

# MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Virtual, June 12, 2025

9:00 a.m.

### Committee Members:

Eric Albright, Midland  
John Thompson, Brighton  
Vic Michaels, Detroit  
Anna Novak, Harbor Springs  
Chris Hartman, Kingsford

### 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.

Baraga 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 athletic programs. Baraga High School will have 75 students in grades 9-12 for the 2025-26 school year. The request came to the Executive Committee with reasons and rationale about the positive impact of using 7<sup>th</sup>-graders at Baraga in all sports starting in the fall of 2025. League support was also received.

Bessemer 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. Bessemer High School will have 109 students in grades 9-12 for the 2025-26 school year. The request came to the Executive Committee with reasons and rationale about the positive impact of using 8<sup>th</sup>-graders at Bessemer in all sports starting in the fall of 2025. League support was also received.

Camden-Frontier 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. Camden-Frontier High School has 117 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>-grade students for the 2025-26 school year. The request came to the Executive Committee with a rationale about the positive impact of using 8<sup>th</sup>-graders at Camden-Frontier in all athletic programs for the 2025-26 school year. League support was also received.

Ewen-Trout Creek High School (Regulation I, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a request allow the use of 7<sup>th</sup>-grade student-athletes in their athletic programs. Ewen-Trout Creek High School will have 58 students in grades 9-12 for the 2025-26 school year. The request came to the Executive Committee with reasons and rationale about the positive impact of using 7<sup>th</sup>-graders at Ewen-Trout Creek in all athletic programs for the 2025-26 school year. League support was also received.

Canton, Plymouth and Canton-Salem High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-3]) – A request was made for a waiver of the 3,500-student limit for a new field hockey cooperative program. Canton High School will be the host school of a new cooperative program in field hockey (JV and varsity) between these schools, where the combined enrollment of this multi-high school district and cooperative program is 5,868. This request is for the 2025-26 school year, when it will be reevaluated given the new addition of field hockey to MHSAA tournaments. An otherwise completed cooperative application has already been approved by the Executive Committee in April of 2025.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for 2025-26 only.

Canton-Salem and Canton-Plymouth High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey (JV only) between these schools with a combined enrollment of 3,766 students. Salem will be the primary school. Support from the Kensington Lakes Activities Association was submitted.

Lansing-Eastern, Lansing-Everett and Lansing-JW Sexton High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys tennis (JV and varsity) between these schools. The combined enrollment will be 2,699 students and will place the team in Division 1, adding one team to the division. Eastern will be the primary school. Support from the Capital Area Activities Conference was submitted.

Munising and Eben Junction-Superior Central High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls tennis (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 291 students will place the teams in Division 2, making no change in the divisional assignments. Munising will be the primary school. Support from potential opponents was submitted.

Shelby Township-Utica Eisenhower and Utica High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E-2]) – The Executive Committee approved a request to waive the sport of boys lacrosse from the existing cooperative program rule for these two schools in the same district. These two schools have had a high school boys lacrosse cooperative program (varsity only) for four years, and by rule, it must be renewed at that time. The request is to continue with this cooperative program because of low numbers at Utica High School. The school district has struggled with participation and experienced a significant drop in participation. The district believes that a way to save boys lacrosse in the Utica Public Schools is by offering a cooperative program between the two schools in the same district. The schools have submitted an otherwise completed cooperative renewal form. The combined enrollment of 3,734 students will keep the team in Division 1. Eisenhower will be the primary school. Support from the Macomb Area Conference was submitted.

St. Joseph-Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic and Watervliet-Grace Christian High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls cross country (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 74 students will place the team in Division 4, making no change to the divisional assignments. Our Lady of the Lakes will be the primary school. Support from the BCS League was submitted.

Traverse City-St. Francis, Elk Rapids, Traverse City Christian, Frankfort, Kingsley, Kalkaska, Maple City-Glen Lake, McBain Northern Michigan Christian and Grayling High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity only) between these schools. St. Francis is the primary school in an existing ice hockey cooperative which is reforming to remove and then add schools. The combined enrollment of 2,456 students will place the team in Division 3, making no change to divisional assignments. Support from potential opponents was submitted.

Westland-John Glenn and Wayne Memorial High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys swimming & diving (varsity only) The combined enrollment of 3,088 students will place the team in Division 1, removing one team from Division 2. John Glenn will be the primary school. Support from the Kensington Lakes Activities Association was submitted.

White Lake-Lakeland and Highland-Milford 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 2,484 students will place the team in Division 3, removing two teams from Division 2. Lakeland will be the primary school. Support from the Lakes Valley Conference was submitted.

Caro High School (Regulation I, Section 2[A]) – A second request to waive the age rule was made on behalf of a 9<sup>th</sup>-grade student. The student has struggled with a cross-country move between parents and yet has found success in being a part of athletic teams at Caro High School. Because the student wasn't involved in athletics prior to his time at Caro, there was no concern about his age until he learned he would not be eligible for his 12<sup>th</sup>-grade year based upon his age. The school continues to request eligibility for the student in football, wrestling and track at Caro for what will be the student's 12<sup>th</sup> grade year in 2026-27 school year. The school provided documentation for an age waiver, including academic transcripts and athletic participation history. New information included letters of support from Caro administration, coaches and others on the student's behalf.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Swartz Creek High School (Regulation I, Section 2[B]) – A second request to waive the age rule was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student. The student has been diagnosed with health challenges. The school requests eligibility for the student in track & field and football at Swartz Creek High School in the 2025-26 school year. The school also provided academic transcripts, IEP's, athletic participation history, and supporting evidence. New information provided included additional documentation from the student's doctor, as well a letter from the school on the student's behalf.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Midland-HH Dow High School (Regulation I, Sections 4 & 5) – A request to waive the maximum enrollment and maximum competition rules of the eligibility regulation was made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who will be in his 9<sup>th</sup> semester of athletic eligibility to start the 2025-26 school year. The student has participated in football and basketball at Dow High School. The student was in an intensive in-patient care facility for treatment of health issues. During this time, the student took limited classes, and there were no athletics to participate in. The student will also be under the age requirement for the entirety of his senior year. Dow is asking for eligibility in basketball for the student in what will be the student's 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> semesters of eligibility. A description of the student's journey, as well as transcripts, was provided.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Saginaw-Heritage High School (Regulation I, Sections 4 & 5) – A request to waive the maximum enrollment and maximum competition rules of the eligibility regulation was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who will be in his 9<sup>th</sup> semester of athletic eligibility next school year. The student has participated in wrestling at Heritage High School since the 2023-24 school year. The student struggled with personal circumstances, including COVID and the loss of several family members, which delayed his athletic participation, and he has only been a part of Heritage wrestling for two seasons. In addition, the family felt a former administrator at Heritage told them that the student would be eligible for the 2025-26 school year. The student will also be under the age requirement for the entirety of his senior year. Heritage asked for eligibility in wrestling for the student in what will be the student's 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> semesters of eligibility.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Shelby Township-Utica Eisenhower High School (Regulation I, Sections 4 & 5) – A request to waive the maximum enrollment and maximum competition rules of the eligibility regulation was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who will be in his 9<sup>th</sup> semester of athletic eligibility next school year. The student has participated in cross country and track at Utica Eisenhower High School. The student has faced issues with anxiety and desires to compete in cross country and track & field. The student will also be under the age requirement for the entirety of his senior year. Eisenhower asked for eligibility in cross country and track & field for the student in what will be the student's 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> semesters of eligibility.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

West Bloomfield High School (Regulation I, Section 4) – A request to waive the maximum enrollment regulation was made for an incoming 9<sup>th</sup>-grade student who is transferring from St. Anne Catholic High School in Belle River, Canada, to West Bloomfield High School for the 2025-26 school year. The student has completed his 9<sup>th</sup>-grade year and participated in football and basketball. Because of the differences in the academic curriculum between Canada and the USA, as well as social and medical issues, the family wished to start the student off as a 9<sup>th</sup>-grader at West Bloomfield and be eligible for four years of high school athletics.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

West Bloomfield High School (Regulation I, Sections 4 & 5) – A second request to waive the maximum enrollment and maximum competition rules of the eligibility regulation was made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who will be in his 9<sup>th</sup> semester of athletic eligibility next school year. The student has participated in football and basketball at West Bloomfield High School after he previously attended both Brother Rice High School and Avondale High School virtual programs. The student went through a challenging situation with his parents' divorce and a subsequent custody battle. The student did not attend a second semester of his 9<sup>th</sup>-grade year and got behind academically; when he enrolled at West Bloomfield, he was a 10<sup>th</sup>-grader because of deficient credits. The student has now had significant positive family changes, attended therapy, and is living with his mother and is academically getting back on track. West Bloomfield requested athletic eligibility in all sports during what will be the student's fifth year of high school and athletic eligibility in 2025-26. Documentation of counseling was also included in the request. New supporting information included therapist letters and updated information on the student's appeal from the parent perspective.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

West Bloomfield High School (Regulation I, Sections 4 & 5) – A request to waive the maximum enrollment and maximum competition rules of the eligibility regulation was made on behalf of a current 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who will be in his 9<sup>th</sup> semester of athletic eligibility next school year. The student has participated in basketball at West Bloomfield High School after he previously attended both Walled Lake Central High School and an online program. The student went through a challenging situation with his father which resulted in the student being pulled from Walled Lake Central into an online program. In the fall of 2023, the student enrolled in West Bloomfield as a 10<sup>th</sup>-grader because of his lack of credits, though it was his third year of high school. The student suffered an injury during the 2024-25 school year, which resulted in him missing the entire basketball season. West Bloomfield requested athletic eligibility in basketball during what will be the student's fifth year of athletic eligibility in 2025-26.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Alma High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9<sup>th</sup>-grade student who transferred to Ithaca High School from Alma High School. The student attended Alma and played boys soccer. In November of 2024, the student left Alma and enrolled at Ithaca as the family had moved to Ithaca. The student's older brother had intentions to move to Ithaca as well, until his grades slipped. Ultimately, he remained at Alma. The 9<sup>th</sup>-grade student reenrolled at Alma on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025, for the start of the second semester after the decision for the older brother was reached. While at Ithaca, the 9<sup>th</sup>-grade student did not participate in any athletics. The former school supported the transfer. The school requested immediate eligibility in boys soccer.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Bloomfield Hills High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer rule was made on behalf of a 9<sup>th</sup>-grade student who transferred from Detroit Country Day High School during the 2024-25 school year. The student attended Detroit Country Day during the first semester, where he competed in football and basketball. The student left Detroit Country Day because of documented challenges at the school with other students. The request was for eligibility in football and basketball.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Brighton-Charyl Stockwell Preparatory Academy (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 Charyl Stockwell Preparatory Academy from Brighton High School in September of 2024, after nine school days. The student had previously attended Charyl Stockwell in middle school and thought that a new, bigger school would provide more opportunities but soon learned that she wanted to return to her former school environment. The new school request was for eligibility in girls volleyball after four contests, the same number of contests she played at Brighton during the 2024-25 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver after four volleyball days of competition.

Brighton-Charyl Stockwell Preparatory Academy (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 Charyl Stockwell Preparatory Academy from Brighton High School in September of 2024, after nine school days. The student had social problems that sparked the need for a change of schools. While at Brighton, the student played 9<sup>th</sup>-grade volleyball. The school request was for eligibility in girls volleyball after seven contests, the same number of contests she played at Brighton during the 2024-25 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver after seven volleyball days of competition.

Cedar Springs High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who transferred from Cedar Springs High School to Grand Rapids-West Catholic High School at the start of the second semester of the 2024-25 school year after playing two games of football at Cedar Springs in the fall. The family had a strong Catholic faith connection, but the student desired to go back to Cedar Springs. While at West Catholic, the student did not play any athletics. The school asked for full eligibility in football, and if that couldn't be granted, then eligibility after two games in the fall.

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

Chelsea 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 competed for the previous school year in football at Denver South High School in Colorado. The student transferred to Denver to live with his aunt after struggling at Stockbridge High School, where he had attended school since elementary. The student played JV football at Stockbridge in 2023-24 before leaving for Colorado in the late fall of 2024. The student received a hardship waiver to play football in 2024-25 at Denver South. The family made the decision to go to Chelsea High School to get a fresh start as the student's aunt had a job change, and he could not stay in Colorado. Information included a letter from the parents describing the situation as well as emails detailing his time at Stockbridge and in Denver. The request was for immediate eligibility in football.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Clarkston-Everest Collegiate High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who transferred to Everest Collegiate High School from Clarkston High School. The student competed in football at Clarkston for his 9<sup>th</sup>-grade season. The student's transfer to Everest Collegiate was to leave a challenging school situation, which has impacted the student's health and resulted in challenges and visits to medical professionals to deal with those challenges. The request was for immediate eligibility in football. Strong support from the former school was provided, along with health professionals.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Coopersville High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9<sup>th</sup>-grade student who had attended Coopersville High School for part of his 9<sup>th</sup>-grade school year in 2024-25, where he also played football in three games on the 9<sup>th</sup>-grade team. The student's mother experienced domestic violence, and the family had to relocate out of state to Florida. The student has now returned to Coopersville, where he is considered homeless by Coopersville Public Schools under the McKinney-Vento Act. The request was for eligibility in football for the 2025-26 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Dearborn-Divine Child High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who is enrolled at Divine Child High School for the fall after attending Dearborn High School for his first two years of high school and playing football this past fall. The student has transferred to Divine Child because of safety and security issues. This has impacted the student's emotional health and sense of security and resulted in counseling sessions and a desire for a fresh start in a new school setting. The request was for eligibility at Divine Child in football, and information included a letter from the parents describing the situation.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

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 Grand Rapids-Northview High School for the start of the second semester of the 2024-25 school year. The student competed in boys tennis at Northview as a 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>-grader. The student struggled with social interactions, which included anxiety. The student's transfer to NorthPointe Christian is related to those challenges, and since arriving in the smaller school community, it has helped with his recovery. The new school request was for immediate eligibility in boys tennis. Letters of support were also submitted regarding the student's transfer from a therapist, an administrator at Northview, and the parents.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids-West Michigan Aviation Academy High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9<sup>th</sup>-grade student who transferred to West Michigan Aviation Academy from Wayland Union High School after attending the first semester of the 2024-25 school year. The student competed as a 9<sup>th</sup>-grader at Wayland Union in girls cross country. While the student attended Wayland Union, the student desired to attend WMAA, and admission to WMAA is by random lottery. The student was not selected before her 9<sup>th</sup>-grade year. Just before school started for the second semester in January of 2025, she was notified and admitted to WMAA and chose to attend. The school asked for immediate eligibility in girls cross country for the student, given that WMAA was her original school of choice as a 9<sup>th</sup>-grader, but she was not selected.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Holland-West Ottawa High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a current 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who transferred from Libertas Christian High School to West Ottawa High School in October of the 2024 school year. While at Libertas Christian, the student participated in volleyball, where her mother was also the coach. The student desired a fresh start and chose West Ottawa, the public school district closest to her home. The new school asked for eligibility in volleyball for the student's 12<sup>th</sup>-grade year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Holland-West Ottawa High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of three siblings, who attended Allegan High School in the 2024-25 school year before enrolling at West Ottawa High School. While at Allegan, the students participated in boys basketball and girls basketball. The students' father was the boys basketball coach at Allegan which also added to the stress for the family. The new school asked for eligibility in all sports for all three students based on the circumstances. Letters were included from Allegan.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Jenison High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an incoming 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student at Jenison High School who competed for the previous school year in football at Grand Rapids-West Catholic High School. The student transferred from Jenison Public Schools to start their 9<sup>th</sup>-grade year and attended the last two years. The student struggled with making friends and fitting in at West Catholic and desired to go back to Jenison, where he attended K-8. The former school submitted letters of support on behalf of the student. The request was for immediate eligibility in football.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Petersburg-Summerfield High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B-1]) – A request to waive the sport-specific transfer rule for two siblings who attended Dundee High School for their 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>-grade years and have now transferred to Summerfield High School, where their father and mother are now employed. The family has not moved residences after their parents switched school districts and live in the Dundee School District. The students have struggled at Dundee after their parents left the school, and various social aspects at Dundee. The school asked for immediate athletic eligibility in cross country, basketball, and track & field for the 9<sup>th</sup>-grade student and cross country and track & field for the 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student at Summerfield. Supporting materials were provided by the family, indicating the challenges the family and students faced while at Dundee.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Reed City High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9<sup>th</sup>-grade student who transferred from Big Rapids-Crossroads Charter Academy to Reed City High School in October of the 2024-25 school year. The student played soccer at Crossroads in the fall of 2024. This transfer is the result of the student's grandmother being diagnosed with cancer. The grandmother, a longtime teacher at Crossroads, had been the primary reason the student attended school there, despite residing in Reed City. The student lives full-time with his grandmother. Following her diagnosis, she immediately resigned from her position, and the student was enrolled at Reed City, where he now walks to school. The grandmother is currently undergoing cancer treatment five days a week. Given these circumstances, the school requested immediate eligibility for the student to participate in soccer in the fall of 2025.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

River Rouge High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who attended Brother Rice High School until October of 2024. Just prior to the transfer, the student had a physical altercation with another student at Brother Rice, and the family felt a fresh start was needed for the student's safety. The student competed in football while at Brother Rice as a 9<sup>th</sup>-grader. The request was for immediate eligibility in football.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Rochester Hills-Stoney Creek High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who was initially enrolled at Rochester-Adams High School where he competed in boys swimming. The student was victim of an assault. The student finished the school year virtually at Adams and the Adams administration initiated an in district transfer to Stoney Creek to get the student a fresh start. The request was for immediate eligibility in boys swimming.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.



Rochester-Adams High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer rule was made on behalf of a student who transferred from Rochester Hills-Lutheran Northwest High School to Adams High School after the first semester of his 9<sup>th</sup>-grade year. During the 2024-25 school year, the student enrolled at Lutheran Northwest as a 9<sup>th</sup>-grader and competed in cross country. The student was subjected to verbal harassment to the point that the family felt they had to leave the school to go back to Adams, the community school in their district. The new school requested eligibility in cross country for the 2025-26 school year on behalf of the student.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Swartz Creek High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who transferred from Swartz Creek High School to Flint-Powers Catholic High School at the start the 2024-25 school year. Despite being ineligible to compete at Powers Catholic, the student played in a scrimmage and two football games this school year before the Powers Catholic Athletic Department confirmed a violation occurred and held the student out for the remainder of the season. The student's father passed away in September and the student desired to go back to Swartz Creek to be around closer friends. The school asked for eligibility after two games and one scrimmage in football in the fall.

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

Northern Lights League (Regulation II, Section 10) – A request was made on behalf of this league, which must use several alternative traveling methods. Given these circumstances, the schools of this league wish to play multiple competitions in a day; the maximum allowed number would be double the published allowed *Handbook* limits (e.g., two basketball games). The members of this league are Beaver Island, Brimley-Ojibwe Charter, Cooks-Big Bay de Noc, Grand Marais-Burt Township, Hannahville-Nah Tah Wahsh, Kinross-Maplewood Baptist, Mackinac Island, Wetmore-Munising Baptist and Paradise-Whitefish Township. Executive Committee approved this annual request for the past two school years. The new request was for the 2025-26 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Byron Center High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 240, a request to waive the four-player rule was made on behalf of the Byron Center High School head boys and girls swim and dive coach. The coach is also the lead coach for the West Michigan Swimmers swim team, and this is her only source of income. The program involves students ranging in age from 8-18 and several area West Michigan schools, including some from Byron Center Public Schools. This request has been granted in the past for Byron Center, though with a different coach and a different non-school club program.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids-East Grand Rapids High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 240, a request to waive the four-player rule for the 2025-26 school year was made on behalf of the boys and girls swimming & diving coach employed full-time by the East Grand Rapids Aquatics USA Swim Club. The program will have over 200 participants, ages 6-college age, of which approximately 80 are East Grand Rapids students in grades 7-12. Other participants come from seven other schools or districts (Byron Center, Caledonia, Grand Rapids-Catholic Central, Grand Rapids Christian, Grand Rapids Public Schools, Rockford, and the Forest Hills Schools). A similar request has been approved for this program since 2012-13.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Zeeland West High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 240, a request to waive the four-player rule for the 2025-26 school year was made on behalf of a boys and girls swim coach who is employed by West Michigan Swimmers, an independent non-school youth swim organization. Swim coaching with West Michigan Swimmers is the coach's primary source of income. The club is open to the public, and for 2025-26, it is anticipated to swimmers in all age levels from 8-18. There are several students from Zeeland Public Schools involved in WMSC, which also includes students from surrounding communities. This waiver has been granted in the past by the Executive Committee for this coach since 2020-21.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Kalamazoo Christian, Kalamazoo-St. Augustine Cathedral, Kalamazoo-St. Monica Catholic and Kalamazoo-Tree of Life Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved the additional of Tree of Life Middle School to an existing cooperative program in 11-player football (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades) between these schools. Kalamazoo Christian will be the primary school.

2025-26 Multimedia Regulations – The Executive Committee reviewed and approved the 2025-26 Multimedia Regulations.

Approved International Student Programs (AISP) – Exception 4 of Regulation I, Section 9(A) allows immediate eligibility for one academic year for an otherwise eligible international student on either a J-1 or F-1 visa who is placed in a residence in a public high school district or school service area through an MHSAA Approved International Student Program. Pursuant to Interpretation 83, the Executive Committee will review the CSIET J-1 and F-1 inbound student programs as well as all member-school-operated international student programs and determined that the following are MHSAA approved for the 2025-26 school year:

#### [CSIET J-1 Inbound Listed Programs](#)

#### [CSIET F-1 Inbound Listed Programs](#)

MHSAA Member School Programs (limited to five international students participating or one percent of high school enrollment, whichever is greater):

- Ann Arbor-Rudolf Steiner High School – Maximum of **five (5)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2025-26** academic year.
- Birmingham-Brother Rice High School – Maximum of **six (6)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2025-26** academic year.
- Burton-Genesee Christian High School – Maximum of **five (5)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2025-26** academic year.
- Clarkston-Everest Collegiate High School – Maximum of **five (5)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2025-26** academic year.
- Grand Rapids Christian High School – Maximum of **eight (8)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2025-26** academic year.
- Grand Rapids-NorthPointe Christian High School – Maximum of **five (5)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2025-26** academic year.

- Grand Rapids-West Catholic High School – Maximum of **five (5)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2025-26** academic year.
- Grosse Pointe Woods-University Liggett School – Maximum of **five (5)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2025-26** academic year.
- Holland Christian High School – Maximum of **seven (7)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2025-26** academic year.
- Jenison High School (Jenison International Academy) – Maximum of **sixteen (16)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2025-26** academic year.
- Midland-Calvary Baptist High School – Maximum of **five (5)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2025-26** academic year.
- Muskegon-West Michigan Christian High School – Maximum of **five (5)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2025-26** academic year.
- Pannonia Christian Educational Exchange – Maximum of **five (5)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2025-26** academic year.
- St. Joseph-Michigan Lutheran High School – Maximum of **five (5)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2025-26** academic year.
- Sterling Heights-Parkway Christian High School – Maximum of **five (5)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2025-26** academic year.
- Traverse City Area Public Schools – Maximum of **thirty-four (34)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2025-26** academic year.
- Westland-Hope Christian Academy High School – Maximum of **five (5)** international students (total of J-1 and F-1 visa students) allowed to participate on varsity level interscholastic teams during the **2025-26** academic year.

2025-26 MHSAA Officials Handbook – The Executive Committee reviewed and approved the 2025-26 *Officials Handbook*.

Representative Council – With President Eric Albright accepting a new position in Minnesota effective July 1, Vice President John Thompson will become the President of the Representative Council. The Executive Committee appointed Sean Jacques as the Vice President, and the Executive Committee will review appointment options for two departing Council members at the August 4 meeting.

Next Meetings – August 4 at 9 a.m. – Virtual; Wednesday, August 20 at 9 a.m. – Virtual; Thursday, September 4 at 9 a.m. – Virtual; Thursday, October 2 at 9 a.m. – Virtual; Wednesday, November 5 at 9 a.m. – Virtual; Thursday, December 4 at 9 a.m. – Virtual.