the residence of his divorced father (Exception 2) in the Adrian School District and reenrolled at Clinton High School (his former school but not his school of residence) to begin the 2010-11 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Farmington High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student whose request for an administrative transfer between schools of the same district (from Farmington Hills-Harrison to Farmington High School) was granted in June 2010 by the school district but did not meet the conditions of Exception 9 and Interpretation 79 (to protect individuals from threatening situations or to equalize enrollment). The student lives within a few blocks of Farmington High School and has requested the transfer due to the father's medical condition which has escalated and causes the student to leave school and assist his father.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Fenton High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who used the one-time allowance of an Educational Transfer Form, moving from divorced father to mother in the 9th grade and transferring from Morrice to Grand Blanc High School on March 26, 2010. The student participated in softball at Grand Blanc. On Sept. 5, 2010, the mother and student had an altercation. The student then moved to the residence of her father who now lives in Fenton. The student enrolled at Fenton High School on Sept. 7, 2010.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids-Northview High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who has lived with her grandmother for over ten years and is not connected to her birth parents. The student attended Grand Rapids-Catholic Central while living with her grandmother and has moved to the residence of her grandfather in the Northview School District, enrolling to begin the 2010-11 school year. The grandparents have never married. The school requested that the student be allowed immediate eligibility as under Interpretation 88.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Hancock High School (Regulation I, Section 9[C]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who previously attended Painesdale-Jeffers High School and enrolled at Hancock High School to begin the 2010-11 school year. In the previous school year, the student participated in the swimming & diving cooperative program between Hancock, Calumet, Chassell and Jeffers High Schools.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for swimming & diving only until Jan. 17, 2011.

Hartford High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who lived with his aunt in Decatur and attended Lawrence High School since the 9th grade. On Sept. 3, 2010, the student left the residence of his aunt in Lawrence and moved into the home of his mother in Hartford (Exception 2). The student continued at Lawrence until Oct. 26, 2010, when he enrolled at Hartford High School, his school of residence.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Hillman High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment. The student previously attended Posen High School and enrolled at Hillman on Oct. 15, 2010.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver, effective with the student's 91st school day of enrollment at Hillman High School starting Oct. 15, 2010.

Hillsdale 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 Pittsford High School, participated in athletics and enrolled at Hillsdale High School to begin the 2010-11 school year. The student was a victim of reported verbal and physical attacks.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Holland Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request was made on behalf of 15 foreign exchange students in grades 9-12 from Quest, a CSIET-listed program, who are on F-1 visas. These students plan to be in attendance at Holland Christian for multiple years and intend to graduate from Holland Christian High School. The school requested that they be ineligible for the first semester of enrollment, then eligible as under the transfer rule.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Mattawan High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who made a full and complete residential change from Canada to the Portage Public School District and chose to enroll at Mattawan High School to begin the 2010-11 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Saginaw-Heritage 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 Newaygo High School while living with one parent and a brother. On Oct. 15, 2010, the student enrolled at Heritage High School while moving into the grandparents' home because of neglect and abuse by the parent which involved Child Protective Services. The other parent has a history of substance abuse and is not in the student's life.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

St. Joseph 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 Benton Harbor-Dream Academy while living with his father and stepmother. The family was forced to move when the landlord sold the rental property. In late August the student, stepmother and father moved to the apartment of an aunt in St. Joseph. The student was then enrolled at St. Joseph to begin the 2010-11 school year. On Oct. 11, 2010, the aunt asked the family to leave. The student is now living with his father and stepmother in an uncle's home in Benton Harbor.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

St. Louis 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 Ashley High School before enrolling at Ovid-Elsie High School in February 2010 to avoid contact with another student. The student did not participate in athletics at Ovid-Elsie. The student continued to receive threats and has changed schools again to St. Louis High School to begin the 2010-11 school year. A personal protection order against the other student was issued in July 2010, effective until December 2011.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Shelby High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who previously attended Montague High School and played JV football before enrolling at Shelby High School on Oct. 14, 2010. The student and his mother were relocating from Montague due to abuse against the mother by her boyfriend. The student and mother moved into the Shelby residence of a fellow church member. The student enrolled at Shelby High School. After three weeks, on Nov. 3, 2010, the mother and student found low-income housing nearby in Hart and the student continued to attend Shelby High School.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Warren-Cousino 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 Lapeer West High School, lived with her parents in the Lapeer West attendance area and participated in athletics. Over the summer, the mother purchased a home in the Cousino attendance area and moved with the student and a brother. The mother and stepfather are going through a divorce which is not complete.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Westland-John Glenn 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 Detroit-Renaissance High School while residing with her father, stepmother and siblings. Due to emotional issues with the stepmother, the student and father moved to the Wayne-Westland attendance area and enrolled to begin the 2010-11 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Wyoming-West Michigan Lutheran High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (closest nonpublic school) was made on behalf of a 12th-grade foreign exchange student from a CSIET-listed program whose host family lives closer to Grand Rapids-South Christian High School but who are members of a local Lutheran church which is affiliated with West Michigan Lutheran High School (the closest Lutheran high school to the host family's residence).

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Ypsilanti-Lincoln 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 experienced financial hardship, causing the student to live with an uncle while enrolled at Ecorse High School for the 11th grade and a sister for the 12th-grade in the Ypsilanti-Lincoln School District. The student had attended Lincoln in the 9th grade before moving with his mother and brothers into Detroit for the 10th grade prior to the occurrence of financial hardship.

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
Big Rapids	10	Georgia	Sept. 7, 2010	Jan. 17, 2011
Blanchard-Montabella	10	Byron Center & Lakeview	Sept. 7, 2010	Jan. 17, 2011
Brimley	10	East Kentwood	Nov. 19, 2010	Remainder of 10-11 school year
Caro	9	Colorado	Sept. 16, 2010	Jan. 17, 2011
Dearborn-Edsel Ford	9	Dearborn-Fordson	Nov. 2, 2010	Remainder of 10-11 school year
Detroit-International Academy	9	Detroit-Pershing	Nov. 8, 2010	Remainder of 10-11 school year
Detroit-University Prep	10	Dearborn-Advanced Tech Academy	Sept. 7, 2010	Jan. 17, 2011
Hastings	9	Middleville-Thornapple Kellogg	Nov. 29, 2010	Remainder of 10-11 school year
Jenison	9	Colorado	Dec. 6, 2010	Remainder of 2010-11 school year
Macomb-Dakota	9	Clinton Township-Chippewa Valley	Oct. 4, 2010	Jan. 17, 2011
Mattawan	10	Missouri	Sept. 7, 2010	Jan. 17, 2011
North Adams-Jerome	9	Pittsford	Oct. 15, 2010	91st school day of enrollment
Novi	10	Southfield-Lathrup	December 2010	Remainder of 10-11 school year
Oxford	10	Lapeer West	Sept. 7, 2010	Jan. 17, 2011
Oxford	10	Pontiac Academy for Excellence	Sept. 7, 2010	Jan. 17, 2011

Requesting High School	Grade	Former High School	Date of Enrollment	Length of Subvarsity Eligibility Status
Parchment	10	Kalamazoo Central	Dec. 3, 2010	Remainder of 2010-11 school year
Paw Paw	9	Mattawan	Nov. 19, 2010	Remainder of 10-11 school yr
St. Clair Shores-South Lake	9	St. Clair Shores-Lake Shore	Nov. 8, 2010	Remainder of 10-11 school year
Shelby	9	Muskegon- Western Michigan Christian	Nov. 30, 2010	Remainder of 10-11 school year
Suttons Bay	10	Traverse City West	Sept. 7, 2010	Jan. 17, 2011
Suttons Bay	10	Traverse City Central	Sept. 7, 2010	Jan. 17, 2011
Warren-Cousino	9	Detroit-Plymouth Education Center	Sept. 16, 2010	Jan. 17, 2011
Waterford Kettering	9	Waterford Mott	Sept. 13, 2010	Jan. 17, 2011
Waterford Kettering	9	Maryland	Oct. 11, 2010	91st school day of enrollment
Watersmeet	10	Wisconsin	Sept. 7, 2010	Jan. 17, 2011

Marysville High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 233, a request to waive the three-/four-player rule for the 2010-11 school year was made on behalf of the boys assistant swimming coach whose main source of income comes from running the Blue Water Swim Club. The non-school program is open to students ages 5-18 and adults and has approximately 75 participants from throughout the Port Huron area. There are 20 students from Marysville (grades 7-12) and ten from Marysville High School.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this coach for the 2010-11 school year.

Homer High School (Regulation V, Section 3) – On Oct. 15, 2010, the varsity football coach removed his team from competition in protest with 8:04 remaining in the fourth quarter of a game against Springport High School. Springport was leading 50-30. The Officials Report, news clippings and a letter from Springport High School were provided for the Executive Committee's review, along with the response of Homer High School administration. The Executive Committee placed the Homer High School football program on probation through the end of the 2011 football season, with the following conditions:

- a. The varsity head football coach may not be in attendance for the school's first varsity football game of the 2011 season.
- b. Prior to March 1, 2011, the school must provide:
 - (1) detailed action plans to implement its proposals for (a) improved game management, (b) reconfiguration of its football facility, and (c) installation of leadership and management strategies from a coaching education program; and
 - (2) a copy of the adopted policy for coaches' comments to media.

The school's response was provided with a request that the Executive Committee reconsider the coach not being allowed to be in attendance at the school's first game in 2011.

The Executive Committee reviewed and accepted the school's actions or intended actions and reaffirmed the requirement that the coach may not be in attendance for the school's first varsity football game of the 2011 season.

New Member School – 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-Edison Public School Academy Early College of Excellence is an independent school which severed its relationship with the Edison Management Group in 2007. The school was chartered by Oakland University. Currently, there are 100 9th-grade students attending with plans to add one grade each year. The school is located in a totally renovated facility in the historic Detroit Eastern Market. Athletic facilities currently include a small gym with a synthetic floor which can accommodate 100-150 spectators and limited outdoor fields and courts. In 2010-11, the school intends to sponsor 9th grade boys and girls basketball and baseball, and several other sports in the years ahead. A signed 2010-11 Membership Resolution was received Aug. 30, 2010. The Athletic Department Code of Conduct and Preliminary Enrollment Declaration were also received. A representative from the school was in attendance at a November 2010 New Athletic Director Orientation. If a 2011-12 Membership Resolution is received prior to Sept. 30, 2011, the school will be eligible for MHSAA tournaments for the 2011-12 school year.

Next Meetings – The next meetings of the Executive Committee are scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 12, 2011, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2011, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; and Thursday, March 24, 2011, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing (with Representative Council meeting March 25).