

**MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

East Lansing, August 1, 2019

Members Present:

Scott Grimes, Grand Haven  
Pete Ryan, Saginaw  
Vic Michaels, Detroit  
Kris Isom, Adrian  
Steve Newkirk, Clare

Staff Members Present:

Tom Rashid  
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 2018-19 Waivers – During the 2018-19 program year, there were 448 requests by member schools to waive regulations (versus 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, 462 in 2010-11, and 500 in 2009-10). Of those requests, 355 were approved by the Executive Committee (versus 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, 337 in 2010-11, and 366 in 2009-10). Of the total, 315 requests involved the transfer regulation (versus 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, 320 in 2010-11, and 320 in 2009-10). Of those involving the transfer regulation, 238 were approved (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, 219 in 2010-11, and 217 in 2009-10).

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. 1, 2019, was reaffirmed:

- a. The rule tends to insure 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.

Adrian, Addison, Adrian-Lenawee Christian, Adrian-Madison, Clinton, Onsted and Tecumseh High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity and JV) between these seven schools whose combined enrollment of 3,132 students will place a new team in the Division 1 tournament. None of the schools sponsored ice hockey previously; Adrian will be the primary school. Support from the Southeast Conference was submitted.

Bloomfield Hills-Academy of the Sacred Heart, Clarkston-Everest Collegiate and Madison Heights-Bishop Foley High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee waived the April 15 fall sport deadline and approved a cooperative program between these three schools in girls golf (varsity and JV). The combined enrollment of 715 students will move one team from Division 4 to the Division 3 tournament. Academy of the Sacred Heart sponsored girls golf previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Catholic High School League was submitted.

Holt, Mason and Dansville High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Dansville to a cooperative program which exists between the other two schools in girls gymnastics (varsity only). The combined enrollment is 2,923 students. Holt will continue as the primary school. Support from the Capital Area Activities Conference was submitted.

Imlay City and Dryden High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of wrestling (varsity and JV) and girls competitive cheer (varsity only) to a cooperative program that exists between these two schools in football. Imlay City will be the primary school. The combined enrollment of 781 students will move one wrestling team from Division 3 to the Division 2 tournament, and remove one competitive cheer team from Division 4 and continue one team in the Division 3 tournament. Support from the Blue Water Area Conference was submitted. A middle school application was also approved later in these minutes.

Monroe, Carleton-Airport and Monroe-St. Mary Catholic Central High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of St. Mary Catholic Central to a cooperative program that exists between the other two schools in girls gymnastics (varsity only). The combined enrollment is 3,019 students. Monroe will continue as the primary school. Support from the South Central Gymnastics League was submitted.

New Boston-Huron, Carleton-Airport and Garden City High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity only) between these three schools whose combined enrollment is 2,716 students and will continue placement of this team in the Division 1 tournament. Huron and Airport High Schools were in a cooperative program with Flat Rock and Belleville which has dissolved. Belleville is in the process of joining a cooperative program with two other schools. Support from the Huron League was submitted.

Plainwell and Middleville-Thornapple Kellogg High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls skiing (varsity and JV) between these schools whose combined enrollment is 1,737 students and will place a new team in the Division 1 tournament. Neither school sponsored the sports previously. Plainwell will be the primary school. Support from the Kalamazoo Ski League was submitted.

Saugatuck and Holland-Black River High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in girls softball (varsity only) between these two schools whose combined enrollment is 578 students. Saugatuck has sponsored the sport previously and will be the primary school. The combined enrollment will move one team from Division 3 to the Division 2 tournament. Support from the Southwestern Athletic Conference was submitted.

Traverse City-St. Francis, Elk Rapids, Kalkaska, Kingsley, Lake Leelanau-St. Mary, Mancelona, Suttons Bay and Traverse City Christian High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Lake Leelanau-St. Mary, Suttons Bay and Traverse City Christian High Schools to a cooperative program that exists between the other schools in ice hockey (varsity only). Bear Lake has withdrawn from the agreement. The combined enrollment is 2,154 students, and St. Francis will continue as the primary school. This cooperative program has opted up to Division 1 in the past and will continue to do so. Support from the Northern Michigan Hockey League was submitted.

Glen Arbor-The Leelanau 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 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student to participate in cross country during the 2019-20 school year. The student had been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) since early elementary school. The student was placed in an alternative educational environment (Soar Academy in North Carolina) from September 2014 until June 2017, completing the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. The student enrolled at The Leelanau School to begin the 2017-18 school year, repeating the 10<sup>th</sup> grade because of his ASD. The student participated in two seasons of cross country in 2017-18 and 2018-19, which were his seventh and eighth semesters of enrollment since beginning the 9<sup>th</sup> grade in 2015-16. The student's behaviors related to his developmental disability have affected his ability to be in a traditional school in academic settings. The request was for one additional first semester of eligibility in 2019-20 to participate with the cross country team.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Walled Lake Western 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 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who suffered a closed head injury on Aug. 21, 2015, while playing for a non-school football team while enrolled in 9<sup>th</sup>-grade classes of a virtual home school (Connections Academy) during the 2015-16 school year. The student earned 6.0 high school credits with an above average GPA at Connections Academy in 2015-16 as a 9<sup>th</sup>-grade student. The student repeated the 9<sup>th</sup> grade in 2016-17 when he entered Walled Lake Western High School. Five high school courses from Connections Academy from the 2015-16 school year were applied as transfer credit to the Walled Lake Western transcript. In 2016-17, the student retook six classes at Walled Lake Western, improving his GPA by .7 points. The student participated in football and track in his three years at Walled Lake Western through the 2018-19 school year. The school requested eligibility for the 2019-20 school year because the student's family contended he started 9<sup>th</sup> grade in 2016-17, only played sports three years, and his injury caused poor academic performance in 2015-16.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Allen Park-Cabrini High School (Regulation I, Section 9[C]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility in ice hockey was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who previously participated in the ice hockey cooperative program between Dearborn Heights-Annapolis and Cabrini. The student will be enrolling to begin the 2019-20 school year. Support from the former school was submitted.

The Executive Committee approved the request for immediate eligibility for this student in ice hockey only.

Ann Arbor-Greenhills High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who participated in three JV tennis matches for Ann Arbor-Huron before reenrolling at Greenhills on Sept. 28, 2018 (the fourth Friday after Labor Day). The student participated in half of the JV basketball season and lacrosse while eligible in the second half of 2018-19 at Greenhills. The student attended Greenhills for the 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades before enrolling at Huron to begin the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. The request was for subvarsity eligibility in boys tennis this fall.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Benzonia-Benzie Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who was under a 504 plan while a student at Frankfort. The student played football at Frankfort in the fall of 2018-19 before enrolling at Benzie Central in January 2019. The student did not participate in athletics during the second semester of 2018-19 and improved his grades to be eligible for the fall of 2019-20.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Birmingham-Groves High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who was diagnosed with a medical condition which brought on academic struggles. The student played JV hockey for U of D Jesuit and was asked not to return to the school for the 2019-20 school year. The student's parents divorced within the past year and the student resides with his father.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Birmingham-Groves High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who previously attended Detroit Country Day School where the student experienced difficulties with staff and a hostile environment. The student participated in cross country and JV basketball and was wrongly accused of bullying other students. The family also has experienced financial constraints due to a grandparent's care. The student has become withdrawn and has undergone counseling to deal with the stress.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Brighton-Charyl Stockwell Prep Academy (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who experienced bullying from classmates and volleyball teammates while a 9<sup>th</sup>-grade student at Ann Arbor-Father Gabriel Richard in the fall of 2018-19. Because of this, the student experienced stress, anxiety and physical ailments. The student was seen for two outpatient sessions on Nov. 1 and 7, 2018. The student enrolled at her school of residence, Milford, on Nov. 7, 2018.

On Feb. 20, 2019, the Executive Committee did not approve a request for waiver from Milford where the student completed the 9<sup>th</sup> grade and did not participate in athletics. The Feb. 20 Executive Committee request did not contain the documentation that was presented by the parent to the school. Because of curriculum implementation issues and the student's medical situation, the student intends to enroll at Charyl Stockwell to begin the 2019-20 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver. There will be no further waivers approved for this student under the transfer rule.

Clarkston-Everest Collegiate High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a student who is repeating the 10<sup>th</sup> grade at Everest and participated in two ski meets in 2018-19 while a student at Clarkston High School. The student has autoimmune diseases that caused the student to miss most of the 2018-19 school year and regular season skiing. Support for eligibility was submitted by the former school. The request was for eligibility in skiing after being withheld from the first two ski meets of the 2019-20 season.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this student after being withheld from the first two interscholastic ski meets of the 2019-20 season.

Corunna High School (Regulation I, Section 9[C]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility in girls swimming & diving is made on behalf of a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who previously participated in the girls swimming & diving cooperative program between Morrice and Corunna. The student will be enrolling to begin the 2019-20 school year. Support from the former school was presented.

The Executive Committee approved the request for immediate eligibility for this student in girls swimming & diving only.

Essexville-Garber High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student whose stepfather was a staff member at Pinconning and resigned after a public financial scandal. The student was the subject of difficult experiences from peers, staff and community members resulting from his stepfather's decisions. The student played football, basketball and baseball while at Pinconning and will enroll at Garber to begin the 2019-20 school year. Support for eligibility was submitted from the former school.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Freeland High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who is reenrolling at Freeland and seeking eligibility in girls golf this fall. The student was a Freeland student and golfed in six matches in the fall of 2018-19 before enrolling at Bay City-John Glenn prior to the fourth Friday after Labor Day in September 2018. The student did play basketball at John Glenn and seeks to golf at the same school she golfed at last fall (Freeland). The student left Freeland hoping to avoid bullying that an older sister experienced and is returning, citing the long winter commute.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Fremont High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who previously attended Muskegon-Western Michigan Christian and is enrolling at Fremont to begin the 2019-20 school year because of the distance to the former school and finances. The student is a lifelong Fremont resident and participated in varsity tennis and JV basketball at the former school in 2018-19.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Holly High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student whose family was forced to vacate their rental home in the winter of 2018 as the owner intended to sell the property. The family rented a home from a family friend in the Waterford Kettering attendance area and the student enrolled at Waterford Kettering in December 2018. The student was not happy at the new school, played no athletics and will be reenrolling at Holly to begin the 2019-20 school year. The student played 9<sup>th</sup>- and 10<sup>th</sup>-grade JV soccer at Holly.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Holton High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit the second use of an Educational Transfer Form was made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who is returning to his mother's home in Reeths-Puffer. The mother's home is on the border of the two districts. A July 2017 mediation had the student living the first semester with the mother and attending Reeths-Puffer. In February 2018, for the second semester of 2017-18, the student moved into the father's home in Algonac with an approved Educational Transfer Form and played JV football at Algonac in the fall of 2018-19. The student continued living with his father until Christmas break, after which the student returned to the mother's home in Reeths-Puffer and reenrolled at Holton on Jan. 7, 2019. The student has played football, basketball and track but did not participate in athletics at Holton in the second semester of 2018-19 and has been ineligible for 107 school days. The student attended Reeths-Puffer and Holton for some elementary grades and Holton for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Kalamazoo Christian 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 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student whose family made a full and complete residential change from Plainwell to Kalamazoo in the fall of 2018. The student continued to attend Plainwell through the end of the 2018-19 school year and will be enrolling at Kalamazoo Christian to begin the 2019-20 school year. Her twin brother enrolled at Kalamazoo Christian to begin the second semester of 2018-19. Kalamazoo-Hackett is closer to the new home, but a sibling already attends Kalamazoo Christian.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

L'Anse High School (Regulation I, Section 9[C]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility in football was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who previously attended Baraga and participated in the football cooperative program between these two schools. Support for eligibility from the former school was submitted.

The Executive Committee approved the request for immediate eligibility for this student in football only.

Lake Orion High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – On March 21 and June 12, 2019 the Executive Committee did not approve a request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level on behalf of a 9<sup>th</sup>-grade student who previously attended Oakland Christian until Jan. 28, 2019, when the student enrolled at Lake Orion. The student's father lost his job and could no longer afford tuition. The student participated in football at Oakland Christian and had previously played middle school wrestling and baseball. The school requested eligibility at the subvarsity level, contending that the student is being penalized twice as he is ineligible for JV baseball in the spring of 2019 and JV football in the fall under the new sport-specific transfer regulation. The school requested reconsideration and provided significant additional information, including that the student has a learning disability and was in need of greater academic support. The student has been in counseling and is currently on medication. The school submitted medical documentation to support the request for reconsideration and eligibility at the subvarsity level in football for the fall of 2019.

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

Ludington High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who experienced a hostile environment and was singled out by current coaches at Montague where the student participated in football and basketball. The student intends to enroll at Ludington to begin the 2019-20 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Midland-Calvary Baptist High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who previously attended Midland High School and participated in JV soccer and basketball. Calvary Baptist was a new MHSAA member school in 2018-19 and has an enrollment much smaller than Midland. The student's sister has been a Calvary Baptist student for several years and the parents are both local pastors. The student will be enrolling to begin the 2019-20 school year. The transfer is not related to athletics and is supported by the former school.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Midland-H. H. Dow High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who lived with his maternal grandfather and attended Saginaw-Heritage and participated in football, wrestling and golf. The student's mother lost custody when the student was four years old and the student was in seven different foster care situations for the next six years. The student moved between grandparents through middle school, eventually living with his maternal grandfather who did not have the resources to provide for the student's needs. The grandfather had health issues and was unable to care for the student who had been kicked out of the home twice, most recently in April 2019. The student has been taken in by a family which has been given guardianship and will be enrolling to begin the 2019-20 school year at H. H. Dow.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Mt. Pleasant-Beal City High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade international student from an Approved International Student Program whose host family resides in the Remus-Chippewa Hills School District but has two children that have attended Beal City for three years.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

New Buffalo High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student whose father has accepted a job teaching math at New Buffalo and will be enrolling his four children (three elementary siblings) to begin the 2019-20 school year at New Buffalo. The family lives in Niles and previously attended Cassopolis where the father taught and the student ran cross country and track in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade during 2018-19. Due to family work responsibilities, the children need to go to school where the father works.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Onsted High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who participated in two football games while a student at Tecumseh before the school year began and the student enrolled at Onsted on Sept. 4, 2018. The student did not participate in athletics at Onsted during the 2018-19 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this student after being withheld from the first two varsity football games of the 2019 season.

Pickford High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who is moving from his divorced father's home in Grand Rapids and returning to his mother's home in Sault Ste. Marie but reenrolling at Pickford. The student attended Pickford to begin the 11<sup>th</sup> grade in 2018-19 and played in the football cooperative program between Kinross-Maplewood Baptist and Pickford. On Nov. 21, 2018, the student moved to his father's home and enrolled at Ada-Forest Hills Eastern where he did not participate in athletics. The student attended Maplewood Baptist for the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades before enrolling at Pickford for the 11<sup>th</sup> grade to begin the 2018-19 school year. On Aug. 22, 2018, the Executive Committee approved a waiver for this student transferring between schools in a football cooperative program. An otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted for the return to his mother's home out of district. The request was for eligibility at the most recently attended previous school.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.



Pigeon—Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade international student from an Approved International Student Program whose host family resides in the Unionville-Sebewaing School District but has two children who have attended Laker Schools since 2015.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Quincy High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of 10<sup>th</sup>- and 12<sup>th</sup>-grade brothers whose six-year-old sister experienced an assault by a ten-year-old student on a school bus while students at Homer Schools. The matter is in the courts, and at this time, the ten-year-old student will be returning to school. Three younger children will be enrolling at Quincy where the mother is a teacher. Both high school students have participated in football, basketball and track.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Harbor Beach, Harbor Beach-Zion Lutheran and Harbor Beach-Our Lady of Lake Huron Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these three member middle schools in football, girls volleyball, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer and boys and girls track & field. Harbor Beach sponsored these sports previously and will be the primary school. Zion Lutheran and Our Lady of Lake Huron are returning to MHSAA membership this fall.

Imlay City and Dryden Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of wrestling and girls competitive cheer (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades combined) to a cooperative program that exists between these middle schools in football. Imlay City sponsored the sports previously and will be the primary school.

Saginaw Valley Middle School Conference (Regulation IV, Section 10) – A request was made to allow this league to begin middle school football and cross country practices five days earlier than allowed by the regulation, on Wednesday, Aug. 21, 2019. Practice is permitted on the 14<sup>th</sup> Monday before Thanksgiving (Aug. 26, 2019). The early start date would allow schools the option to have three additional days of practice so they may scrimmage on the Wednesday or Thursday of the last week of August prior to Labor Day in order to have nine practice days prior to the scrimmage. It would also permit schools to not practice on the Friday or Monday of Labor Day. The league offers four seasons of participation with winter sports beginning on Monday, Oct. 14, 2019, and this would permit some time off between fall and winter seasons.

The Executive Committee approved the request for football only. Football practice may begin on Wednesday, Aug. 21, 2019.

New Member Schools – 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:

**Bay City Academy** – This is a K-12 charter school chartered by Lake Superior State University and managed by Mitten Management which also operates Mancelona-North Central Academy. The elementary school has an enrollment of 114 students, middle school has a current enrollment of 82 students and the high school has an enrollment of 65 students in grades 9-12. The school was first established in 2011. Another school by the same name in a different location was an MHSAA member in 2013 which closed shortly thereafter due to declining enrollment. The school is also joining the MHSAA at the middle school level in grades 6-8. The school is housed in a former Bay City public elementary school with a small gymnasium and limited outdoor facilities. The school intends to form cooperative agreements in all sports sponsored by Bay City-All Saints and hopes to add cross country and boys soccer teams. All Saints currently sponsors baseball, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls bowling, 8-player football, boys and girls tennis and girls volleyball and is also involved in an ice hockey cooperative program. The current athletic director is scheduled to attend a New AD Orientation this summer. A signed 2019-20 Membership Resolution and Preliminary Classification Form were submitted on July 24, 2019. An Athletic Department Code of Conduct was also submitted. If a 2020-21 Membership Resolution is received prior to Oct. 2, 2020, and all other regulations are followed, the school will be eligible for MHSAA tournaments for the 2020-21 school year. As is permitted under Interpretation 12d, a new member school may participate in MHSAA tournaments sooner than its second year as part of approved cooperative programs.

Committees – The Executive Committee approved membership of committees which meet prior to Jan. 1, 2020.

Personnel – The Executive Committee approved the employment contract and 2019-20 Performance Agreement for the executive director.

Future Meetings – The next meetings of the Executive Committee are scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 22, 2019, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing; Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2019, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing; Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2019 at 9 a.m. in East Lansing; Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2019, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing; and Thursday, Dec. 5, 2019, at 1:30 p.m. in East Lansing (Representative Council meets next day).