

# MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Virtual, December 5, 2024

9:00 a.m.

### Committee Members:

Scott Grimes, Grand Haven  
John Thompson, Brighton  
Vic Michaels, Detroit  
Anna Rigby, Harbor Springs  
Jeff Kline, Mt. Morris

### Staff Members:

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 nor to change schools for athletics, discipline, or family finances. 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.

Ironwood High School (Regulation I, Section 1) – A request to waive the enrollment regulation was made to permit Ironwood High School to join a cooperative agreement with Ashland High School in Wisconsin to participate in the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) ice hockey tournament. This request is allowed by WIAA regulation if approved by the MHSAA. Rationale, history, and the challenges associated with maintaining MHSAA cooperative agreements in hockey were stated. The Executive Committee granted this request for the 2024-25 school year, but timing did not allow it to occur. The new request is to allow Ironwood to join the Ashland cooperative program in ice hockey for the 2025-26 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for 2025-26.

Brighton-Livingston Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a request to allow the use of 7<sup>th</sup>-grade student-athletes in their girls basketball and girls soccer programs. Livingston Christian High School has 73 students in grades 9-12 for the 2024-25 school year. The request came to the Executive Committee with specific numbers, causes, and rationale about the positive impact of using 7<sup>th</sup>-graders at Livingston Christian in their girls basketball and girls soccer teams and with league support.

Grand Rapids Sacred Heart Academy (Regulation I, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a request to allow the use of 8<sup>th</sup>-grade student-athletes in their boys and girls basketball programs. Sacred Heart Academy has 109 students in grades 9-12 for the 2024-25 school year. The request came to the Executive Committee with rationale about the positive impact of using 8<sup>th</sup>-graders in the Grand Rapids Sacred Heart Academy basketball programs for the 2024-25 school year. League support was also received.

Kinde-North Huron High School (Regulation I, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a request to allow the use of 8<sup>th</sup>-grade student-athletes in their athletic programs. North Huron High School has 105 students in grades 9-12 for the 2024-25 school year. The request came to the Executive Committee with specific numbers, cause, and rationale about the positive impact of using 8<sup>th</sup>-graders at North Huron in all sports programs for the 2024-25 school year.

Wyoming-Tri-Unity Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a request to allow the use of 8<sup>th</sup>-grade student-athletes in their basketball programs. Tri-Unity Christian High School has 119 students in grades 9-12 for the 2024-25 school year. The request came to the Executive Committee with specific numbers, causes, and rationale about the positive impact of using 8<sup>th</sup>-graders at Tri-Unity Christian on their basketball teams and with league support.

Farmington and Farmington Hills-North Farmington High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in girls lacrosse (varsity and JV) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 2,719 students will place the team in Division 1, removing two teams from Division 2. Farmington will be the primary schools. Support from the Oakland Activities Association was submitted.

L'Anse and Baraga High Schools (Regulation I, 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in baseball (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 239 students will place the team in Division 4, removing one team the division. L'Anse will be the primary school. Support from the Copper Mountain Conference was submitted.

Westland-Hope Christian and Plymouth-Ivywood Classical Academies (Regulation I, Section 1[F-4])

– The Executive Committee approved a four-year lifeline cooperative program in baseball (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 126 students will place the team in Division 4, making no change to divisional assignments. Hope Christian will be the primary school. Support from the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference was submitted.

Whitmore Lake and Whitmore Lake-Livingston Classical Academy 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 219 students will place the team in Division 4, making no change to divisional assignments. Whitmore Lake will be the primary school. Support from potential opponents was submitted.

Traverse City Central High School (Regulation I, Section 2)

– A request to waive the age rule was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student (D.O.B. August 4, 2005). The student has struggled with learning disabilities, depression and anxiety. The school request was for the age waiver to be granted given the student being held back for academic deficiencies while he was a student in Mississippi in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. The school requested eligibility for the student in basketball for the 2024-25 season. The school provided a letter from the school's attorney related to the student as documentation.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Bangor High School (Regulation I, Section 9)

– A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who enrolled at Bangor High School to start the 2024-25 school year. The student left Mexico with his sister to live with his aunt and uncle through the Migrant Education Program of the State of Michigan. While in Mexico, the student played interscholastic basketball and lived with his mother and sister, and his mother remained in Mexico. The student is categorized as McKinney-Vento by Bangor Public Schools under federal law and the student moved with his sister to Bangor out of necessity. Bangor requested eligibility in basketball for the 2024-25 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Bay City-Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9)

– A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who attended Midland Dow High School and competed in wrestling during the 2023-24 school year before moving to live with his grandmother in the fall of 2024 because the student was asked to leave his mother's home. The student is considered homeless under the McKinney-Vento federal law by Bay City Public Schools. The school asked for immediate eligibility in wrestling at Bay City Central.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Belding High School (Regulation I, Section 9)

– A request to waive the transfer regulation is made on behalf of two brothers, 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>-grade students at Belding High School. The students transferred from Grand Rapids-West Catholic High School for the start of the second semester of the 2023-24 school year. The students participated in basketball while at West Catholic on the 9<sup>th</sup> and JV teams in eight and ten games respectively. The student's parents determined moving from West Catholic was in the best interest of the student's mental health and they moved to their home district of Belding. The request was for immediate eligibility in basketball, and if that couldn't be granted then after eight and ten games of basketball.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver after eight and ten games, respectively.

Bloomfield Hills-Cranbrook Kingswood High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who competed in basketball the previous school year at Brother Rice High School. The student transferred from Brother Rice for a fresh start after being accepted at Cranbrook Kingswood for the start of the 2024-25 school year. While at Brother Rice, the student competed on the 9<sup>th</sup>-grade basketball team and played in only two games. The request was for immediate eligibility in basketball at Cranbrook Kingswood, and if that couldn't be granted, then eligibility after two basketball games.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver after two basketball games.

Burr Oak High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive exception 8 (move between divorced or never married parents with a signed Educational Transfer Form) was made for a student who transferred from Mendon High School to Burr Oak High School to live with his father instead of his mother. The 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student attended Mendon for his first two years of high school and lived with his mother. The student started the 2024-25 school year by moving to his father's house in Burr Oak and requested the use of the ETF to gain athletic eligibility. Mendon determined that the transfer was motivated by athletics and supplied evidence of such regarding the transfer, and the school would not sign the Educational Transfer Form. Burr Oak provided evidence of mental health concerns and challenges for the student as the reason for the transfer. Burr Oak asked for a waiver of the requirement that both schools need to sign the ETF given this information and requested immediate athletic eligibility in basketball.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Cedarville High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B-1]) – A request was made to waive the sport-specific transfer rule for a student who transferred from St. Ignace High School to Cedarville High School in early November 2024. The family and student live in Cedarville, but the older siblings both attended St. Ignace, and the student was able to ride to and from school each day to St. Ignace. With her siblings graduating, the student does not have a good way to get to St. Ignace, and the parents made the decision to have her attend Cedarville, just three miles from her home. During the 2023-24 and early in the 2024-25 school year, the student participated in basketball and volleyball. The request was for immediate eligibility in girls basketball and in volleyball during the fall of 2025.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Clawson High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B-1]) – A request was made to waive the sport-specific transfer rule for a student who transferred from Clawson High School to Berkley High School for the beginning of the 2024-25 school year, and then back to Clawson in November of 2024. The student initially desired to live with his mother instead of his father. The 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student attended Clawson for his first three years of high school and lived with his father. The student started the 2024-25 school year off by moving to his mother's house in Berkley and requested the use of the ETF to gain athletic eligibility. Clawson determined that the transfer was motivated by athletics and supplied evidence of such regarding the transfer. The ETF was not approved, and the student had no athletic eligibility at Berkley. The student enrolled back at Clawson with a desire to wrestle during this 12<sup>th</sup>-grade year. Clawson has met with the family and student and believes this move back is in good faith, and there is no longer ill will towards the district or wrestling program. The school asked for immediate eligibility in wrestling.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Climax-Scotts High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B-1]) – A request was made to waive the sport-specific transfer rule for a student who transferred from Taylor Prep High School to Climax-Scotts High School at the beginning of the school year in September 2024. During the 2023-24 school year, the student participated in basketball at Taylor Prep. The student is now living with her grandmother after guardianship was transferred to her from the father. The move was for the student's mental and physical health. Court documents indicating the move between father and grandmother were supplied. The request was for immediate eligibility in girls basketball.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Clinton High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who participated in girls basketball previously at Manchester High School. The student transferred to Clinton High School at the start of the 2023-24 school year because of circumstances outside of her control including bullying and lack of school support, all of which created a toxic environment for the student. The request was for immediate eligibility in girls basketball after four games.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver after four basketball games.

Clio High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer rule was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who transferred to Clio High School from Montrose High School to start the 2024-25 school year. The student competed in volleyball, basketball and softball at Montrose where she attended for her entire educational career despite living in Clio. The family has gone through challenging times with a student at Montrose that involved a police report and numerous school discipline issues. The family indicated that going to Clio would alleviate several challenges for the family and student and the school asked for full athletic eligibility in softball. New documentation included school records, medical letter, law enforcement records and communication from the former school.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Grand Ledge High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who competed in JV girls basketball the previous school year at Lansing Christian High School. The student transferred from Lansing Christian for the start of the 2024-25 school year. The student struggled with receiving support while at Lansing Christian and desired to come back to her home school, where she has always lived and attended. The request was for immediate eligibility in subvarsity girls basketball at Grand Ledge.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids-Kenowa Hills High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who enrolled at Kenowa Hills High School to start the 2024-25 school year. The student transferred from West Michigan Academy of Environmental Science (WMAES) where she played a limited schedule of girls basketball, in no more than five games, during the 2023-24 school year. WMAES is not an MHSAA member school but does compete in a local charter school basketball league. The student desired a new start and enrolled in a Kenowa Hills alternative program and is living with her aunt and grandmother. The request was for immediate basketball eligibility at Kenowa Hills, and if that couldn't be granted, then eligibility after five games of girls basketball.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver after five basketball games.

Grand Rapids-NorthPointe Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who transferred to NorthPointe Christian High School from Ada-Forest Hills Eastern High School for the start of the 2024-25 school year. The student competed in cross country and basketball at Forest Hills Eastern as a 9<sup>th</sup>-grader. The student struggled with electronic and in-person mistreatment that resulted in illness. The student's transfer to NorthPointe Christian was related to those physical and mental challenges and her recovery. The school request was for immediate eligibility in girls basketball. Letters of support were also submitted regarding the student's transfer from her medical providers.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids-Ottawa Hills High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who has transferred to Ottawa Hills High school from Wyoming-Godwin Heights High School to start the 2024-25 school year. The student competed as a 10<sup>th</sup>-grader at Godwin Heights in basketball in only two games. Ottawa Hills requested immediate eligibility in girls basketball after two games.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver after two basketball games.

Grand Rapids-West Catholic High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who participated in football and basketball previously at Kenowa Hills High School. The student transferred to West Catholic High School on October 28<sup>th</sup>, after starting the school year at Kenowa Hills, because of difficult circumstances for the student. The request was for immediate eligibility at West Catholic in basketball and football.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids-West Michigan Aviation Academy (Regulation I, Section 9) - A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who has transferred to West Michigan Aviation Academy from Grand Rapids West Catholic High School. The student competed as a 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>-grader at West Catholic in girls soccer. While the student attended West Catholic, the student desired to attend WMAA, as her younger brother was there, and there were issues and challenges at West Catholic and with fellow students. Admission at WMAA is by random lottery. The student was not selected before the second semester of her 10<sup>th</sup>-grade year, but just before the start of her 11<sup>th</sup>-grade year she was notified and admitted to WMAA from a waitlist and enrolled to start the 2024-25 school year. The school asked for immediate eligibility in girls soccer for the student.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Hazel Park High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation, specifically interpretation 62 (the public high school closest to the new residence), is made for an incoming 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who attended Ferndale University High School in the 2023-24 school year and competed in girls basketball. The student was abused by her mother's boyfriend at a home in Detroit during this time. After the assault, the student immediately moved in with her father in another home in Detroit and transferred to Hazel Park High School. The request was for immediate eligibility in basketball at Hazel Park, given the student's challenging situation.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Holt High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who competed in boys lacrosse the previous school year at Lansing Catholic High School. The student transferred from Lansing Catholic for the start of the 2024-25 school year. While at Lansing Catholic, the student competed on the boys lacrosse team and played in only three games. The request was for immediate eligibility in boys lacrosse after three games.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver after three boys lacrosse games.

Ishpeming High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation, specifically Interpretation 62 (closest public school district), was made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who transferred back to Ishpeming High School in November of 2024. The student transferred to Ishpeming from Howards Grove High School in Wisconsin where she was denied athletic eligibility in all sports by the WIAA and Howards Grove ruling for both her junior and senior years. The student's parents live outside of the Ishpeming attendance area in Marquette, but the student attended Ishpeming for her 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>-grade years. The student decided to move with a family in Wisconsin to pursue higher-level club and high school volleyball, which resulted in the recruiting violations and her athletic ineligibility in high school sports. Ishpeming has requested eligibility in basketball and track for the 2024-25 school year and in volleyball for the 2025-26 school year.

The Executive Committee tabled this matter pending further and additional information about the circumstances and transfer to and from Howards Grove High School.

Lake Orion High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation is made for an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who attended Orchard Lake-St. Mary's Prep High School during their 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>-grade years and played JV basketball. The student transferred to Lake Orion to start the 2024-25 school year in order to get a fresh start after experiencing some personal challenges while at St. Mary's, believing that this change would help the student improve his health. The request was for immediate eligibility in basketball for the 2024-25 season.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Marion High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation is made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who attended McBain High School as a 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grade student, where he competed in basketball during the 2023-24 school year. The student has transferred to Marion High School to live with a family friend after a physical altercation with his father. The student was asked to leave and cannot return to his home in McBain. The student was deemed to be homeless under the McKinney-Vento Federal law by Marion Public Schools. The request was for immediate eligibility in basketball at Marion for the 2024-25 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Marshall High School (Regulation I, Section) – A request to waive the transfer regulation is made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who attended Hastings High School through September of the 2024-25 school year. The student transferred to Marshall High School in early October after struggling with the death of his father in the summer of 2024 and the struggles that came from that situation. He ultimately chose to move to his grandmother's home in Marshall for a fresh start. While at Hastings, the student played basketball. The request was for eligibility at Marshall in basketball given the extreme challenges the student has gone through. The former school supported the transfer and submitted a letter of support.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Mattawan High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence), was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who enrolled in the Gull Lake Virtual Academy while pursuing participation in junior non-school hockey both in Wyoming and in Massachusetts during his 11<sup>th</sup>-grade year. The student had previously attended Mattawan High School from young 5's through the start of his 11<sup>th</sup>-grade year before leaving after a short time during the 2023-24 school year. The student's family lives in Kalamazoo and not Mattawan, but the student desired to return to Mattawan to graduate with his peers and friends, regain social connections, and pursue in-person education. The request was for immediate eligibility in hockey at Mattawan, and if that couldn't be granted, then eligibility after eight games at Mattawan.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver after eight ice hockey games.

Monroe-Jefferson High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>-grade brothers who transferred to Jefferson High School to start the 2024-25 school year after attending Gibraltar-Carlson High School for their academic careers. The students competed in wrestling at Carlson and live in the Jefferson attendance area. The students transferred to Jefferson because of issues with school, the younger brother's health challenges and lack of support, and the family determined a new start and school was necessary. The continued request was for eligibility in wrestling at Jefferson for both students with the former school supporting the transfer and eligibility for both students. New information included a letter from a counselor, notes about church attendance and youth pastor meetings and an updated letter from the former school.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Muskegon Catholic Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B-1]) – A third request to waive the sport-specific transfer rule was made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who enrolled at Muskegon Catholic Central High School for the 2024-25 school year after attending Muskegon High School for her 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>-grade years. The student struggled with bullying and transferred schools to help with her health and safety. The continued request was for immediate eligibility in basketball. New information included letters from the family describing the situations that occurred while at Muskegon.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Muskegon-Orchard View High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who competed in football, wrestling, and baseball the previous year at Muskegon-Orchard View High School. The student, along with his 11<sup>th</sup>-grade brother, transferred to Whitehall High School to start the 2024-25 school year because of struggles with their mental health and, on the advice from their therapist, determined that a change of schools to Orchard View would be best. The student and family have now determined that the switch was a mistake and desire to return to his "home" school where he has always attended. The request was for immediate eligibility in all sports at Orchard View in the 2024-25 school year. While at Whitehall, the student did not participate in athletics, and the former school supported the transfer back to Orchard View.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

New Haven-Merritt Academy (Regulation I, Section 9) – A third request to waive the transfer regulation is made for an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who attended Richmond High School for his 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>-grade years and competed in basketball and baseball. The student transferred to Merritt Academy to start the 2024-25 school year after experiencing challenges with anxiety and depression that resulted in visits to a counselor. The family determined a new start was desired at a different school. The request was for immediate eligibility in basketball and baseball. New information received included therapy clinician notes on the student's mental health struggles and communication with the former school.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Niles High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation is made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who recently enrolled at Niles High School for the 2024-25 school year. The student was living with his father and attending Edwardsburg High School before being told to leave the home by his father. While at Edwardsburg, the student played football and wrestled. The student is categorized at McKinney-Vento by Niles Public Schools under that federal law. The student moved to Niles to live with a family friend, has no relationship with his mother, and has begun the process of legal emancipation from his father. Niles requested eligibility in wrestling for the 2024-25 school year and football for the 2025-26 school year.

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 was made on behalf of a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student from Orchard Lake-St. Mary's Prep. The student attended St. Mary's Prep for the first semester of his 9<sup>th</sup>-grade year when he transferred to Detroit Catholic Central High School. While at St. Mary's Prep the student played in three 9<sup>th</sup>-grade basketball games. The request was for eligibility in subvarsity basketball at Detroit Catholic Central after three games in the 2024-25 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver after three subvarsity basketball games.

Pontiac-Notre Dame Preparatory High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation, and specifically Interpretation 62 (closest nonpublic school), was made on behalf of an incoming 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who made a full and complete residential change to Oakland Township from Bloomington, IL where he played football and baseball at Central Catholic High School. Notre Dame Prep is not the closest nonpublic or parochial school, which is Oakland Christian High School, but it is the closest Catholic High School to the new residence. Prior to his family's move to Michigan, the student had previously attended Catholic schools in IL, MS and TN. The school asked for immediate eligibility in athletics.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Port Huron High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who transferred from Landmark Academy. While at Landmark Academy, the student played JV basketball as a 9<sup>th</sup>-grader. The student transferred to Port Huron High School after a criminal incident with his cousin. The family determined that a lack of information about how the school would deal with the issue caused concern and the family and students moved from Landmark Academy to Port Huron. Port Huron asked for subvarsity eligibility in basketball this school year.

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

St. Clair Shores-Lakeview High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation, and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence), was made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student. The student attended Oak Park High School, and her parents went through a divorce; during this process, the mother lost her home, and the family moved in with their grandparents creating a poor living environment. Both parents agreed that a new residence was needed, and the daughter moved in with her father in Eastpointe. The father determined that Lakeview High School would be the best high school for the student, and she has attended since the start of the 2024-25 school year. While at Oak Park, the student played basketball and softball and competed in track. Lakeview requested immediate eligibility in all sports on behalf of this student.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

St. Helen-Charlton Heston Academy (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who participated in boys basketball previously at Oscoda High School for eleven games during the 2023-24 school year before quitting the team. The student transferred back to Charlton Heston Academy where he attended for his 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>-grade-years and played basketball. While at Oscoda, the student struggled to fit in, which created a toxic environment for the student. The request was for boys basketball eligibility after 11 games.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver after 11 basketball games.

St. Joseph High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who participated in girls basketball previously at Edwardsburg High School. The student transferred to St. Joseph High School in April of the 2023-24 school year. The student transferred back to St. Joseph because of circumstances outside of her control, including bullying and exclusion. This created a toxic environment for the student, and a fresh start back in her hometown, and a school district she had previously attended was necessary. The request was for immediate eligibility in girls basketball. Emails and letters of support for the student are also included.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Sterling Heights High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation is made on behalf of a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who attended Sterling Heights High School before transferring to an online school because of the death of his grandmother, which required him and his family to travel to Iraq to deal with funeral arrangements. The student is now back at Sterling Heights and desires to again compete in wrestling. The request was for immediate eligibility in wrestling.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Warren Mott High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who transferred to Madison High School from Warren Mott High School. The student attended Warren Mott since his 9<sup>th</sup>-grade year and played basketball in the 2023-24 school year but determined that a new start was desired for personal reasons and left Warren Mott for Madison from September 4, 2024 to October 1, 2024. At that time, he and his parents realized that leaving Mott was not in his best interests, and he returned to Warren Mott, where he had always attended. While at Madison, he did not participate in any athletics. Warren Mott requested immediate eligibility in basketball. The former school supported the student's eligibility.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Wayne Memorial High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation, specifically Interpretation 62 (closest public school to his new residence), was made on behalf of an incoming 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who transferred from Romulus Summit Academy at the end of the 2023-24 school year. While at Summit Academy, the student competed in basketball. The student struggled with the dismissal of his basketball coach. The student decided to move to his father's home in Taylor to get a new start after he was homeschooled for the second semester in the 2023-24 school year. The student has attended therapy to help and believes that a new start in a new school will help aid his recovery. The new school asked for eligibility in basketball based on the circumstances.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

West Bloomfield High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B-1]) – A request to waive the sport-specific transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who previously attended L'Anse Creuse High School and participated in basketball as a 9<sup>th</sup>-grader. The student went through a challenging situation with his mother being in a toxic and abusive relationship that forced her to leave her apartment and move with the son to West Bloomfield. The student's younger brother, who was living with the mother and older brother, moved in with his father. West Bloomfield High School requested athletic eligibility in basketball in 2024-25.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Wyoming-Godwin Heights High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who competed in basketball the previous two years at East Kentwood High School. The student transferred to Godwin Heights High School to start the 2024-25 school year because she desired a fresh start for her mental health following some incidents that occurred during her time at East Kentwood. The request is for immediate eligibility in basketball. New documentation included a letter from a therapist, the student and parents describing the specific reasons why they changed schools.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Ann Arbor-Pioneer High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 240, a request to waive the four-player rule for the 2024-25 school year was made on behalf of the boys and girls swimming coach who is newly employed by the Livonia Community Swim Club, the coach's primary source of income. The club is open to the public, and for 2024-25, it is anticipated to include approximately 60-75 participants, in all age levels. There are 4-6 students involved from Ann Arbor-Pioneer in the club, which also includes students from Canton, Dearborn, Livonia, Farmington, Garden City, Novi, Plymouth, and Wayne Public Schools.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Saline High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 240, a request to waive the four-player rule for the 2024-25 school year was made on behalf of two boys and girls swimming coaches who are employed by the Saline Swim Team, an independent non-school program operated by the Saline Community Education program. Swim coaching is the coaches primary sources of income. The club is open to the public, and for 2024-25, it is anticipated to include approximately 226 participants, in all age levels. There are 75 students involved from Saline Public Schools in the club, which also includes students from surrounding communities such as Ann Arbor, Dexter, Ypsilanti, Belleville and Wyandotte.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Next Meetings – Wednesday, January 8, 2025 at 9 a.m. – Virtual; Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 9 a.m. – Virtual; Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 9 a.m. – Virtual; Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at 9 a.m. – Virtual.