

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

East Lansing, August 4, 2022

Members Present:

Scott Grimes, Grand Haven
Nicole Carter, Novi
Vic Michaels, Detroit
Kris Isom, Adrian
Judy Cox, Auburn

Staff Members Present:

Cody Inglis
Mark Uyl (Recorder)

Executive Committee Authority and Responsibility – The Executive Committee reviewed its authority under Article VII of the MHSAA Constitution and specifically its responsibility to consider each application for waiver of an eligibility requirement on its individual merits, determining if the regulation serves the purpose for which it was intended in each case or if the regulation works an undue hardship on any student who is the subject of a request for waiver. (These underlying criteria may not be restated for every subject of these minutes.)

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

The Executive Committee was reminded that it was the responsibility of each member school involved to provide sufficient information about the specific request for the Executive Committee to reach a decision without further investigation. If information is incomplete, contradictory or otherwise unclear or has been received too late to be studied completely, the Executive Committee may deny the request for waiver or delay action. Such requests may be resubmitted to the Executive Committee with additional information at a subsequent meeting or appealed to the full Representative Council.

It is possible that some of the information presented as facts to the Executive Committee by school personnel and others may be inaccurate. However, to avoid constant repetition in this report of phrases such as “it was alleged” or “it was reported,” no attempt is made in the introduction of each waiver request to distinguish between truth, allegation, hearsay, opinion, summary or conclusion. If any information provided to the Executive Committee is inaccurate, any decision of the Executive Committee to grant waiver of a regulation shall be vacated.

The Executive Committee is not authorized to approve waiver based on alleged or actual differences between schools based on “environment,” demographics, curriculum or extracurricular offerings. A determination of undue hardship is a matter addressed to the discretion of the Executive Committee within the educational philosophy and secondary role of voluntary extracurricular competitive athletics in the academic environment. The Executive Committee will avoid making exceptions that would create precedent that effectively changes a rule without Representative Council action or local board of education adoption, which would exceed Executive Committee authority. The agreement the MHSAA has with member schools obligates the MHSAA to not change rules during the school year.

Students for whom waiver of a particular regulation is approved must be eligible in all other respects under all sections and interpretations of the regulations prior to their participation.

Adoption of these regulations, as well as policies, procedures and schedules of MHSAA tournaments, is a choice schools make locally when they consider their option of MHSAA membership. Consistent with rulings of the Attorney General and Michigan Supreme Court, schools are not bound by the decisions of the Executive Committee, but the association may limit participation in the postseason tournaments it sponsors to those schools which choose to apply rules and penalties as promulgated by the MHSAA and adopted by each member school's board of education. The MHSAA exercises no independent authority over schools or students.

Summary of 2021-22 Waivers – During the 2021-22 program year, there were 366 requests by member schools to waive regulations (versus 269 in 2020-21, 354 in 2019-20, 448 in 2018-19, 461 in 2017-18, 420 in 2016-17, 453 in 2015-16, 467 in 2014-15, 449 in 2013-14, 522 in 2012-13, 506 in 2011-12 and 462 in 2010-11). Of those requests, 260 were approved by the Executive Committee (versus 198 in 2020-21, 271 in 2019-20, 355 in 2018-19, 379 in 2017-18, 350 in 2016-17, 381 in 2015-16, 362 in 2014-15, 345 in 2013-14, 416 in 2012-13, 386 in 2011-12 and 337 in 2010-11). Of the total, 243 requests involved the transfer regulation (versus 167 in 2020-21, 226 in 2019-20, 315 in 2018-19, 322 in 2017-18, 285 in 2016-17, 291 in 2015-16, 300 in 2014-15, 316 in 2013-14, 338 in 2012-13, 352 in 2011-12 and 320 in 2010-11). Of those involving the transfer regulation, 144 were approved (106 in 2020-21, 153 in 2019-20, 238 in 2018-19, 253 in 2017-18, 234 in 2016-17, 224 in 2015-16, 213 in 2014-15, 229 in 2013-14, 259 in 2012-13, 265 in 2011-12 and 219 in 2010-11).

Rationale for Transfer Regulation – The following rationale for the transfer regulation, first established by the Executive Committee on Aug. 6, 1985, and last reviewed Aug. 4, 2021, was reaffirmed:

- a. The rule tends to ensure equality of competition in that each school plays students who have been in that school and established their eligibility in that school.
- b. The rule tends to prevent students from "jumping" from one school to another.
- c. The rule prevents the "bumping" of students who have previously gained eligibility in a school system by persons coming from outside the school system.
- d. The rule tends to prevent interscholastic athletic recruiting.
- e. The rule tends to prevent or discourage dominance of one sport at one school with a successful program, i.e., the concentration of excellent baseball players at one school to the detriment of surrounding schools through transfers and to the detriment of the natural school population and ability mix.
- f. The rule tends to create and maintain stability in that age group, i.e., it promotes team stability and teamwork expectation fulfillment.
- g. The rule is designed to discourage parents from "school shopping" for athletic purposes.
- h. The rule is consistent with educational philosophy of going to school for academics first and athletics second.
- i. It eliminates family financial status from becoming a factor on eligibility, thus making a uniform rule for all students across the state of Michigan (i.e., tuition and millage considerations).
- j. It tends to encourage competition between nonpublic and public schools, rather than discourage that competition.
- k. It tends to reduce friction or threat of students changing schools because of problems they may have created or because of their misconduct, etc.

Alba and Mancelona-North Central Academy High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these schools in boys and girls cross country (varsity and JV), girls volleyball (varsity and JV) and girls softball (varsity only). The combined enrollment of 74 students will add a new team to Division 4 of the Boys and Girls Cross Country Tournaments, will keep one team in Division 4 of the Volleyball Tournament, and will add a new team to the Division 4 Softball Tournament. Support from the Northern Lakes Conference was submitted.

Beaverton and Coleman High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these schools in wrestling (varsity only). The combined enrollment of 483 students will remove two teams from the Division 4 tournament and add one team to Division 3. Beaverton will be the primary school. Support from the Jack Pine and Mid State Activities Conferences was submitted.

Brethren and Bear Lake High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these schools in girls competitive cheer (varsity only). The combined enrollment of 263 students will keep one team in the Division 4 tournament. Brethren sponsored the sport previously and will be the primary school. Support from the West Michigan D League was submitted.

Caro, Kingston and Unionville-Sebewaing Area High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these schools in wrestling (varsity only). The combined enrollment will be 830 students and will move one team from Division 3 to the Division 2 tournament. Caro sponsored the sport previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Greater Thumb Conference was submitted.

Commerce-Walled Lake Northern and Walled Lake Central High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E-2]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these schools of the same district in wrestling (varsity and JV). The combined enrollment of 2,889 students will remove one team from the Division 1 tournament. Both schools sponsored the sport previously; Walled Lake Northern will be the primary school. This agreement in excess of 1,000 students is permitted for up to four school years under the provision for schools of the same district to form agreements when there has been a demonstrated history of low participation and the program cannot exist beyond four school years. A history of insufficient numbers was submitted, along with support from the Lakes Valley Conference.

DeWitt, Grand Ledge, Laingsburg, Lansing Catholic, Lansing-Waverly, Mason and Williamston High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-4]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these seven schools in ice hockey (varsity only). At its May 1 meeting, the Executive Committee approved a request for waiver of the 5,500-student enrollment limit. The combined enrollment will be 5,897 students, and DeWitt will be the primary school. Support from the Capital Area Activities Conference was submitted. This cooperative program which is over the 5,500-student limit is approved for the 2022-23 school year only.

Jackson-Northwest, Brooklyn-Columbia Central, Grass Lake, Hanover-Horton, Jackson, Jackson Christian, Michigan Center, Napoleon and Parma-Western High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these nine schools in ice hockey (varsity only). The combined enrollment will be 4,790 students. Northwest will be the primary school. Support from the Southeastern Conference was submitted.

Okemos, East Lansing, Eaton Rapids, Holt and Haslett High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-4]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these five schools in ice hockey (varsity only). At its May 1 meeting, the Executive Committee approved a request for waiver of the 5,500-student enrollment limit. The combined enrollment will be 5,718 students, and Okemos will be the primary school. Support from the Capital Area Activities Conference was submitted. This cooperative program which is over the 5,500-student limit is approved for the 2022-23 school year only.

Powers-North Central and Bark River-Harris High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls cross country (varsity only) for these two schools whose combined enrollment of 328 students will move one team from Division 3 to the Division 2 UP tournament. North Central sponsored the sports previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Skyline Central Conference was submitted.

Saginaw-Swan Valley, Breckenridge, Carrollton, Clio, Hemlock, Midland-Bullock Creek, Saginaw-Michigan Lutheran Seminary and Sanford-Meridian Early College High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Carrollton and Clio to a cooperative program that exists between the other six schools in ice hockey (varsity only). The combined enrollment will be 3,404 students. Swan Valley will continue as the primary school. Support from the Mid Michigan Hockey Conference was submitted.

Southgate-Anderson, Dearborn, Dearborn-Edsel Ford and Monroe High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-4]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these four schools in ice hockey (varsity only). At its June 15 meeting, the Executive Committee approved a request for waiver of the 5,500-student enrollment limit. The combined enrollment will be 6,450 students, and Southgate-Anderson will be the primary school. Support from the Downriver League was submitted. This cooperative program which is over the 5,500-student limit is approved for the 2022-23 school year only.

Sterling Heights-Stevenson, Fraser and Warren Woods-Tower High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these three schools in ice hockey (varsity only). The combined enrollment will be 5,086 students. None of the schools sponsored the sport previously; Stevenson will be the primary school. Support from the Macomb Area Conference was submitted.

Temperance-Bedford, Dundee, Erie-Mason, Ida and Monroe-Jefferson High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Dundee to a cooperative program that exists between the other four schools in ice hockey (varsity only). The combined enrollment will be 3,194 students. Bedford will continue as the primary school. Support from the Southeastern Conference was submitted.

Walled Lake Central and Walled Lake Western High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these schools in boys and girls skiing (varsity and JV). Walled Lake Central sponsored the sport for boys and girls previously and will be the primary school. The combined enrollment of 2,380 students will keep one team in the Division 1 tournaments. Support from the Lakes Valley Conference was submitted.

Rudyard High School (Regulation I, Section 2) – A request to waive the age regulation was made on behalf of a 19 year old 12th-grade student. The student has a defined disability as required in Regulation I, Section 2 and his educational progress was delayed due to this disability prior to the 9th grade. The student has had permanent health issues with speech and learning disabilities that have qualified him for special education services in numerous school districts throughout Michigan. The student continues under treatment and programming for these issues at his current school. He does not appear to present a significant risk of injury to himself, teammates or opponents or create a competitive advantage in comparison to teammates and opponents. Supporting documentation for an age waiver was presented by the school, including numerous IEPs and school documents.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Lawrence High School (Regulation I, Sections 4 & 5) – A request to waive the maximum enrollment and competition portions of the eligibility regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student at Lawrence. The student has been living as a homeless student under the McKinney-Vento Act as the parents are divorced and are both currently incarcerated. The student lives with a 19-year-old cousin after residing with various family members and friends over the past four years. The student has been enrolled in a high school for four years previously and has attended Lawrence High School since the fall of 2021 and participated in football, basketball and baseball at Lawrence last school year. The first semester of 2022-23 will be the student's 5th first semester and 9th overall semester since 2018 when he was a student at Hartford High School. Support from Lawrence coaches and administration was received, but the information submitted did not meet the waiver requirements of Regulation I, Sections 4 and 5.

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 12th-grade student who has attended Plymouth High School since transferring there following his 9th-grade year. The student played football while at Plymouth and was granted a subvarsity waiver to do so for his 10th-grade season at Plymouth. The student and family now desire to return to Father Gabriel Richard because of issues that occurred during the school year at Plymouth. The student requested eligibility for varsity football at Gabriel Richard High School. Support for eligibility was submitted by the former school.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Armada High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A tabled request from June of 2022 was resubmitted requesting a waiver of the transfer regulation on behalf of a student who transferred from Richmond to Armada. Issues were alleged at the previous school and medical documentation was provided along with some support from the former school. The student seeks immediate eligibility at Armada.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Belleville High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who enrolled at Belleville in August after transferring from Beverly Hills-Groves High School. The student experienced bullying at the former school along with a significant medical diagnosis. The transfer to a new school was supported by the student's counselors and medical personnel, along with the former school. The student participated in two basketball games while enrolled at Groves in the 2021-22 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver. The student will be withheld from the first two basketball games of the 2022-23 season.

Bloomfield Hills-Brother Rice High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (closest nonpublic school) was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose family made a full and complete residential change from Rochester to Bloomfield Hills. The student attended Adams High School as a 9th-grader and participated in football and wrestling. Cranbrook-Kingswood High School is the closest nonpublic high school to the new home.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Bloomfield Hills-Brother Rice High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (closest nonpublic school) was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose family made a full and complete residential change from West Branch to Rochester Hills. The student attended Saginaw-Nouvel Catholic Central as a 9th-grader and participated in soccer. Brother Rice is the closest male single-gender Catholic high school to the new home. The family has a demonstrated history of Catholic education.

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

Bloomfield Hills-Brother Rice High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (closest nonpublic school) was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose parents divorced. The student is making a move from his mother's residence in Lake Orion to his father's residence in Rochester Hills. The student attended Lake Orion High School as a 9th-grader and participated in soccer. The student attended St. Hugo of the Hills for grades K-8 and St. Hugo is a feeder school to Brother Rice. The student would have attended Brother Rice had he not moved to live with his mother during his 9th-grade year in Lake Orion. An otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver upon completion of the Educational Transfer Form by both schools and the MHSAA.

Bloomfield Hills-Brother Rice High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who transferred from North Farmington High School to Brother Rice High School to start the 2022-23 academic year. The student attended North Farmington as a 9th-grader and participated in basketball. The student participated in three 9th-grade basketball games at North Farmington before suffering a season-ending ankle fracture. A request was made for the student's eligibility in basketball to commence at Brother Rice after the third scheduled basketball competition.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver. The student will be withheld from the first three games of the 2022-23 basketball season.

Bronson High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who is returning to Bronson after transferring to Sturgis High School in the spring of his 9th-grade year. While at Sturgis, the student competed in football and basketball and competed in baseball at Bronson in the spring of 2022. While at Sturgis, there were incidents including harassment that involved the student, and a decision was made to return to Bronson. A letter of support was received from the former school.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Cass City High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 12th-grade student from Kingston High School. The transfer was due to the student struggling academically and with family challenges. In addition, the student would be ineligible at Kingston academically because of its academic board policy that exceeds MHSAA minimums. The student played football while at Kingston.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Clinton Township-Chippewa Valley 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 is returning to Chippewa Valley High School after one semester at U of D Jesuit High School. The new request was for subvarsity eligibility only at Chippewa Valley in football. The student found that the new school was not a better situation for him, and he wished to return to his original school. This student did not participate in any sports at U of D in the semester he was there. New information was submitted.

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

Detroit-U of D Jesuit High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student who attended Brother Rice High School during the 2021-22 school year. The student competed in two 9th-grade football games while at Brother Rice and the request was for subvarsity eligibility on the third date of the 2022 football season at the new school. Documentation of the games played was provided by the previous school.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only in football. The student will be withheld from the first two football games of the 2022 season.

Dryden High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who is transferring from Imlay City High School. The student cited Imlay City's decision to cut its online education programming for the upcoming school year and Dryden High School will offer an online education platform. Dryden is the closest school to her residence that offers online education. The mother's weakened immune system was also cited as a reason to remain in online education. The student requested immediate eligibility in basketball.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids Catholic Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (closest nonpublic school) was made on behalf of an incoming 11th-grade student who made a full and complete residential change from Chicago and Whitney Young Magnet High School where he played football and basketball to Middleville. The new residence is temporary while the family searches for permanent housing, and Grand Rapids Catholic Central is the closest Catholic high school. The student and his parents are Catholic, were members of a Catholic parish in Chicago, and have numerous family members who graduated from Grand Rapids Catholic Central, including both parents.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids-Kenowa Hills High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 12th-grade student who participated in football for the past three seasons while a student at Kenowa Hills. He transferred to an online school unassociated with Kenowa Hills during the second semester of 2021-22 to help with credit recovery. He now desires to come back to Kenowa Hills High School for his senior year and participate in football. The family indicated that they thought they could come back to Kenowa Hills without loss of athletic eligibility.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids-West Catholic High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who has transferred from West Michigan Academy of Environmental Science, a former but not current MHSAA member school. The student transferred to West Catholic after the family took issue with some of the curriculum being taught at the former school. The student was involved on the soccer team on a limited basis and in eight games. Support documents and a schedule were presented by the former school. The student requested eligibility in soccer for a reduced number of games based on the limited experience he had in soccer at the former school.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Grosse Pointe South High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who is returning to Grosse Pointe South High School after one semester at Detroit-U of D Jesuit High School. The parents of the student transferred him following challenges with online learning as a result of COVID-19. The student transferred back to Grosse Pointe South after the school returned to face-to-face learning as he wished to return to his original school. This student participated in football while at U of D Jesuit but was injured during the semester he was there. A previous waiver request was approved by the Executive Committee on Aug. 24, 2021, for this student for the first three subvarsity football games at U of D Jesuit.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Harbor Springs-Harbor Light Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a student who transferred to Harbor Light from Burt Lake-Northern Michigan Christian Academy following the 2021-22 school year. The student played in three volleyball games at NMCA prior to being removed from the team to deal with health concerns. The student requested eligibility after sitting the first three games of the 2022 volleyball season for Harbor Light Christian.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver. The student will be withheld from the first three days of volleyball competition in the 2022 season.

Jackson-East Jackson High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 11th-grade student who participated in football and wrestling while a student at Michigan Center High School where he experienced email threats from a family member. The student's family did not believe the former school handled the situation appropriately and subsequently transferred the student from the district and enrolled him to begin the 2022-23 school year at East Jackson High School.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Jackson High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose grandfather passed away suddenly in November of 2021 soon after she had completed a 9th-grade volleyball season at Jackson High School. The grandfather was a long-time school administrator and his sudden passing caused trauma and anguish for the student. The student transferred to Lumen Christi on Nov. 11, 2021, and did not participate in athletics. She then believed that Jackson High School was the best place for her to be and transferred back to Jackson on March 7, 2022, and completed the school year at Jackson High. The student desires to again compete in volleyball at Jackson during the fall of 2022. Strong support was submitted by the former school, Lumen Christi, on her behalf.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Kentwood-East Kentwood High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who has transferred from Wyoming—Tri-unity Christian High School to East Kentwood. The student participated in football, basketball and baseball while at Tri-unity, and because of curriculum and transportation issues, wished to attend East Kentwood which is closer to his residence and where other family members attended.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Kentwood-East Kentwood High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 11th-grade student who played volleyball, basketball and softball while a student at Wyoming—Tri-unity Christian High School as a 9th- and 10th-grade student. The transfer to East Kentwood was being made for significant health issues. This was supported by a letter from the former school.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Lake City High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 11th-grade student who is transferring to Lake City after attending McBain High School as a 9th- and 10th-grader. While at McBain, the student experienced bullying from other students. She desires a new start, both environmentally and academically, and requested immediate eligibility in volleyball and basketball at Lake City.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Lansing Catholic High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who transferred to Lansing Catholic in January of 2022 after attending Williamston High School as a 9th-grader and half of her 10th-grade school year. While at Williamston, the student experienced harassment and bullying from other students which led to counseling and ultimately the decision to transfer schools. While at Williamston, the student competed in volleyball and soccer; the waiver request was for volleyball only as the student did not play soccer in the 2022 spring season. Supporting documentation was received from a counselor, and the former school furnished school documentation related to the incidents that occurred.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Mackinaw City High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student who played volleyball while a student at St. Ignace High School who was subject of bullying by classmates during her 9th-grade year at St. Ignace that resulted in the student unenrolling in April to be home schooled. While at St. Ignace, the student reported to school administration numerous instances of bullying that did not stop for her, despite the school being made aware of the incidents and following all policies including law enforcement involvement. A letter of support and documentation were submitted by the former school.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Macomb-Dakota High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 12th-grader who previously attended L'Anse Creuse North High School and participated in football and basketball during the previous school year. The student claimed to have experienced social media harassment. The student's grades, behavior and demeanor suffered because of these events and the family desired a new school to help the student's health issues.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Manton High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who is transferring to Manton after the unexpected death of his grandmother. The student attended McBain-Northern Michigan Christian High School as a 9th-grader and participated in basketball. The transfer was primarily because of transportation issues. The student lives in the Manton attendance area and will play football at Manton, but would like to also participate in basketball in the winter sports season.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Midland-Bullock Creek High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a newly enrolled 10th-grade student who transferred from Midland High School. The student has been dealing with different legal and health challenges which were documented by a medical professional. The student transferred to Bullock Creek after the 2021-22 school year at Midland High School and having played a season of JV volleyball. Bullock Creek requested subvarsity eligibility in volleyball for the 2022 fall season.

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

Niles High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student who is transferring to Niles from Edwardsburg High School for the start of the 2022-23 school year. The student has experienced decreased self-confidence, health and academic challenges which resulted in a change of schools for this school year. This change was based on strong family support that exists with connections at Niles High School. The family believed that the new school would allow the student to thrive academically and socially. The request was for subvarsity eligibility in both cross country and track & field.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Paw Paw High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who is moving to Paw Paw from California with her family. The family has relocated to Michigan in order to be closer to elderly parents of the student's father. The family has relatives throughout southwest Michigan but will be staying with an aunt in Lawton as they look for permanent housing options in Paw Paw. The family chose Paw Paw High School because of other family members (cousins) who attend and because it more closely resembles the student's former school. The student participated in volleyball and soccer at her previous school in California as a 9th-grader. A letter of support from the parents outlined the relocation and decision-making process. The request was for subvarsity eligibility in both volleyball and soccer.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only in volleyball and soccer. The student must reside in Lawton or move into the Paw Paw attendance area. A move into a different district would make the student ineligible.

Pigeon—Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port Laker High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 12th-grade student who participated in football, basketball and track while a student at Bad Axe High School and its alternative program, Ascent High School. The family chose to transfer the student to Laker High School in order to get a new academic start and be closer to his residence, which is and always has been in the Laker attendance area. They requested immediate eligibility in all sports given that he is a 12th-grade student.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Pontiac-Notre Dame Preparatory 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 on Jan. 24 to Notre Dame Prep from Oxford High School following the shooting at the former school on Nov. 30, 2021. The student cited the difficulty in returning to Oxford High School. The student participated in swimming & diving at the former school on a limited exhibition basis and expressed no interest upon her initial enrollment at Notre Dame Prep, but would now like to join the swimming & diving team in order to continue her friendships and adjust to her new school.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Pontiac-Notre Dame Preparatory High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (closest nonpublic school) was made on behalf of an incoming 11th-grade student who made a full and complete residential change to Rochester Hills from New York where she played volleyball, basketball and competed in track & field at Lansing High School in Ithaca, NY. Notre Dame Prep is not the closest nonpublic school, but it is the closest Catholic high school to the new residence. Prior to her family's move to New York in 7th grade, the student attended St. Hugo Catholic elementary school (a feeder school to Notre Dame Prep).

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Pontiac-Notre Dame Preparatory High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (closest nonpublic school) was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who applied, along with a 10th-grade sister, to attend Notre Dame Prep for the 2022-23 school year. The family moved back to the United States after attending an American school in China where both parents were employed. Notre Dame Prep is not the closest nonpublic high school to their new residence. The family has a strong connection to the Catholic faith and desired that both girls be eligible for athletics at Notre Dame Prep in order to experience the normalcy in their transition from China to the US. The 10th-grade sister will be able to compete because she did not compete in any MHSAA sports at the previous school, while the 12th-grade sister would be ineligible in two of her three athletic programs.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Portage Northern High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who transferred to Portage Northern from Portage Central High School in January of 2022 after attending Portage Central as a 9th-grader and half of the 10th-grade school year. While at Portage Central, the student experienced harassment from other students. A rare midyear request to transfer between schools of the same district was granted by the Portage district. The request was for eligibility in volleyball at Portage Northern, the sport she played while at Portage Central. Supporting documentation from the former school was provided.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Portage Northern High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student whose father recently accepted a job in the Kalamazoo area after a move from the Jackson area where the student attended Northwest High School. The family was unable to find a home in the Portage School District but immediately enrolled the student at Portage Northern, primarily for the IB Diploma program. The family purchased a home in the Comstock School District. The student played 9th-grade football at Northwest in the fall of 2021. The request was for subvarsity eligibility in football.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Rochester-Adams 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 back to his district of residence, Rochester-Adams, from U of D Jesuit High School. The student participated in football at the previous school and had issues returning from an injury. Because of these issues, the student suffered health challenges that required visits to a therapist. A new letter and information from the parents was included in the request along with a letter from the therapist, the student and email correspondence between the parents and the former school. The student desired immediate eligibility in football in the fall of 2022.

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 11th-grade student who transferred from Armada High School to Romeo High School and competed in competitive cheer at the previous school. The family lives in the Romeo attendance area but were school of choice students to Armada. The student's brother experienced bullying issues while a middle school student at Armada but that student will be immediately eligible in the fall as a first-time freshman at Romeo. The documented bullying incidents with this younger sibling forced the family to have both students, including the 11th-grader, attend Romeo for a number of logistical reasons.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Standish-Sterling 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 Ogemaw Heights High School. When the student's mother and father divorced in 2014, the student continued to live with his mother in West Branch and attend school there. When the student's mother remarried in 2016 and moved to Standish, the student continued to attend Ogemaw Heights. The mother's job as a chemotherapy nurse has since changed, requiring her to commute alternately from their home in Standish to both West Branch and Saginaw while continuing to drive her children to West Branch for school and related activities. The student missed using the "catch-up" provision by a matter of months. The updated request was for subvarsity eligibility only.

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

Walled Lake Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who played in one JV football game while a 10th-grader at Orchard Lake-St. Mary's Prep. The student suffered a severe leg injury in that game after four plays of the game that required surgery and caused him to miss the remainder of the season. The former school submitted a letter of support on the student's behalf.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver. The student must be withheld from the first football game of the 2022 season.

Whitehall High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation in varsity volleyball was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who had attended Coopersville since Kindergarten before transferring to Whitehall on Jan. 24, 2022. The student experienced bullying during the 2020-21 school year which led to health issues. She transferred to Whitehall where her father is a faculty member. The student participated in JV tennis (by Executive Committee waiver in the spring of 2022) and in JV volleyball during the 21-22 school year. The current request was for immediate eligibility at Whitehall at the varsity level in volleyball. New information regarding the student's health was submitted by a counselor.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Zeeland East High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student who is transferring from an online school. The student attended Zeeland East until November and also participated on the Zeeland East 9th-grade volleyball team during the fall of 2021. The transfer to the online school was determined to be the best decision both academically and socially. After progress in those areas, the student desired to come back fully as a student at Zeeland East for her 10th-grade year. The request was for subvarsity eligibility in volleyball.

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

Byron Center High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 241, a request to waive the four-player rule was made on behalf of the head girls and boys swimming coach who is also employed by the Byron Center Pool, which provides most of the coach's total income. This position requires the coach to coach the resident club team as well as supervise all competitive programs that use the facility. The program is open to the public and includes 150 participants from ages 5-24, of which 60 will be attending Byron Center Schools. The program also includes students from 18 other school districts.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this coach for the 2022-23 school year.

Alba and Mancelona-North Central Academy Junior High Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – Application was made for a cooperative program between these two middle schools in boys and girls basketball (8th grade only). Alba would be the primary school.

The Executive Committee approved this cooperative program pending required MHSAA enrollment paperwork from Alba Middle School verifying middle school enrollment of at least 15 students or sponsorship of at least one stand-alone team for boys and girls.

Approved International Student Programs (AISP) – on June 15, 2022, the Executive Committee approved the CSIET J-1 and F-1 inbound student programs as well as all member-school-operated international student programs. Two additional MHSAA Member School Programs were reviewed and approved (limited to five international students participating or one percent of high school enrollment, whichever is greater):

- 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 **2022-23** 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 **2022-23** academic year.

MHSAA Committees – The Executive Committee approved appointments to MHSAA committees that meet prior to Jan. 1, 2022.

Personnel – The Executive Committee approved the employment contract and the 2022-23 Performance Agreement for the executive director.

Next Meetings – The next meetings of the Executive Committee are scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2022, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing (virtual); Thursday, Sept. 8, 2022, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing (virtual); Thursday, Sept. 29, 2022, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing (virtual); Wednesday, Nov. 2, 2022, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing (virtual); and Thursday, Dec. 1, 2022, at 1 p.m. in East Lansing (Representative Council meets next day).