

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Virtual, August 22, 2023

9:00 a.m.

Members Present:

Scott Grimes, Grand Haven
John Thompson, Brighton
Vic Michaels, Detroit
Kris Isom, Adrian
Jeff Kline, Mt Morris

Staff Members Present:

Cody Inglis
Mark Uyl (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 MHSAA is a private, nonprofit corporation, made up of voluntary membership; it is neither a state agency nor a court of law, and is not bound by any particular legal standard of review or burden of proof when applying its Regulations or while administering an internal appeal. The *MHSAA Handbook* may identify which party bears the burden of proof, depending on the particular situation or if a particular Regulation is at issue. The MHSAA staff, its Executive Committee, or its Representative Council, where appropriate, shall determine whether the circumstances in each situation, as presented to the MHSAA, warrant application or waiver of a particular Regulation or Interpretation. To make that determination, the MHSAA considers what a reasonable person given the same information would decide.

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 was 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 vacated.

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 agreement 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.

Fruitport-Calvary Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 1[D]) – A request was made to waive Regulation I, Section 1 (D), to allow the use of 7th-grade student-athletes in their athletic programs. Calvary Christian will have 51 students in grades 9-12 for the 2023-24 school year. The request was submitted to the Executive Committee with specific numbers, causes, and rationale about the positive impact of using 7th graders at Calvary Christian in boys soccer starting fall 2023.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids Christian and Wyoming-Tri-Unity High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in wrestling (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 853 students will place the combined team in Division 2. Grand Rapids Christian will be the primary school. Support from the OK Conference was submitted.

Kalamazoo Central and Kalamazoo-Loy Norrix High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E-2]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in girls golf (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 3,255 students will place the combined team in Division 1. Kalamazoo Central will be the primary school. Support from the Southwestern Michigan Athletic Conference was submitted.

Onkama, Bear Lake, Brethren, Manistee, McBain, Leroy-Pine River and Manistee Catholic Central High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls skiing (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 1,412 students will place the combined team in Division 2. Onkama will be the primary school. Support from the Lake Michigan Ski Conference was submitted.

Canton, Canton-Plymouth and Canton-Salem High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls skiing (JV and varsity) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 5,773 students will place the combined team in Division 1. None of the schools have previously offered skiing. Canton will be the primary school. Support from the Kensington Lakes Activities Association has been submitted.

Grand Blanc, Lapeer and Holly High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey (JV and varsity) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 5,242 students will place the combined team in Division 1. Grand Blanc will be the primary school. Support from the Saginaw Valley and Flint Metro Leagues was submitted.

Grand Haven, Spring Lake and Muskegon-Western Michigan Christian High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 2,903 students will place the combined team in Division 2. Grand Haven will be the primary school. Support from the OK Conference was submitted. Pending board approval.

Grandville, Allendale, Grandville-Calvin Christian and Grand Rapids-West Catholic High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 3,249 students will place the combined team in Division 2. Grandville will be the primary school. Support from the OK Conference was submitted.

Kalamazoo-Loy Norrix, Kalamazoo-Central, Kalamazoo-Hackett Catholic Central, Schoolcraft, Gobles, Three Rivers and Battle Creek-St Philip Catholic Central High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 4,669 students will keep the combined team in Division 1. Kalamazoo-Loy Norrix will be the primary school. Support from the South Central High School Hockey League was submitted.

Sandusky, Bad Axe, Brown City, Cass City, Croswell-Lexington, Deckerville, North Branch and Peck High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 2,713 students will keep the combined team in Division 2. Sandusky will be the primary school. Support from the Mid Michigan Hockey and Greater Thumb Conferences was submitted.

Kentwood-East Kentwood High School (Regulation I, Section 4) – A request to waive the maximum enrollment and maximum competition rules of the eligibility regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 12th-grade student who transferred to East Kentwood from Grand Rapids Christian at the start of the 2022-23 school year. The student participated in football at East Kentwood in 2022-23 and is eligible for football again this fall. The student was involved in a serious car accident while at Grand Rapids Christian during his 10th-grade year requiring physical therapy which caused challenges of stress and anxiety after the accident. Because of these issues, the family wishes to reclassify the student as a junior during the 2023-24 school year and requests athletic eligibility for a fifth year of high school and athletics in 2024-25. Support from a psychologist was also included.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Leslie High School (Regulation I, Section 4) – A second request to waive the maximum enrollment rule of the eligibility regulation was made on behalf of a current 12th-grade student at Leslie. The student receives academic services and after a transfer during his sophomore year and with COVID-19 learning restrictions, the student fell behind academically and will need to take a full academic year of classes in the 2024-2025 school year. This would be his fifth year of high school. The school request is for eligibility in all athletics. New and significant information was presented by the school regarding the student's history of cognitive and behavioral testing, as well as a new letters from the school and mother in support of the request.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Ann Arbor-Pioneer High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student who transferred to Pioneer for the start of the 2023-24 school year after attending Ann Arbor-Father Gabriel Richard for his 9th-grade year. The student competed in football, wrestling, and track & field at Gabriel Richard. The student was denied re-enrollment at Gabriel Richard after a school disciplinary issue. Several letters of support were provided, including from the previous school, medical personnel, and therapists working with the student. The school continues to ask for immediate eligibility in all sports, and if that can't be granted, subvarsity eligibility. Additional and new information provided includes letters from the student, a detailed listing of the steps the student has taken in response to the issue and a report of the incident.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Battle Creek Academy (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation is made on behalf of incoming 11th and 12th-grade siblings who attended Factoryville Christian, a non-MHSAA member school during the 2022-23 school year. The students both played basketball and the 12th grader also played volleyball. The students left Factoryville Christian because of an issue related to another student. In addition, the family felt dissatisfied with the school administration and the students also had to compete in athletics to meet the physical education requirement. The request is for eligibility for both students in all sports at Battle Creek Academy. The former school supports the student's athletic eligibility at Battle Creek Academy.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Battle Creek-Pennfield High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation is made on behalf of an incoming 12th-grade student who is transferring to Pennfield after attending summer workouts and the first two days of football practice at Calhoun Christian. The potential cancellation of the football program at Calhoun Christian is being considered and the transfer is primarily because the student would like to participate in football and it can't be assured that Calhoun Christian will have a football team this fall. In addition, the student has a previous connection with Pennfield Public Schools, having attended there from grades 3-7 before transferring to Calhoun Christian. The request is for immediate eligibility in football at Pennfield.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Bay City-Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 74a. (practicing with another school in August) is made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who practiced for one day at Essexville-Garber before the student enrolled at Bay City Central. The student attended middle school at Bay City Public Schools and the parents were determining if he should remain in the Bay City Public Schools and attend Bay City Central. The school requests immediate varsity eligibility (Bay City Central only has a varsity tennis team) for the student based on the fact that the student will miss two matches for Bay City Central while awaiting appeal. The previous school has confirmed the timing and date of the practice.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Bessemer High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request is made to waive Regulation I, Section 9 (C) for an incoming 10th-grade student who transferred from Wakefield-Marenisco to Bessemer for the start of the 2023-24 school year. During the 2022-23 school year, the student participated in baseball. Bessemer and Wakefield-Marenisco have a cooperative agreement in baseball, so 9 (C) would apply by rule as a request. Wakefield-Marenisco has provided email documentation showing written support for this student's eligibility in baseball at Bessemer during the 2023-24 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver in baseball.

Beverly Hills-Birmingham Groves High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 11th-grade student who transferred to Groves from Bloomfield Hills-Marian in September of 2022. The student participated in one JV volleyball scrimmage and three games (matches), including one weekend tournament for Marian during the fall of 2022. The request is for immediate eligibility at Groves in volleyball after the student sits one scrimmage and three matches, including one tournament at Groves.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver after three volleyball matches.

Coloma High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation, specifically Interpretation 74a, was made on behalf of an incoming 9th-grade student who practiced on August 7th – 10th at Hartford in football and has now transferred to Coloma. The student applied to Hartford for school of choice because the student's three siblings attend there but was denied after football practice started. The school asks for immediate eligibility in football for the student. A timeline was given on communication and practice and the former school indicate they support the transfer.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver in football.

Dearborn High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an incoming 11th-grade student who transferred from an online school to Dearborn in the Spring of the 2022-23 school year. The student previously attended Edsel Ford as a 9th and 10th-grade student and played JV and varsity soccer for Edsel Ford. The student's younger brother has been selected to play for the MLS Columbus Crew Academy team and the parents moved to Columbus with the younger brother. The student desires to stay in Michigan and is living with his aunt, uncle, and cousins in the Dearborn High School attendance area. The aunt and uncle have legal guardianship of the student. The school request is for eligibility in soccer.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver. The Executive Committee noted that the student would be immediately eligible back at the former school, Dearborn Edsel Ford.

Dearborn-Divine Child High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student who competed in football for 4 games at Divine Child during the fall of 2023 prior to transferring to De La Salle, where he played lacrosse. The student transferred from Divine Child after the start of the school year because of a change of location in his family's business. The change was short-lived and now the student desires to continue to attend Divine Child, where he has attended for the past seven years. The request is for eligibility in subvarsity football at Divine Child after four games.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver after four football games. The student is not eligible in lacrosse.

Flint-Kearsley High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 11th-grade student who is transferring to Kearsley for the start of the 2023-24 school year after attending Imlay City for his 9th and 10th-grade years. The student competed in football at Imlay City. The student is moving to live with his father, after living with his mother in Imlay City, who are divorced. The father and younger brother have lived in the Mt. Morris district for the past five years and the younger brother attends Kearsley. The student transferred to Kearsley to get a fresh start after his older sister moved out of his mother's home and he desires to play football at Kearsley. An otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was also sent with the request.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver with the completion of an Educational Transfer Form.

Gaylord-St. Mary Cathedral High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request is made to waive Regulation I, Section 9 (C) for an incoming 12th-grade student who transferred from Boyne Falls to Gaylord-St. Mary for the start of the 2023-24 school year. During the 2022-23 school year, the student participated in football. Gaylord-St. Mary and Boyne Falls have a cooperative agreement in football, so 9 (C) would apply by rule as a request. Boyne Falls has provided email documentation showing written support for this student's eligibility in football at Gaylord-St. Mary during the 2023-24 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver in football only.

Gibraltar-Carlson High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 12th-grade student who has transferred to Carlson to begin his 12th-grade year after attending Monroe-St. Mary Catholic Central for his first three high school years. The student competed in football and baseball at St. Mary Catholic Central. The family moved from the Monroe attendance area and now live in Newport, in an apartment above their restaurant in the Jefferson attendance area. They desire to attend Carlson because of the academic classes, including the number of AP courses offered. The request is for eligibility in football and baseball at Carlson.

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 incoming 10th-grade student who transferred to Northview for the start of the 2023-24 school year after attending Rockford for her 9th-grade year. The student competed in golf and lacrosse at Rockford. The student transferred to Northview to get a fresh start and leave the severe harassment and bullying and desires to golf and play lacrosse at Northview.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids-South Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an incoming 11th-grade student who transferred to South Christian from Jenison after attending Jenison for her 9th and 10th-grade years. While at Jenison, the student experienced several hardships including anxiety, safety issues, and issues with a physical move that required a long daily commute. The parents feel a new start at South Christian can alleviate these hardships. The student competed in golf, basketball, and soccer at Jenison and the request is for eligibility in all three sports at South Christian.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Hanover-Horton High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an incoming 11th-grade student who transferred to Hanover-Horton from Addison where he attended for his 9th and 10th grade years. The student competed in football at Addison as a 9th and 10th grader. The student struggled academically with his health upon the loss of a fellow teammate at Addison along with another teammate being diagnosed with leukemia. Hanover-Horton is the student's home district and will allow him the fresh start needed to help the student overcome his mental health challenges. Hanover-Horton is requesting immediate eligibility for the student in all sports. Support from the former school was also received.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Hartland High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 12th-grade student who is transferring to Hartland from Brighton for the start of the 2023-24 school year and to attend their alternative high school. The student participated in only one football game for Brighton during the Fall of 2023. The request is for immediate eligibility at Hartland in football after the first contest. The former school confirmed participation for the student-athlete.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver after one football game.

Houghton High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (closest public school to the residence) was made on behalf of an incoming 11th-grade student who attended Byron Steele in Texas as a 9th and 10th-grade student. While in Texas, the student played basketball and lived with her mother. The student's parents are divorced and an Educational Transfer Form has also been submitted with the request. The student's father lives in the Hancock School District. The student attended Houghton Public Schools from elementary school through 8th grade while living with her father in Hancock. The student desires to reenroll at Houghton because of her father's ill health and a recent diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease. The request is for the student to be able to participate in basketball at Houghton immediately pending a completed ETF given her long connection to the school system.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver with the completion of the Educational Transfer Form.

Howell High School Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 12th-grade student who transferred to Howell from Andean High School in Merrillville, IN for the start of the 2023-24 school year. The student has experienced traumatic last few years with the death of her father and grandmother, the incarceration of her mother and her grandfather not being able to care for her. She now lives with her aunt in Howell. While at Andean High School, the student competed in golf, bowling, and track and field and it was one of the few stable factors in her life. The school request is for immediate eligibility in all sports at Howell. Supporting documentation was provided by the former school, a counselor, and the family.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Jackson High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation is made for an incoming 10th-grade student who attended Vandercook Lake in the 2023-24 school year and played football. The student transferred to Jackson to start the 2023-24 school year after experiencing issues, including bullying and a physical altercation while at Vandercook Lake. These incidents were also documented and confirmed by the Vandercook Lake Superintendent. Both students have transferred to Jackson to get a new start and for their safety. The request is for immediate eligibility in football for the 2023-24 season at Jackson for the 10th-grade student.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Jackson-Lumen Christi High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student who transferred from Camden-Frontier to start the 2023-24 school year. The student played varsity volleyball as a 9th grader at Camden-Frontier. The student's transfer to Lumen Christi was based upon a family transfer to Lumen Christi, including the student's twin brother who is coming from Camden-Frontier and will play ice hockey. The new school is asking for eligibility for the student in volleyball based on the circumstances of the transfer. Support from the former school was also received.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for subvarsity volleyball.

Kentwood-East Kentwood High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an incoming 11th-grade student who played soccer while a student at Grand Rapids Christian as a 9th and 10th-grade student. The transfer to East Kentwood is being made for the online academic program Kentwood Public Schools offers. The student has benefited from online education with increased emotional well-being and in his mental health. The request is for immediate eligibility in soccer.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Lake Odessa-Lakewood 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 incoming 12th-grade student whose father recently remarried and moved from Fife Lake to the Saranac School District. The student attended Fife Lake-Forest Area as a 9th-11th grader and competed in volleyball, basketball, softball, and track. The new residence, with the father's new wife, is a residence that is on the border of the Saranac and Lakewood school districts. The new blended family has students (stepsiblings) who have attended Lakewood since they started school and all other siblings (3) in the new household will attend Lakewood Public Schools. The new school requests immediate eligibility in all sports at Lakewood. A similar request was granted during the 2022-23 school year for a younger sister of the same family and in the same situation.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Macomb-Dakota High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10th grader who previously attended De La Salle and participated in soccer during the 2022-23 school year. The student struggled socially after attending Macomb Public Schools from elementary school. The change of schools was difficult, yet the student made it through the year, but would like a fresh start in all things including soccer. The request is for subvarsity eligibility, only in soccer, at Dakota for the student.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Macomb-Dakota High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation is made for an incoming 11th-grade student who attended L'Anse Creuse in the 2022-23 school year and competed in basketball and track. The student transferred to Dakota to start the 2023-24 school year after a full and complete residential move to the Sterling Heights School District. The family desires Dakota as the school of choice for their daughter given its' higher test scores, academic fit for their daughter, and close proximity to their new home. The request is for immediate eligibility in basketball and track for the 2023-24 season at Dakota.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

McBain High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation is made for an incoming 12th-grade student who enrolled at McBain. The student transferred from Houghton Lake for the start of the second semester of the 2022-23 school year. The student participated in volleyball at Houghton Lake during the 2022-23 school year. The student transferred to McBain after a car accident, resulting in anxiety, bullying, and ultimately a physical incident against the student. The family felt the school setting needed to be changed after she suffered anxiety attacks from these incidents. The request is for immediate varsity eligibility in volleyball at McBain. A supporting letter from the student's pediatrician, the former school, and a counselor were included.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Mt Morris High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 12th-grade student who participated in football for two games while a student at Mt Morris. The student then transferred to an online school unassociated with Mt Morris during the second semester of 2022-23 to help with credit recovery. He now desires to come back to Mt Morris for his senior year and participate in football. The student is otherwise academically eligible for athletics at Mt Morris.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Muskegon-Mona Shores High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation, specifically Interpretation #74a, was made on behalf of three incoming 9th-grade students who practiced on August 7th – 10th at Orchard View in football and have now transferred to Mona Shores. The students notified on August 10th of their acceptance to Mona Shores. While the students desired to attend Mona Shore, they live in the Orchard View attendance area and that is why they started at Orchard View in football. The school asks for immediate eligibility in football for the three students. A complete timeline was given on acceptance and communication of the school of choice acceptance and the former school indicates that they support the transfer of these three students.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Northville High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation is made for an incoming 11th-grade student who enrolled at Northville in the Spring of 2023 after attending Brother Rice for his 9th and 10th-grade years. While at Brother Rice, the student competed in football, basketball, and track. The student transferred to Northville after the death of his older brother, who also attended Brother Rice. In addition, the student's grandfather also passed in the last nine months. The student has experienced a decline in his mental and emotional well-being and desires to be closer to home at Northville. The request is for immediate eligibility in all sports at Northville. The request is supported by Brother Rice and letters of support from therapists and doctors.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Novi-Detroit Catholic Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation is made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student from Detroit-U of D Jesuit. The student attended U of D Jesuit as a freshman during the 2022-2023 school year and transferred to Detroit Catholic Central due to not getting the academic support. While at U of D Jesuit, the student competed in JV soccer and varsity wrestling. The new school offers a fresh start for the student academically and for his health. The request is for subvarsity eligibility in all sports.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Novi-Detroit Catholic Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation is made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student from Brighton. The student attended Brighton as a freshman during the first semester of the 2022-2023 school year and transferred to Detroit Catholic Central at the start of the second semester due to bad experiences at Brighton. While at Brighton, the student played on the 9th-grade football team. The student desired to transfer earlier in the semester to Catholic Central, but the admissions window was closed until the semester. The student played baseball in the spring at Catholic Central. The new school offers a fresh start, resulting in a better experience academically, spiritually, and socially. The request is for subvarsity eligibility in football.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Novi-Detroit Catholic Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation is made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student from North Farmington. The student attended North Farmington as a freshman during the first semester of the 2022-2023 school year and transferred to Detroit Catholic Central at the start of the second semester due to bad experiences at North Farmington. While at North Farmington, the student played on the 9th/JV-grade football team. The student desired to transfer to Catholic Central earlier in the semester, but the admissions window was closed until the semester. The student played basketball in the winter at Catholic Central. The new school offers a fresh start, and so far, the result has been a better experience, and the transition has been smooth. The request is for subvarsity eligibility in football.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Onsted High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation is made on behalf of an incoming 12th-grade student who has transferred from Saline to Onsted. The student attended Onsted Public Schools from Kindergarten through the spring of his junior year when he transferred to Saline using an Educational Transfer Form and moved between divorced parents to live with his father in Saline. The student competed in track & field at Saline in the spring and was planning on competing in football this fall. The student's father has just passed of cancer. The student needs to move back to Onsted to live with his mother again. Onsted is asking for a waiver given this challenging and unique situation and for immediate athletic eligibility in football and track at Onsted for the student's 12th-grade year. The former school, Saline, also wrote a letter of support for the student and his difficult situation.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Parma Western High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation is made for an incoming 11th-grade student to Parma Western. The student previously attended Lumen Christi as a 10th-grade student during the 2022-23 school year but left to finish the school year in the Vandercook Lake online program. The family lives in the Jackson Public School attendance area. The student was suspended at Lumen Christi, and the situation there caused the family to send him elsewhere to finish the 2022-23 school year. The waiver request is for the student to be immediately eligible in soccer and wrestling at Parma Western during the 2023-24 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Rockford High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student who transferred to Rockford from Grand Rapids-Catholic Central for the start of the 2023-24 school year. The student has experienced hardships that led to a decision to start at a new school. The student participated in junior varsity football at the former school. The request is for eligibility at Rockford in football.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Shepherd High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 11th-grade student who transferred from Mt Pleasant to start the 2023-24 school year. The student had issues with a teammate on her volleyball team that escalated to a police report and no contact order being applied to the situation. The student required counseling and it was determined that a new school would benefit her mental health. The new school is asking for eligibility for the student in volleyball based on the circumstances of the transfer.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

South Lyon East High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation is made for an incoming 10th-grade student recently enrolled at South Lyon East. The student transferred from Novi-Detroit Catholic Central after the 2022-23 school year. The student participated in six football games and a full season of JV and varsity baseball at Detroit Catholic Central during the 2022-23 school year. The student transferred to South Lyon East, which is his home district, to receive better academic assistance and health resources which were not available to him at Detroit Catholic Central. The request is for immediate varsity eligibility in football and baseball at South Lyon East. A supporting letter from the student's pediatrician was also received.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Sturgis High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an incoming 10th-grade student who transferred to Sturgis in November of the 2022-23 school year after starting his high school career at Constantine. The student competed in football at Constantine. The student's biological father died suddenly before his 9th-grade year which has caused the student mental health issues of his own. These mental health challenges have led to doctor and therapist visits as well as a desire to change schools to get a fresh start after his mother's subsequent remarriage. The former school's administration supports the move and support letters from the student's doctor are also included.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Suttons Bay High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request is made to waive Regulation I, Section 9 (C) for an incoming 11th-grade student who transferred from Northport to Suttons Bay for the start of the 2023-24 school year. During the 2022-23 school year, the student participated in football. Suttons Bay and Northport have a cooperative agreement in football, so 9 (C) would apply by rule as a request. Northport has provided email documentation showing written support for this student's eligibility in football at Suttons Bay during the 2023-24 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver in football.

Troy Athens High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation is made for an incoming 12th-grade student who enrolled at Troy Athens. The student transferred from Detroit Country Day for the start of the 2023-24 school year. The student participated in cross country and girls soccer at Country Day during the 2023-24 school year. The student transferred to Troy Athens, their home district after hospitalization. The request is for immediate eligibility in cross country and soccer at Troy Athens. Supporting letters were included.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Utica High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student who transferred to Utica from Utica Eisenhower to start the 2023-24 school year. The student participated in football at Eisenhower. Utica has been determined to be a better fit socially for the student. The request is for immediate subvarsity eligibility at Utica in football.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Wayne Memorial High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 11th-grade student who transferred from Monroe-St Mary Catholic Central at the end of the 2022-23 school year. The student transferred to Wayne Memorial in August 2023. While at St. Mary's Catholic Central the student competed in swimming. The student struggles with learning disabilities and to better accommodate her academically and socially, the student's mother, who is a teacher at Wayne Memorial, is having the daughter make the transition to a new school. The new school is asking for eligibility in swimming based on the circumstances. Medical documentation and a letter from the former school's coach and AD were also provided. New information is a letter from the School Administration of St Mary Catholic Central fully supporting the transfer to Wayne Memorial.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Whitehall High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation is made on behalf of incoming 10th and 12th-grade siblings and students. The students transferred from Montague for the start of the 2023-24 school year. One student participated in football, and both in basketball while at Montague. The students transferred because of challenges, including safety and harassment, faced by the students after an incident with Montague High School. The request is for immediate eligibility in all sports at Whitehall. Letters of support from the former school administration and an incident report.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Flint-Michigan School for the Deaf (Regulation II, Section 6) – A request to waive the travel limitation was made to permit the school's volleyball team to participate in the Bison Homecoming Varsity Volleyball event in Sulpher, Oklahoma on September 29 and 30, 2023, which is 1,077 miles from MSD. Arkansas and Michigan Schools for the Deaf were invited to compete with the Oklahoma School for the Deaf in this volleyball event.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Grosse Pointe Woods-University Liggett and Oak Park High Schools (Regulation II, Section 9) – A request to reduce the MHSAA imposed penalty for violating Regulation II, Section 9 (C) (Football Practice and Competition). The violation occurred when the schools' football teams conducted a scrimmage on Monday, August 14th, 2023, on day eight and before the allowed day nine of football practice. The penalty given to the schools and teams was a loss of all remaining scrimmages and the suspension of the head coaches for the first regular season contest of the 2023-24 season. The schools asked for the coaches to be reinstated for week one coaching, given the context of the situation, compliance in the future, and education for the coaches and schools.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Brighton High School (Regulation II, Section 11) – Pursuant to Interpretation 240, a request to waive the four-player rule was made on behalf of the newly hired head girls swim and dive coach, who is also employed by Brighton Area Schools community education. The coach is also the head coach for the school's club swim team that operates out of the Brighton Area Schools pool. It is a requirement of the job with community education to coach the resident club team and supervise all competitive programs that use the facility.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Cedarville and DeTour Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls basketball (7th and 8th grades), boys and girls cross country (6th, 7th and 8th grades combined), boys and girls golf (6th, 7th and 8th grades combined), boys and girls track & field (6th, 7th and 8th grades combined) and volleyball (7th and 8th grades) for these schools beginning in the 2023-24 school year. Cedarville will be the primary school.

Kalamazoo-Comstock and Galesburg-Augusta Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys soccer (6th, 7th and 8th grades combined), for these schools beginning in the 2023-24 school year. Kalamazoo-Comstock will be the primary school.

Huron ISD-Rural School – A request to confirm the membership status is made for the Huron ISD Rural School at the junior high/middle school level. This K-8 school program, is administered by the Huron Intermediate School District. The school would be involved in cooperative programs with member junior high/middle schools in the thumb area.

The Executive Committee affirmed the membership status.

Next Meetings – Wednesday, Sept. 6 at 9 a.m. – Virtual; Thursday, Oct. 5 at 9 a.m. – Virtual; Wednesday, Nov. 1 at 9 a.m. – Virtual; Thursday, Nov. 30 at 1:30 p.m. in East Lansing (Representative Council meets the next day); Wednesday, January 10 at 1 p.m. – Virtual; Wednesday, Feb. 14 at 9 a.m. – Virtual (Audit & Finance Committee follows); Thursday, March 21 at 9 a.m. – Virtual (Representative Council meets the next day); Wednesday, April 17 at 9 a.m. – Virtual; Friday, May 3 at 9 a.m. – Virtual; Thursday, June 13 at 9 a.m. - Virtual