MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Virtual, August 20, 2025 **9:00 a.m.**

Committee Members:
John Thompson, Brighton
Sean Jacques, Calumet
Vic Michaels, Detroit
Jason Malloy, Westland
Fred Smith, Bangor

Staff Members: Cody Inglis Mark Uyl (Recorder)

<u>Executive Committee Authority and Responsibility</u> – 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.

Adrian-Lenawee Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a request to allow the use of 8th-grade student-athletes in their athletic programs. Lenawee Christian High School has 114 9-12 students for the 2025-26 school year. The request came to the Executive Committee with rationale regarding the positive impact of using 8th-graders in the Lenawee Christian athletic program for the 2025-26 school year. Support from the Tri-County Conference was submitted.

<u>Carney-Nadeau High School (Regulation I, Section 1[D])</u> – The Executive Committee approved a request to allow the use of 7th-grade student-athletes in their athletic programs so that they are able to field JV teams. Carney-Nadeau High School will have 67 students in grades 9-12 for the 2025-26 school year. The request came to the Executive Committee with numbers, cause, and rationale regarding the positive impact of using 7th-graders at Carney-Nadeau. Support from the Skyline Central Conference was submitted.

<u>Chassell High School (Regulation I, Section 1[D])</u> – The Executive Committee approved a request to allow the use of 7th-grade student-athletes in their athletic programs. Chassell High School will have 53 students in grades 9-12 for the 2025-26 school year. The request came to the Executive Committee with specific numbers, cause, and rationale regarding the positive impact of using 7th-graders at Chassell. Support from the Copper Mountain Conference was submitted.

Wyoming-Tri-Unity Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a request to allow the use of an 8th-grade student-athletes in their cross country and girls volleyball programs for the 2025-26 school year. Tri-Unity Christian High School has 116 students in grades 9-12 for the 2025-26 school year. The request came to the Executive Committee with specific numbers and rationale regarding the positive impact of using 8th-graders at Tri-Unity Christian for their athletic teams in these two sports. The Executive Committee previously granted 8th-grade eligibility to Tri-Unity Christian. Support from the Oakland Activities Association was submitted.

Ann Arbor-Skyline and Ypsilanti-Lincoln High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in field hockey (varsity and JV) between these schools. The combined enrollment will be 2,528 students. Skyline will be the primary school. Support from the Southeastern Conference was submitted.

<u>Dollar Bay and Chassell High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E])</u> – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in girls basketball (varsity and JV) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 162 students will place the team in Division 4, removing one team from the division. Dollar Bay will be the primary school. Support from the Copper Mountain Conference was submitted.

Gaylord, Gaylord-St. Mary Cathedral and Johannesburg-Lewiston High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Johannesburg-Lewiston to an existing cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 1,135 students will place the team in Division 3, making no changes to divisional assignments. Gaylord will be the primary school. Support from potential opponents was submitted.

Hillsdale-Will Carleton Academy and North Adams-Jerome High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in girls volleyball (varsity and JV) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 176 students will place the team in Division 4, removing one team from the division. Will Carleton will be the primary school. Support from the Crossroads Athletic Conference was submitted.

Kentwood-East Kentwood, Grand Rapids-West Michigan Aviation Academy and Hopkins High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Hopkins to an existing cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 4,064 students will place the team in Division 1, removing one team from Division 2. East Kentwood will be the primary school. Support from the OK Conference was submitted.

Manistique, Newberry, Munising, Eben Junction-Superior Central, Cooks-Big Bay de Noc and Engadine High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Big Bay de Noc and Engadine High Schools to an existing cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity and JV) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 848 students will keep the team in Division 3, making no changes to divisional assignments. Manistique will remain the primary school. Support from potential opponents was submitted.

Manistique and Cooks-Big Bay de Noc High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in competitive cheer (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 301 students will place the team in Division 4. Manistique will be the primary school. Support from potential opponents was submitted.

Pontiac-Notre Dame Preparatory and Plymouth-Ivywood Classical Academy High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved cooperative programs in boys and girls skiing (varsity and JV) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 604 students will place the team in Division 2, making no changes to divisional assignments. Notre Dame Prep will be the primary school. Support from the Pine Knob Ski League was submitted.

<u>Rudyard, Cedarville, Pickford and Brimley High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E])</u> – The Executive Committee approved cooperative programs in boys and girls swimming & diving (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment will be 556 students. Rudyard will be the primary school. Support from potential opponents was submitted.

Southgate-Anderson, Monroe-St. Mary's Catholic, Dearborn-Edsel Ford, Dearborn and Monroe High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – The Executive Committee approved the renewal of a cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity only) and a one-year waiver of the 5,500-student limit between these schools. The combined enrollment of 6,590 students will keep the team in Division 1 with Southgate-Anderson remaining the primary school. Support from potential opponents was submitted.

<u>Traverse City Central and Traverse City West High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E-2])</u> – The Executive Committee approved cooperative programs in boys and girls bowling (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 2,637 students will place the team in Division 1, removing one team from the division. Traverse City Central will be the primary school. Support from potential future opponents was submitted.

<u>Utica, Sterling Heights-Utica Ford II, Sterling Heights-Stevenson and Fraser High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2])</u> – The Executive Committee approved the renewal of a cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity only) and a one-year waiver of the 5,500-student limit between these schools, which was first granted for the 2024-25 school year. The combined enrollment of 7,083 students will keep the team in Division 1 with Utica remaining the primary school. Support from the Macomb Area Conference was submitted.

Waterford-Mott, Waterford-Kettering, West Bloomfield and Bloomfield Hills High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Bloomfield Hills High School to an existing cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 5,406 students will keep the team in Division 1, removing one team from the division. Mott will remain the primary school. Support from the Oakland Activities Association was submitted.

Wyoming-Tri-Unity Christian and Wyoming-West Michigan Lutheran High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program (JV only) in 8-player football between these schools who have had a varsity cooperative program in 8-player football since July 2024. Tri-Unity Christian will be the primary school. Support from Southwest Michigan 8-man League was submitted.

<u>Eaton Rapids High School (Regulation I, Section 2)</u> – A request to waive the age rule was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student, who has been diagnosed with various medical disorders and disabilities. The school requested eligibility for the student in cross country and track & field in the 2025-26 school year. The student was adopted from China in 2018 and fell behind academically. The school presented documentation that the student does not seem to present a significant risk of injury to herself, teammates, or opponents, nor create a competitive advantage in comparison to teammates and opponents. The school also provided academic transcripts, IEPs, athletic participation history, and supporting evidence. The request was for continued athletic participation in athletics at Eaton Rapids.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver as the request met the published criteria.

Grand Rapids-NorthPointe Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 2) – A request to waive the age rule was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who has been diagnosed with multiple disabilities. The school requested eligibility for the student in cross country and boys volleyball in the 2025-26 school year. The school presented documentation that the student does not seem to present a significant risk of injury to himself, teammates, or opponents, nor create a competitive advantage in comparison to teammates and opponents. The school also provided academic transcripts, IEPs, athletic participation history, and supporting evidence. The request was for continued athletic participation in athletics at NorthPointe Christian.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver as the request met the published criteria.

<u>Auburn Hills-Avondale High School (Regulation I, Section 7)</u> – A request to waive the previous academic credit record was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student who, due to coding errors in his online school file, was not given academic support services as required with his IEP. The student's academic performance declined, resulting in a loss of credit in over 66% of classes. The school believes the student would have remained eligible if proper services had been provided. Given these circumstances, the school requested immediate eligibility in football, waiving the 60-day ineligibility period.

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

<u>Hartland High School (Regulation I, Section 7)</u> – A request to waive the previous academic credit record was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student who was not given academic support services as required with his IEP. The student's academic performance declined, resulting in a loss of credit in over 66% of classes. The school accepts responsibility and believes the student would have remained eligible if proper services had been provided. The school requested immediate eligibility in football, waiving the 60-day ineligibility period.

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

Adrian-Madison High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an incoming 11th-grade student who attended Adrian-Lenawee Christian High School for her 9th and 10th-grade years and competed in volleyball, basketball, and soccer. The student desired to continue at Lenawee Christian but was denied enrollment by the former school. The family then had to send their children to Madison Schools, despite their desire to attend Lenawee Christian. The new school requested eligibility in basketball, only, for the student.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver in basketball.

Alpena High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of incoming 10th and 11th-grade students who are transferring from Gaylord High School to Alpena High School for the start of the 2025-26 school year. The students competed in football at Gaylord for the 2024-25 season, where their father was the varsity football coach. The students' transfer to Alpena was because the father accepted the varsity football coaching position at Alpena. The family has struggled to find a home in the Alpena district and still lives in Gaylord. The continued request was for eligibility in football at Alpena for the 2025-26 school year for both students, given the extenuating circumstances surrounding the transfer from Gaylord to Alpena. New information submitted included letters from each student and the parents, further elaborating on the reasons and rationale behind the transfer, and a request to use the former residence for family gatherings on holidays, though they will be living in Alpena in a rental home to meet exception #1.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Ann Arbor-Father Gabriel Richard 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 Father Gabriel Richard High School for the start of the second semester of the 2024-25 school year after attending Mercy High School. The student competed in JV volleyball at Mercy. The student determined that a new start at Father Gabriel Richard was desired for her academic needs, significant commute hardship, and a change in family circumstances. The school request was for eligibility in girls volleyball for the 2025-26 fall season.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Armada High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a student who has transferred from Tawas High School to Armada High School. The student lived with his mother in Tawas and left because of a challenging home life. The student moved to Armada to live with his grandfather in order to have a consistent parental figure. The student has been deemed to qualify for McKinney-Vento unaccompanied minor and homelessness status by Armada Public Schools. Documentation was provided regarding this status. The school asked for immediate eligibility at Armada in football, given the student's challenging home life and transfer.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

<u>Battle Creek-Harper Creek High School (Regulation I, Section 9)</u> – A request to waive the transfer regulation, specifically Interpretation #62 (closest public school to the new residence), was made for an incoming 11th-grade student who attended Dundee High School before transferring to Battle Creek-Harper Creek High School to start the 2025-26 school year. The student moved between divorced parents, from dad in Dundee to mom, who lives in the Battle Creek-Central High School attendance area. The student's younger siblings have all attended Harper Creek Public Schools for the last three years, and the mother would like all of the siblings together at the same school. Because the mother does not live in the Harper Creek attendance area, the Educational Transfer Form does not apply by rule. The school asked for immediate eligibility in football. An otherwise completed ETF was also submitted.

Beverly Hills-Birmingham Groves High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an incoming 12th-grade student who attended Groves High School in 9th grade, transferred to Cranbrook High School for 10th grade and the first semester of the 2024-25 school year, and then returned to Groves for the second semester of the 2024-25 school year. The student competed in football at Cranbrook where he experienced mental health challenges and a therapist recommended a fresh start back at his original high school. The school request was for immediate eligibility in football at Groves. New information provided included a letter of support from the former school.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Beverly Hills-Birmingham Groves 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 Groves High School from Seaholm High School to start the 2025-26 school year. The student competed in subvarsity volleyball and track while at Seaholm and the student experienced health issues there. A therapist recommended a new school environment to help with these challenges. Groves requested immediate eligibility in volleyball and track, and if that couldn't be granted, then subvarsity eligibility in those sports. The former school supports the change of schools and athletic eligibility.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver at the subvarsity level.

Beverly Hills-Birmingham Groves High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an incoming 10th-grade student who attended Walled Lake Northern High School in the first semester of 9th grade then transferred to Groves High School for the second semester of the 2024-25 school year. The student competed in football at Walled Lake Northern. The student experienced challenges at Walled Lake Northern because of his father's overseas deployment in the military. The school request was for immediate subvarsity eligibility in football. New information provided included a letter of support from the former school.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver at the subvarsity level.

<u>Bloomfield Hills-Brother Rice High School (Regulation I, Section 9)</u> – A request to waive the transfer regulation, specifically Interpretation #74a, was made on behalf of an incoming 9th-grade student who practiced football and attended class starting on August 11th at Detroit Catholic Central High School for six days and then transferred to Brother Rice High School to start the 2025-26 school year. With the school year starting at Brother Rice, the family determined that Brother Rice was the best fit and made this decision after the student practiced and attended school at Detroit Catholic Central. The school request was for immediate subvarsity eligibility in football.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver at the subvarsity level.

<u>Brimley High School (Regulation I, Section 9)</u> – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an incoming 11th-grade student who competed in volleyball and basketball at Brimley High School during the 2024-25 school year. The student transferred from Brimley to Rudyard High School on February 10, 2025. The move was made without Brimley's involvement and proved difficult for the student. The family wished to return to Brimley for 2025-26, acknowledging the transfer was a mistake. The student attended Brimley for all prior schooling except the second semester of 2024-25 and did not participate in athletics at Rudyard. The request was for immediate eligibility in all sports upon return to Brimley.

Brownstown-Woodhaven High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student who enrolled at Woodhaven High School in March of 2025 during his 9th-grade school year. The student transferred from Romulus-Summit Academy North High School, where the student participated in football. The parents of the student are separated, and the mother, the student, and all his siblings changed residence from a New Boston area home to a Woodhaven residence in March without the father. The request was for an interpretation if exception #1 has been met for eligibility at Woodhaven in football, and if that couldn't be granted, then subvarsity eligibility in football.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

<u>Cadillac High School (Regulation I, Section 9)</u> – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student who transferred to Cadillac High School. The student attended Benzie Central High School as a 9th-grader, where she competed in volleyball and softball. The student then transferred to Cadillac to start the 2025-26 school year. The student's family desired a change in schools for their children. However, they are the primary caregivers to two family members who must stay at the Benzie Central home. The new school requested eligibility in volleyball and softball for the student.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Cedar Springs High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of two sisters, incoming 10th and 11th-grade students who transferred to Cedar Springs High School from Cedar Springs-Creative Technologies Academy High School at the start of the 2024-25 school year after moving from out of state to Cedar Springs. The students both participated on a limited basis in both volleyball and basketball at Creative Technologies Academy. The students desire to play both volleyball and basketball at Cedar Springs after their transfer to start the 2025-26 school year. The school asked for eligibility in girls volleyball and girls basketball after the students sit out seven games in volleyball and five games in basketball, the same number of games they participated in at CTA in those sports.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver after seven volleyball dates of competition and five basketball games.

<u>Clarkston High School (Regulation I, Section 9)</u> – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student who transferred to Clarkston High School from Holly High School. The student competed in football and wrestling at Holly for his 9th-grade year. Previously, the student attended Clarkston Public Schools from preschool through 8th grade, when a new start at Holly was desired but did not work out. The student wished to come back to Clarkston, where his friends and familiarity are. The request was for immediate eligibility in football and wrestling, and if that couldn't be granted, then subvarsity eligibility.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Clinton Township-Chippewa Valley 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 Chippewa Valley High School from Warren-De La Salle High School, where he attended as a 9th-grade student and played soccer. The student previously attended Chippewa Valley Public Schools from K-8th grade prior to making the decision to attend De La Salle. The student found the school was not a good fit for him, and he missed the familiarity of Chippewa Valley, his peers, and friends. The new school asked for immediate eligibility in soccer for the student, and if that couldn't be granted, then eligibility after the first nine games of the soccer season, the same number of games he played at De La Salle last fall.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver after nine soccer games.

<u>Coldwater High School (Regulation I, Section 9)</u> – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who has transferred to Coldwater High School after attending Quincy High School as a 9th-grade student. The student participated in football and wrestling at Quincy during the 2024-25 school year before he was expelled. The student completed the assigned expectations for readmission to Quincy Public Schools but was not permitted to return by the Quincy School Board. The student was then accepted by Coldwater as a school of choice student, where he desires to participate in athletics. The family is hoping that this new change will help with some of the challenges the student has previously experienced. The school requested immediate eligibility in football and wrestling for the 2025-26 school year.

The Executive Committee tabled the request for waiver pending additional information.

Corunna High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of incoming 10th and 12th-grade siblings who attended Corunna High School for their entire academic careers, except for a period from April 21 to June 6 of 2025, after their family made a full and complete residential move from Corunna to Mayville. The siblings attended Mayville High School, where they did not participate in athletics and finished the school year. Over the summer of 2025, the family made another full and complete residential move to the Owosso High School attendance area, the neighboring district to Corunna. The family and students desire to finish their academic and athletic careers at Corunna, where they started. The request was for immediate eligibility for both siblings in all sports for the 2025-26 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Ellsworth High School (Regulation I, Section 9[C]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation, specifically Section 9(C), transferring between schools involved in a cooperative program and Interpretation #84 e., wait-one year of eligibility for international students, was made for a 12th-grade student who ran cross country and track at Central Lake High School in 2024-25 under a cooperative agreement with Ellsworth. Originally on a J-1 Visa, the student is now seeking political asylum and Special Juvenile Status due to unsafe conditions in Somalia, where he faces war and forced military conscription. His mother is deceased, and his father is absent. The student also experienced discriminatory behavior at Central Lake and wishes to transfer to Ellsworth for a fresh start, seeking immediate eligibility in both sports for 2025-26.

The Executive Committee tabled the request for waiver pending additional information.

<u>Fair Haven-Anchor Bay High School (Regulation I, Section 9)</u> – A second request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student who transferred from Riverview-Gabriel Richard High School. The student competed in football and basketball at Gabriel Richard and, because of concerns about its stability and financial hardship for the family, desired a different school environment. Anchor Bay High School asked for eligibility in football and basketball this upcoming school year. New information provided included letters of support from the former assistant and head basketball coaches, a full picture of the Gabriel Richard financial challenges, and further information supplied by the parent regarding the rationale behind the transfer.

Flint-Powers Catholic High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 11th-grade student at Flint-Powers High School, who previously attended and competed in volleyball, basketball, and softball at Waterford-Our Lady of the Lakes High School as a 9th and 10th-grader. The student and family made the decision to transfer to Powers Catholic after issues with school instability, administrative turnover, and declining enrollment. This uncertainty had an impact on the student, and she desired a new school where there was more stability and enrollment. Letters of support from former coaches and a doctor were provided as documentation. The request was for immediate eligibility in volleyball, basketball, and softball.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Gibraltar-Carlson High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who transferred to Carlson High School to begin the second semester of the 2024-25 school year. The student attended Grosse Ile High School for his first two and a half years of high school. The student competed in boys tennis and ice hockey at Grosse Ile. The student transferred to Carlson because of health concerns that required counseling. The request was for eligibility in tennis and hockey for the 2025-26 school year. New information included additional letters of support from therapists and a letter from the Grosse Ile Superintendent. The new request was for ice hockey, only.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver after the same number of hockey games played in 2024-25.

Gladstone High School (Regulation I, Section 9[C]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation, specifically Section 9(C), was made for incoming 10th and 12th-grade brothers who transferred from Escanaba Holy Name High School to Gladstone High School for the start of the 2025-26 school year. The students participated in football during the 2024-25 school year. Holy Name and Gladstone had a cooperative agreement in football until June of 2025, when the cooperative program was dissolved after four years. The students transferred to Gladstone at the same time as the football cooperative program was ended. Due to the timing of the student's enrollment at Gladstone, which occurred just after the official dissolution of the cooperative program, the students are not eligible under MHSAA Regulation I, 9(C). Gladstone asked for eligibility in football for the students in the 2025 fall season. Holy Name supports the transfer of the students to Gladstone.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

<u>Grandville High School (Regulation I, Section 9)</u> – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an incoming 11th-grade student who transferred from Hudsonville High School to Grandville High School for the start of the 2025-26 school year. The student participated in four games of football during the 2024-25 school year while at Hudsonville. The student has already used the Educational Transfer Form, moving between divorced parents, to gain eligibility at Hudsonville, but desired a new start at Grandville. Grandville asked for eligibility in football after the first four games for the student in the 2025-26 school year.

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

Greenville 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 from Rockford High School to Greenville High School in March of the 2024-25 school year. The student attended and lived in the Rockford Public School District his entire academic career, but the switch to Rockford's 9th-grade campus and the sheer size of the school created mental health issues for the student. The family has connections to Greenville as there is family there, both parents graduated from there, and the new, smaller environment has been a good and needed change for the student. During the 2024-25 school year as a 9th-grader at Rockford, the student participated in freshman football and basketball. The new school requested immediate eligibility in football and basketball, and if that couldn't be granted, then subvarsity eligibility in both sports. New information included a summary of the student's time at Rockford as well as a letter from a 9th-grade football coach at Rockford.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver at the subvarsity level in football and basketball.

<u>Hastings High School (Regulation I, Section 9)</u> – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an incoming 11th-grade student who competed in football for the previous school year at Hastings High School prior to transferring to Saranac High School to live with his grandfather after experiencing issues at home with his mother. The student has moved back to live with his father in the Hastings attendance area. While at Saranac, the student did not compete in any athletics. The request was for immediate eligibility in football. An otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was included in the request.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Holland Christian 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 Zeeland West High School to Holland Christian High School to start the 2025-26 school year. While at Zeeland West, the student participated in football and wrestling, neither was a sport he had previously played. The student desired to be closer to a group of friends he grew up with and desired a fresh start. The new school asked for subvarsity eligibility in football for the student. The previous school submitted a letter supporting this student's immediate eligibility.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

<u>Jackson-Lumen Christi High School (Regulation I, Section 9)</u> – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 12th-grade student who transferred from Brooklyn-Columbia Central High School to start the 2025-26 school year, where the student played tennis. The student's transfer to Lumen Christi High School was based upon family challenges, including the student's grandfather's passing last year and he and his mother moving in with his grandmother to care for her. The stepfather will remain at the Brooklyn address, so it does not meet the full and complete move. The new school asked for eligibility for the student in tennis based on the circumstances of the transfer.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

<u>Macomb-Dakota High School (Regulation I, Section 9)</u> – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grader who previously attended Warren-De La Salle High School, where they participated in football and basketball. The student desired a specialized engineering curriculum and academic support not available at either his home school, Anchor Bay High School, or his previous school, De La Salle. The family also took on the care of elderly grandparents and had to move homes. Staff changes and school instability at De La Salle also impacted their decision to go to Dakota, where the family did not know that athletic participation would be impacted. The request was for immediate eligibility in football and basketball.

<u>Madison Heights-Bishop Foley High School (Regulation I, Section 9)</u> – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 11th-grade student who recently enrolled at Bishop Foley High School. The student transferred from Rochester Hills-Stoney Creek High School to start the 2025-26 school year. The student participated in girls swimming & diving and girls tennis at Stoney Creek during the 2024-25 school year. The student transferred to Bishop Foley after experiencing a negative environment at Stoney Creek. The request was for eligibility in girls swimming & diving and girls tennis.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Milan 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 Milan High School for the start of the 2025-26 school year after attending Ypsilanti-Arbor Prep High School for their 9th-grade year. The student competed in JV volleyball at Arbor Prep for four games before the season was cancelled for lack of participation. The student determined that a new start at Milan was needed because of bullying that occurred and academic struggles. The school request was for eligibility in girls volleyball at Milan after four games, the same number of games she competed in at Arbor Prep in the 2024 season.

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

Muskegon-Reeths-Puffer High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation, specifically #62 (closest public school attendance area) was made on behalf of an incoming 11th-grade student who has transferred from Mona Shores High School to Reeths-Puffer High School after attending Mona Shores for his 9th and 10th-grade years. The student is assigned to live with a foster family who live in Whitehall but send their own children to Reeths-Puffer Public Schools and has for several years. The desire is to keep the new family and students together at Reeths-Puffer. The request was for eligibility in basketball at Reeths-Puffer for the 2025-26 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

New Boston-Huron High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an incoming 11th-grade student who competed in football and baseball for the previous school year at Trenton High School. The student transferred from Trenton to get a fresh start after experiencing challenges with his well-being. This poor environment for the student caused the family to make the decision to go to Huron High School for a fresh start, the home district where the family had lived. The request was for immediate eligibility in football and baseball.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

<u>Paw Paw High School (Regulation I, Section 9)</u> – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student who transferred from Mattawan High School at the end of the 2024-25 school year. While at Mattawan, the student competed in wrestling. The family's decision to change schools was centered on bullying that the student experienced. The student ended his academic year online in order to deal with the situation. The new school is asking for eligibility in wrestling.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

<u>Petoskey High School (Regulation I, Section 9)</u> – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 12th-grade student at Petoskey High School. The student attended Harbor Springs High School for his high school career, but a challenging school environment at Harbor Springs has impacted the student. The family determined that a new start away from Harbor Springs was necessary. The student previously attended Petoskey Public Schools. The request was for eligibility in basketball for the 2025-26 school year.

Petoskey High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student at Petoskey High School. The student attended Harbor Springs High School for his 9th-grade year, but a challenging school environment at Harbor Springs impacted the student. The family determined that a new start away from Harbor Springs was necessary for the student's health. The student previously attended Petoskey Public Schools and had siblings graduate from Petoskey in the past. New information detailing the student's challenges, school records, discipline, and a game log confirmed by the former school was included. The new request continued to seek full subvarsity eligibility, and if that couldn't be granted, then eligibility in football after the first four games.

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

<u>Portland High School (Regulation I, Section 9)</u> – Additional information was provided from a tabled request to waive the transfer regulation, which was made on behalf of a incoming 10th and 12th-grade students who participated in volleyball and wrestling at Lake Odessa-Lakewood High School. The family transferred their students from Lakewood to Portland High School. The family did not believe the former school handled the situation well which led to the family pulling the students from the district and enrolling them to start the 2025-26 school year at Portland in order to get a new start. The request was for immediate eligibility in wrestling for the student-athletes involved. In addition, the 10th-grade student desires to play softball at Portland. The additional information clarified the sports involved, which students were involved, and provided further context for the incident.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

River Rouge 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 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 9th-grader. The request was for immediate eligibility in football. New information included an updated letter from River Rouge summarizing the initial request with more clarity and details.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Romeo 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 Almont High School at the end of the 2024-25 school year, where the student competed in girls soccer. The family's decision to change schools centered on bullying that the student experienced, which resulted in school discipline for other students. This bullying has continued on and off for the past five school years. The family has tried to work with the school and believe that the only remedy is a new school environment. The new school asked for eligibility in girls soccer. The former school supports the transfer.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Romulus-Summit Academy North High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for nine incoming 10th, 11th and 12th-grade students who competed in football the previous year at Dearborn-Advanced Tech Academy. Dearborn ATA determined that they were dropping their football program, which led to students leaving and enrolling at other schools, such as Summit Academy North, to start the 2025-26 school year. The program was cancelled, and the students were denied off-season workout opportunities. Given this late notice and the short timeline of a football player's career, the school asked for immediate eligibility for these students in football.

<u>Sterling Heights-Utica Ford II High School (Regulation I, Section 9)</u> – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an incoming 10th-grade student who transferred to Utica Ford II High School from Sterling Heights High School to start the 2025-26 school year. The student attended Sterling Heights for his 9th-grade year. The student struggled with his overall mental health and well-being. The family desired a new school to further help with the challenges. The student participated in football at Sterling Heights. The new school requested immediate eligibility in football.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

<u>Trenton High School (Regulation I, Section 9)</u> – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an incoming 11th-grade student who transferred from Riverview-Gabriel Richard High School to Trenton High School to start the 2025-26 school year. During the 2024-25 school year, the student participated in football, ice hockey and track & field at Gabriel Richard. The student and family desired a change based upon administrative upheaval, faculty loss, lack of transparency, and changes at Gabriel Richard, which created uncertainty for the student and impacted his mental health. The new school requested eligibility in all sports.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

<u>Walled Lake-Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9)</u> – A request to waive the transfer regulation, specifically Interpretation #74a, was made on behalf of an incoming 9th-grade student who enrolled at Walled Lake Northern High School and attended the first three days of football practice there. The student desired to go to Walled Lake Central High School because that is where his residence places him and he knows more students there. The request was for immediate subvarsity eligibility in football at Walled Lake Central starting in the fall of 2025. The former school has submitted its approval of this in-district change of schools.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver at the subvarsity level.

Warren-De La Salle 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 starting on August 11th at Brother Rice High School in football for three days and has transferred to De La Salle High School to start the 2025-26 school year. With the school year starting, the family determined that De La Salle was the best fit and made this decision after the student practiced three days at Brother Rice. The school request was for immediate subvarsity eligibility in football.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver at the subvarsity level.

<u>Waterford-Kettering High School (Regulation I, Section 9)</u> – A second request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student who attended Waterford-Our Lady of the Lakes High School and played volleyball, basketball, and soccer in the 2024-25 school year as a 9th-grader. The family determined that a new start was needed. Kettering High School requested eligibility in volleyball, basketball, and soccer on behalf of the student. New information included additional letters and information supporting the student's eligibility at Kettering. Additionally, while the student continued to ask for full eligibility in all sports, the new request asked if that couldn't be granted, then eligibility in soccer after four games, the same number of games she played last season on the Our Lady of the Lakes soccer team.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver after four soccer games, only.

White Cloud High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of twins (a brother and sister) who are incoming 11th-grade students who transferred from Newaygo High School to White Cloud High School to start the second semester of the 2024-25 school year. While at Newaygo, the students participated in girls volleyball and boys basketball. The students faced health challenges while at Newaygo, and a new start was desired in White Cloud, where they will live with their grandparents. The request was for immediate eligibility in all sports for both students.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Wyoming-Lee High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 12th-grade student who attended Kentwood-Grand River Prep High School during the 2024-25 school year. In 10th grade, the student attended Grand Rapids Catholic Central High School and played JV soccer. While at Grand River Prep, he unknowingly played six games despite prior participation, resulting in ineligibility for the remainder of the season. The student has since transferred to Lee High School, his home district. The request was for soccer eligibility after sitting out six games, with the former school supporting the transfer.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver after six soccer games.

Wyoming-Tri-Unity Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 12th-grade student who played soccer and basketball while a student at Grand Rapids-South Christian High School through the 2024-25 school year. The transfer to Tri-Unity Christian High School was made because the student desired a new school start for his 12th-grade year due to the issues that existed at South Christian. This was supported by a letter from the former school's head of school. The student has also attended therapy and counseling to deal with the resulting health challenges stemming from these incidents. New information included letters from the former school's AD and a medical professional.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

<u>Brighton High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H])</u> – Pursuant to Interpretation 240, a request to waive the four-player rule was made on behalf of a varsity head girls swim and dive coach, also employed by Brighton Public Schools. The coach is also the head coach for the Brighton Club swim team that operates out of the pool. It is a requirement of the job with the pool to coach the resident club team and supervise all competitive programs that use the facility. The club program has 92 participants and kids from Ann Arbor, Hartland, Howell, South Lyon and Brighton in the program.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

<u>Custer-Mason County Eastern and Ludington-Covenant Christian Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D])</u> – The Executive Committee approved cooperative programs in boys and girls cross country (6th, 7th and 8th grades combined), boys and girls basketball (6th, 7th and 8th grades combined), boys and girls track & field (6th, 7th and 8th grades combined) and girls volleyball (6th, 7th and 8th grades combined). Mason County Eastern will be the primary school.

Grand Ledge-Beagle, Lansing-Our Savior Lutheran and Grand-Ledge-St. Michael Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of St. Michael to existing cooperative programs in 11-player football (7th and 8th grades) and boys wrestling (7th and 8th grades combined) between the other two schools as well as new cooperative programs between all three schools in boys and girls track & field (7th and 8th grades combined) and girls wrestling (7th and 8th grades combined). Beagle will be the primary school.

<u>Kinde-North Huron and Caseville Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D])</u> – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in 8-player football (6th, 7th and 8th grades combined) between these schools. North Huron will be the primary school.

<u>Muskegon Catholic Central, Muskegon-Western Michigan Christian and Fruitport-Calvary Christian Middle Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[D])</u> – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Calvary Christian to an existing cooperative program in 11-player football (7th and 8th grades combined) between these schools. Muskegon Catholic Central will be the primary school.

<u>Traverse City East, Traverse City-The Pathfinder and Traverse City-Woodland Middle Schools</u> (<u>Regulation III, Section 1[D]</u>) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Pathfinder to an existing cooperative program in 11-player football (7th and 8th grades) between the other two schools. Traverse City East will be the primary school.

New Member School(s) – Pursuant to the MHSAA Constitution adopted by member schools and according to procedures for MHSAA membership adopted by the Representative Council on March 27, 1997, the Executive Committee approved membership for the following school(s):

Jackson-daVinci High School is a co-educational elementary through secondary high school that is operated as a public charter school governed by Central Michigan University. The K-12 facility is in Jackson and is part of the former Baker College facility. There are still two buildings located on the campus owned by Baker College. The rest of the facility is owned by Jackson daVinci. This is the thirteenth year of the school's existence. For many years, they were located on the campus of Jackson College. The school moved to the new facility in 2019. They were previously an MHSAA member school. They dropped athletics after the 2014-2015 school year. As their enrollment has grown and interest in athletics has increased, they would like to again become a member school of the MHSAA. There are currently 240 students in grades 9-12. Out of the 240 students, 90 are online only students. They are still discussing whether this program will be included in their enrollment declaration. They intend to offer boys and girls cross country, boys golf, wrestling, and track and field for the 2025-2026 school year. It is their intention to add eight-player football in 2026-2027. Their athletic director has previous experience as a coach and athletic director. An Athletic Department Code of Conduct and Handbook was submitted. A signed 2025-26 Membership Resolution and Preliminary Classification Form was also received. The school will be eligible for MHSAA tournaments for the 2026-27 school year.

<u>Representative Council Appointments</u> – The Executive Committee finalized Council appointments for three departing members. New Council members are Aaron Gaffney (Ellsworth), Fred Bryant (Cadillac) and Karyn Furlong (Gull Lake).

<u>Next Meetings</u> – 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.