

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

East Lansing, November 2, 2011

Members Present:

Jim Derocher, Negaunee
Scott Grimes, Grand Haven
Vic Michaels, Detroit
Fred Smith, Buchanan
Jason Mellema, Pewamo

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.

Commerce-Walled Lake Northern, Walled Lake Central and Walled Lake Western High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – The Executive Committee tabled until not later than its next meeting a partially completed application for a cooperative program in girls lacrosse between these three schools of the same district in accord with the provision that allows schools which have not sponsored a sport previously to form a cooperative agreement in excess of 3,500 students for a three-year period. Walled Lake Northern would be the primary school. The combined enrollment of 4,960 students would place a new team in the Division 1 tournament for no longer than through the end of the 2013-14 school year. Support from the Kensington Lakes Activities Association is pending.

Harbor Springs-Harbor Light Christian High School and Burt Lake-Northern Michigan Christian Academy (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee tabled until not later than its next meeting a partially completed application for the addition of baseball and girls soccer to a cooperative program which exists between these two schools in boys and girls track & field and girls basketball. The combined enrollment of 108 students would continue placement of a team in the Division 4 Baseball Tournament and add a new team to the Division 4 Girls Soccer Tournament. Harbor Light Christian sponsored baseball previously and would be the primary school in baseball, Northern Michigan Christian Academy would be the primary school for girls soccer. Support from the Northern Lakes Conference is pending.

Kalamazoo Central, Kalamazoo-Loy Norrix and Kalamazoo-Phoenix High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Phoenix High School to a cooperative program in boys lacrosse which exists between Kalamazoo Central and Loy Norrix High Schools. The combined enrollment of these three schools of the same district is 3,177 students and will continue placement of a team in the Division 1 tournament. Kalamazoo Central will remain the primary school. Support from the Southwest Michigan Athletic Conference was received.

Lake Leelanau-St. Mary and Leland High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of baseball to a cooperative program which exists in boys golf and boys soccer. The combined enrollment of 204 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 4 tournament. St. Mary will be the primary school and was previously in an agreement with Northport which was dissolved in July 2011. Support from the Cherryland and Northwest Conferences was received.

Lansing Christian, Lansing-New Covenant Christian and Holt Lutheran High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee tabled until not later than its next meeting a partially completed application for a cooperative program in baseball between these three schools whose combined enrollment of 260 students would continue placement of a team in the Division 4 tournament. Lansing Christian sponsored baseball previously and would be the primary school. Support from the Southern Michigan Activities Association is pending.

Lansing Christian and Holt Lutheran High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee tabled until not later than its next meeting a partially completed application for a cooperative program in girls softball between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 224 students would continue placement of a team in the Division 4 tournament. Lansing Christian sponsored softball previously and would be the primary school. Support from the Southern Michigan Activities Association is pending.

Traverse City Christian and Traverse City-Grand Traverse Academy High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of girls tennis and girls softball to a cooperative agreement which exists in boys and girls cross country and boys and girls track & field. The combined enrollment of 264 students will continue placement of teams in Division 4 tournaments. Traverse City Christian sponsored both sports previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Cherryland Conference was received.

Wyoming-West Michigan Lutheran and Wyoming-The Potter's House Christian High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of boys and girls track & field to a cooperative program which exists in boys and girls cross country. The combined enrollment of 228 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 4 tournament. West Michigan Lutheran sponsored track & field previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Alliance League was received.

South Haven High School (Regulation I, Sections 4 & 5) – A request to waive the maximum enrollment and competition sections of the eligibility regulation was made on behalf of an adopted 12th-grade student who began the 9th grade at South Haven High School in the fall of 2007 and entered a residential treatment program in March 2008. The student was home schooled for the 2008-09 school year and attended the Bangor Behavioral Education Center from February 2009 until the end of the 2010-11 school year. The student has reenrolled at South Haven High School to begin the 2011-12 school year. The current first semester of 2011-12 is the student's fifth first semester and ninth overall since beginning high school.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Addison High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who attended Hudson High School for two days (Sept. 6 and 7, 2011) before enrolling at Addison High School on Sept. 8, 2011. The student previously attended Addison Schools through most of the 8th grade. When the father took a new job, the student enrolled in Hudson Schools on March 28, 2011. The father was offered another job and the student returned to Addison Schools. The student did not participate in a scrimmage or game at either school, but practiced one day of football at Hudson before enrolling at Addison. The request was for full eligibility as Addison has combined varsity and JV wrestling.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Adrian-Madison High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment due to compelling circumstances. Because the parents were unstable, the student moved from Texas to the Madison School District with an older sister in February 2011. The school informed the student to enroll when the second trimester ended.

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

Allen Park-Inter City Baptist High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student whose former school (Westland-United Christian) announced its closing in August 2011 and who attended Redford Union High School for 11 days from Sept. 6-20, 2011. The student met and registered for classes on Sept. 21 and 22 and began classes at Inter City Baptist (enrolled) on Sept. 23, 2011. The student did not participate in athletics at Redford Union. Inter City Baptist is the closest Christian school to the student's residence.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Baraga High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment due to compelling circumstances. The student is a lifelong resident of Baraga who previously attended Houghton High School. The student enrolled at Baraga because the parents' jobs changed from Houghton to Baraga.

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

Brimley High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Bay Mills Ojibwe Charter School for nine school days from Sept. 7-19, 2011, before reenrolling at Brimley on Sept. 20, 2011. The student had attended Brimley for the 9th grade in 2010-11.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Clio High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who has been in foster care his entire life. Over the summer of 2011 he returned to the original foster parents in Flint that he lived with from birth to age 11 before moving to a group home in Pennsylvania. The former foster mother died on Sept. 1, 2011. The former foster father is unable to care for the student due to his age and health. The student has moved into the home of a family in Clio who has been given all parental powers. The student began the 2011-12 school year at Flint Northern and then enrolled at Clio High School on Oct. 20, 2011. The family he now lives with came to know the student through asthma treatments at the mother's employment. His biological mother is incarcerated, his biological father deceased.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Comstock Park High School (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 participated in basketball previously while attending Grand Rapids-Wellspring Prep Academy, which was not an MHSAA member school in the 2010-11 school year. The student enrolled at Comstock Park to begin the 2011-12 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Detroit-Consortium College Prep High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (closest charter school) was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who is moving between parents who are divorced. The student attended Voyageur Consortium elementary school. When his parents separated and divorced, the student moved to Belleville with his father and enrolled at Ypsilanti-Willow Run High School to begin the 9th grade, and he participated in athletics. In March 2011, the student moved into the mother's residence in Detroit and the student enrolled at Consortium College Prep High School on March 14, 2011. Consortium is not the closest charter school to the new address.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Detroit-Consortium College Prep High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (closest charter school) was made on behalf of an 18 year old 12th-grade student who is moving unaccompanied by his parents (Exception 12), residing with a family in Southfield where a 12th grade son has been attending Consortium since the 9th grade. The student previously attended Detroit-Martin Luther King High School where he participated in athletics. Consortium is not the closest charter school to the student's new residence.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Ferndale High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who was the victim of a domestic assault while living with his father in Tennessee, causing the student to move to the home of his mother in a portion of Ferndale located in the Oak Park School District. The student was in attendance at Oak Park High School from May 2 – June 13, 2011. Over the summer the student moved into the residence of an uncle in the Ferndale School District, enrolling at Ferndale High School to begin the 2011-12 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Flint-Kearsley 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 an abusive situation in his father's residence in Grand Blanc and is living with a family in the Kearsley School District. The student's mother has enlisted in the military and has not been in contact with the student. The student previously attended Grand Blanc High School and enrolled at Kearsley to begin the 2011-12 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Holt High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose older brother voluntarily withdrew from Holt High School rather than face expulsion in the spring of 2010. Rather than have the brothers attending two different high schools, this student joined his brother at Grand Ledge, enrolling to begin the 9th grade in the 2010-11 school year and participated in athletics. The older brother has turned 18 and moved out of the family's home and the younger brother wishes to return to Holt Schools where he attended all but the 9th grade.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Jackson Christian 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 an 11th-grade foreign exchange student from a CSIET-listed program whose host family lives closer to Lumen Christi High School than Jackson Christian. The host family has a child already in attendance at Jackson Christian High School.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Kalamazoo Christian 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 an 11th-grade student whose family has made a full and complete residential change from Centreville to Constantine. On Oct. 31, 2011, the student enrolled at Kalamazoo Christian, which is not the closest Christian school to the student's new residence and is located further from the new residence than from the previous residence.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Kentwood-Grand River Preparatory High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who has changed schools due to medical, relational and social issues. He began the 9th grade at Grand Rapids-Catholic Central and participated in basketball there, and he attended Wyoming-West Michigan Lutheran for the 10th grade.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Merrill 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 Merrill Schools after five years at Hemlock. As a 6th grader in 2005-06, the student and a 9th grade sister transferred to Hemlock because of interactions with a Merrill school employee who resigned her position in the spring of 2011. The student enrolled at Merrill High School to begin the 2011-12 school year, wishing to graduate with her friends.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Middleville-Thornapple Kellogg 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 Lake Odessa-Lakewood before enrolling at Thornapple Kellogg on Oct. 3, 2011.

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

Monroe High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of 12th- and 11th-grade students who are siblings and previously attended Erie-Mason High School before enrolling at Monroe High School on Oct. 10, 2011, due to bullying and mistreatment at the former school related to their ethnicity.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Morley Stanwood High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who lived in many different homes in his 17 years; and for two months over the summer, lived with his mother and seven other relatives in a trailer. When the mother could no longer afford the trailer, the family split in three different directions. The student has moved to live with his aunt in Stanwood. The student began the 9th grade at Morley Stanwood and then moved to Munising for three years with his mother and siblings. The mother and siblings moved downstate in April 2011, while the student remained at Munising to finish out the school year. The student enrolled at Morley Stanwood to begin the 2011-12 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Muskegon-Way Point Academy (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who witnessed an assault crime in July 2011 and testified, which led to conviction and a 30-day jail sentence for the guilty party. Both before the trial and after the jail term was served, the student was threatened by the guilty party and others, both at home and at school events as recent as Sept. 26, 2011. For his safety the student changed schools, enrolling at Way Point on Oct. 12, 2011.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Negaunee High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who has lived with an aunt and uncle for the 10th and 11th grades. In anticipation of a job change out of the country, the student moved over the summer to a family friend's home in Gwinn and enrolled at Gwinn to begin the 2011-12 school year. The relocation plans fell through and the student has returned to live with her aunt and uncle, reenrolling at Negaunee on Oct. 25, 2011. The student did not play sports at Gwinn. The school requested application of Exception 2 (student not living with parents, returns to live with parents) in that the aunt and uncle are more the parents than the parents and the student is returning to the same school.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Olivet High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student whose parents have both been ill and who has joined a 9th grade brother who had been attending Olivet High School, which is their school of residence. The student enrolled there to begin the 2011-12 school year. The student previously attended Charlotte High School.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Scottville-Mason County Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 18 year old 12th-grade student who has been home schooled his entire life before moving unaccompanied by his parents from the Mason County Eastern School District to Ludington. The student enrolled at Mason County Central on Sept. 30, 2011. The student has not previously participated in athletics.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

South Haven High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who attended South Haven Schools for four years before attendance for 22 school days at Saugatuck High School from Sept. 6 to Oct. 3, 2011. The student has an older 12th grade sister at Saugatuck and the parents determined that the student would enroll there for academic reasons to begin the 2011-12 school year. The student did not participate in athletics at Saugatuck, was unhappy and reenrolled at South Haven on Oct. 4, 2011.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for immediate eligibility but did approve the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st school day since reenrollment at South Haven High School.

Sturgis High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose mother abandoned the student to a family in Sturgis when the student was 10 years old. The student lived with a sister from the 4th through 7th grades and attended Sturgis Schools. Since the 8th grade the student has lived in four cities and attended four schools, moving between brother and sister. The student most recently attended Northridge High School in Indiana while returning to live with her sister. Over the summer the student moved in with the family she was originally dropped off at in Sturgis and reenrolled at Sturgis High School to begin the 2011-12 school year.

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
Bronson	9	Colon	Oct. 18, 2011	Remainder of 11-12 school year
Camden Frontier	10	Jonesville	Sept. 6, 2011	Jan. 16, 2012
Detroit-Renaissance	10	Westland-John Glenn	Sept. 6, 2011	Jan. 16, 2012
Grand Rapids-South Christian	9	Byron Center	Oct. 27, 2011	Remainder of 11-12 school year
Holton	9	Home School	Nov. 2011	Remainder of 11-12 school year
Jackson Christian	9 (two)	Parma-Western	Sept. 21, 2011	Jan. 16, 2012
Mayville	10	Houghton Lake	Sept. 6, 2011	Jan. 16, 2012
Orchard Lake-St. Mary	10	Sterling Heights-Stevenson	Aug. 17, 2011	Jan. 16, 2012

Requesting High School	Grade	Former High School	Date of Enrollment	Length of Subvarsity Eligibility Status
Orchard Lake-St. Mary	10	Goodrich	Aug. 17, 2011	Jan. 16, 2012
Saginaw-Arthur Hill	9	Saginaw-Heritage	Oct. 4, 2011	91 st school day after Oct. 4, 2011
Swartz Creek	9	Flint-Powers Catholic	Sept. 30, 2011	Jan. 16, 2012
Watervliet	10	St. Joseph	Sept. 6, 2011	Jan. 16, 2012

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

Junior High/ Middle School	Sport(s)	High School Enrollment	Middle School Enrollment
Watervliet-Grace Christian	boys & girls basketball, boys & girls track & field, girls volleyball, boys soccer	69	30 7 th & 8 th graders

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:

Swartz Creek-Genesee Academy High School is a private religious school serving the Muslim community with an onsite enrollment of 22 students in grades 9 and 10; 45 students in grades 7 and 8. The school intends to add one grade each year. The school is under construction with two small gymnasiums used for classes and limited competition. It has limited outside grounds for athletics but has access to other facilities in the community. Planned sport offerings include boys and girls soccer, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls tennis and football. A signed 2011-12 MHSAA Membership Resolution was received Aug. 3, 2011, and also includes Genesee Academy Middle School. The Preliminary Enrollment Declaration and athletic department code of conduct were received. If a 2012-13 Membership Resolution is received prior to Sept. 28, 2012, and provided all other rules are complied with, the school will be eligible for MHSAA tournaments for the 2012-13 school year.

Committees – The Executive Committee approved membership of and meeting dates for MHSAA committees which meet after Jan. 1, 2012.

Trophies and Medals – The three-year agreement with the current vendor for MHSAA trophies and medals expires at the end of the 2011-12 school year. The Executive Committee approved the proposal from ESCO for three additional years at no increase in prices. The extension will be through the 2014-15 school year.

Next Meetings – The next meetings of the Executive Committee are scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 1, 2011, at 1:30 p.m. in East Lansing (Representative Council meeting on Friday, Dec. 2); Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2012, at 8:30 a.m. (Classification Committee at 1 p.m.); Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2012, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing (Audit and Finance Committee meeting follows); Thursday, March 22, 2012, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing (Representative Council meeting on Friday, March 23); Wednesday, April 25, 2012, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing (Audit and Finance Committee meeting follows); Sunday, May 6, 2012, time TBA, in Gaylord (Representative Council meeting follows); Wednesday, June 13, 2012, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing ; Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2012, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing; Tuesday, Aug. 28, 2012, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing; Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2012, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; Monday, Oct. 1, 2012, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; and Wednesday, Nov. 7, 2012, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing.