

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

East Lansing, November 5, 2014

Members Present:

Jim Derocher, Negaunee
Scott Grimes, Grand Haven
Vic Michaels, Detroit
Fred Smith, Buchanan
Carmen Kennedy, St. Clair Shores

Staff Members Present:

Tom Rashid
Jack Roberts (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 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 null and void.

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 contract 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 post-season 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.

Auburn Hills-Oakland Christian and Clarkston-Everest Collegiate High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of girls softball to a cooperative agreement which exists in boys and girls bowling between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 338 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 4 tournament. Oakland Christian sponsored softball previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference was submitted.

Brethren and Bear Lake High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of girls softball to a cooperative agreement which exists in boys golf and girls soccer between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 264 students will place one team in the Division 4 tournament. Both schools sponsored softball previously; Brethren will be the primary school. Support from the West Michigan D League was submitted.

Clarkston-Everest Collegiate and Auburn Hills-Oakland Christian High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of girls tennis to a cooperative agreement which exists in boys and girls bowling between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 338 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 4 tournament. Everest Collegiate sponsored girls tennis previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Catholic High School League was submitted.

Eben Junction-Superior Central and Rock-Mid Peninsula High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in girls softball between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 208 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 4 tournament. Superior Central sponsored softball previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Skyline Central Conference was submitted.

Gaylord-St. Mary Cathedral and Alba High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of girls softball to a cooperative agreement which exists in football between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 131 students will continue placement of one team in the Division 4 tournament. St. Mary sponsored softball previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Ski Valley Conference was submitted.

Hudsonville and Hudsonville-Unity Christian High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of boys and girls lacrosse to a cooperative agreement which exists between these two schools in boys swimming & diving. The combined enrollment of 2,452 students will place a new team in the boys and girls Division 1 tournaments. Lacrosse is newly sponsored by both schools. Hudsonville will be the primary school. Support from the OK Conference was received.

Marine City-Cardinal Mooney Catholic and Kimball-Landmark Academy High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – Pending approval from the Catholic High School League, the Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in girls softball between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 356 students will place a new team in the Division 3 tournament. Cardinal Mooney has sponsored softball previously and will be the primary school. Support from the league will be determined on Nov. 11, 2014. Note: Because planning is underway for the Baseball/Softball Site Selection Committee meeting of Dec. 9, 2014, staff recommended approving the Cardinal Mooney softball and baseball (below) applications pending league approval.

Marine City-Cardinal Mooney Catholic and Kimball-New Life Christian High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – Pending approval from the Catholic High School League, the Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in baseball between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 203 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 4 tournament. Cardinal Mooney has sponsored baseball previously and will be the primary school. Support from the league will be determined on Nov. 11, 2014. Note: Because planning is underway for the Baseball/Softball Site Selection Committee meeting of Dec. 9, 2014, staff recommended approving the Cardinal Mooney softball and baseball (above) applications pending league approval.

Muskegon—Reeths-Puffer and North Muskegon High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys lacrosse between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 1,471 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 2 tournament. Reeths-Puffer sponsored boys lacrosse previously and will be the primary school. Support from the West Michigan and OK Conferences was submitted.

Tekonsha and Marshall Academy High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of boys and girls track & field to a cooperative agreement which currently exists in several sports between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 146 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 4 tournaments. Tekonsha sponsored track & field previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Southern Central Athletic Association was submitted.

Traverse City Christian and Traverse City-Grand Traverse Academy High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of baseball to a cooperative agreement which currently exists in several sports between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 330 students will place a new team in the Division 3 tournament. Traverse City Christian sponsored baseball previously and will be the primary school. Support from four future opponents was submitted.

Whitmore Lake, Ann Arbor-Rudolf Steiner and Ypsilanti-Arbor Preparatory High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) — The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys lacrosse between these three schools whose combined enrollment of 856 students will place a new team in the Division 2 tournament. None of the schools sponsored boys lacrosse previously. Whitmore Lake will be the primary school. Support from future opponents was received.

Walled Lake Western High School (Regulation I, Sections 4 & 5) – A request was made to waive the maximum enrollment and competition portions of the eligibility regulation on behalf of a 12th-grade student who turned 17 years of age on June 17, 2014, but had been enrolled in four first semesters and four second semesters of high school prior to the 2014-15 school year.

The student's academic abilities permitted him to be advanced to the 9th grade at the age of 13 in 2010-11 when he attended Detroit Country Day High School where he participated in JV skiing. The student was younger than his classmates and experienced issues with other students that led to care by physicians who recommended he be schooled elsewhere. The student was transferred to Walled Lake Western High School where he again enrolled in the 9th grade in 2011-12 and participated in skiing in grades 9-11. It was discovered recently that the student participated while ineligible in the first semester of 2011-12. The school is researching the contests and forfeiting to opponents. The student has excelled at Walled Lake Western academically, athletically (skiing) and socially.

The Executive Committee observed that there is no dispute that this student not only was enrolled in high school for eight semesters prior to the current school year, he has also participated on an interscholastic skiing team for four seasons, which is the maximum opportunity permitted any student. The Executive Committee noted that it has the authority to approve waivers in narrow and compelling circumstances when a student may miss out on opportunities to participate; but that is not the situation in this case.

The purpose of Sections 4 and 5 is to limit students to eight semesters of enrollment during which they have an opportunity for four seasons of eligibility in a sport, and there is no undue hardship to a student who has eight semesters of enrollment and four seasons of participation in a sport. Here, waiver would provide the student opportunities to participate that exceed the maximum allowed other students; and such a waiver would exceed the Executive Committee's authority, potentially establish an unfavorable binding precedent and tend to create the type of "immense administrative burden" that the US Court of Appeals determined the MHSAA need not impose upon this committee. The request for waiver was not approved.

Byron Center High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student whose father recently was honorably retired from the Marines and whose family moved into the grandparents' home in Jenison while seeking a permanent home. The student and three younger brothers enrolled at Jenison to begin the 2014-15 school year and will be completing the first quarter and enrolling at Byron Center Schools on Nov. 3, 2014. The family has purchased a home in Byron Center, closing on Nov. 21 and occupying the new residence on Dec. 1, 2014. The student did not participate in athletics at Jenison.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Coopersville High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment was made on behalf of 10th- and 12th-grade siblings who previously attended Allendale High School and whose family made a full and complete residential change into the Ravenna School District and enrolled at Coopersville on Oct. 6, 2014.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver effective with the students' 91st school day of enrollment at Coopersville High School starting Oct. 6, 2014.

Detroit-Renaissance High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who previously attended Detroit Community High School and enrolled at Renaissance because the former school's charter was to be revoked but later changed to another institution. The student enrolled to begin the 2014-15 school year due to academic decline and a preference for a different school environment.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Detroit-U of D Jesuit High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended Detroit Community High School and enrolled at U of D Jesuit to begin the 2014-15 school year because of threatening situations at the former school that were not the student's fault, preferring U of D Jesuit's school environment. The student participated previously in athletics.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Detroit-U of D Jesuit High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation is made on behalf of an 11th-grade student whose father is retiring and whose family is moving to Detroit but not yet sold their home in Petoskey. The mother and son have moved to a home where U of D Jesuit is the closest nonpublic school. The father is remaining in Petoskey until the home is sold. The student began the 2014-15 school year at U of D Jesuit.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Elk Rapids High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose family made a full and complete residential change from Northville to the Bellaire School District and enrolled at Elk Rapids to begin the 2014-15 school year. The student plays ice hockey, and both Bellaire and Elk Rapids are members of a cooperative program in ice hockey.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Flint-Kearsley High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who began the 2014-15 school year at Genesee High School before enrolling at Kearsley on Oct. 13, 2014. The student participated previously in athletics.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st school day of enrollment at Kearsley High School beginning Oct. 13, 2014.

Grand Rapids Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of 10th- and 12th-grade siblings who are the subject of an IEP and enrolled at Grand Rapids Christian because of education services not available at their former school: Grand Rapids Catholic Central. All six family members enrolled at Grand Rapids Christian to begin the 2014-15 school year. Five of the six children have learning disabilities which were accommodated previously at St. Thomas Middle School but not at Catholic Central. Both students participated previously in basketball.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Jackson-Northwest High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose parents and family separated in the summer of 2014. The stepfather and stepbrother remained in the residence in the Parma-Western School District; the mother and student moved to the Northwest attendance area, enrolling at Northwest on Sept. 5, 2014. The student participated in athletics while in the 9th grade at Parma-Western.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Jackson-Northwest High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Jackson-Lumen Christi for the 9th grade. The student changed schools to Northwest to begin the 10th grade because bus transportation provided by Northwest, which assisted the student in attending Lumen Christi, was changed because of the early release from school on Wednesdays at Northwest High School. The student has no prior history of school athletic participation and is a non-school ice hockey goalie.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver for immediate eligibility at the varsity level. Eligibility at the subvarsity level is approved until full eligibility is attained on Jan. 19, 2015.

Monroe-Jefferson High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who attended Jefferson Schools since Kindergarten before enrolling at Monroe-St. Mary Catholic Central to begin the 2014-15 school year. The student attended St. Mary for ten school days from Aug. 20-Sept. 4, 2014, and did not participate in athletics before enrolling at Jefferson High School on Sept. 5, 2014.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Oscoda High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student whose father died eight years ago and who has a long history of a transient and unstable home environment, moving five times since 2007. The student's mother has substance abuse issues and the student experienced emotional and physical abuse. The mother has released the student to the grandfather who resides in Oscoda. The student enrolled at Oscoda High School to begin the 2014-15 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Oxford High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who previously attended Pontiac-Notre Dame Preparatory before enrolling at Oxford on Oct. 3, 2014.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st school day of enrollment at Oxford High School starting Oct. 3, 2014.

Scottville-Mason County Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended Custer-Mason County Eastern before enrolling at Mason County Central on March 12, 2014.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st school day of enrollment at Mason County Central High School starting March 12, 2014.

South Haven High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended Hartford and participated in athletics before enrolling at South Haven on Oct. 6, 2014.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st school day of enrollment at South Haven High School starting Oct. 6, 2014.

Waterford Kettering High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who previously attended Pontiac-Notre Dame Preparatory before enrolling at Waterford Kettering on Oct. 1, 2014.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st school day of enrollment at Waterford Kettering High School starting Oct. 1, 2014.

Waterford Kettering High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended Waterford Mott before enrolling at Waterford Kettering on March 28, 2014. The student's request to transfer between these schools of the same district was submitted on Feb. 21, 2014. The request was granted, but the student remained at Waterford Mott through the end of the third marking period as directed by the district.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Subvarsity Waiver Requests Meeting All Conditions of Section 9(B) – The Executive Committee approved immediate eligibility at the subvarsity level for the following transferring 9th- or 10th-grade students (after entering 9th grade, before completing 10th grade) **who have not previously participated in an interscholastic scrimmage or contest in any MHSAA sport at the high school level** (whether MHSAA member schools or not) and who do not qualify for one of the 15 stated exceptions to the transfer regulation and have transferred for reasons having nothing to do with athletics, discipline or family finances and would not require Executive Committee evaluation or comparison of school demographics or curriculum:

Requesting High School	Grade	Former High School	Date of Enrollment	Length of Subvarsity Eligibility Status
Bloomfield Hills-Brother Rice	10	Novi-Detroit Catholic Central	Oct. 1, 2014	91 st scheduled school day from Oct. 1, 2014
Camden-Frontier	9	Jonesville	Sept. 2, 2014	Jan. 19, 2015
Clarkston	9	Pontiac-Notre Dame Prep	Nov. 3, 2014	Remainder of 14-15 school year
Gaylord	9	Gaylord-St. Mary Cathedral	Oct. 30, 2014	Remainder of 14-15 school year

Requesting High School	Grade	Former High School	Date of Enrollment	Length of Subvarsity Eligibility Status
Grand Haven	10	Holland-West Ottawa	Oct. 10, 2014	91 st scheduled school day from Oct. 10, 2014
Grandville	9	East Kentwood	Oct. 7, 2014	91 st scheduled school day from Oct. 7, 2014
Holt	10	Lansing-Sexton	Sept. 2, 2014	Jan. 19, 2015
West Bloomfield	9	Royal Oak-Shrine	Nov. 4, 2014	Remainder of 14-15 school year

Holly High School (Regulation I, Section 12) – On Sept. 10, 2014, the Executive Committee did not approve a request to waive or interpret the limited team membership regulation on behalf of an 11th-grade student interested in running track this spring and other students who compete with a for-profit cheerleading organization which is open to any student willing to pay the fee (by definition, not an all-star event). The initial concern was that competitions in which these students may participate may include teams that are called or purport to be all-star, in conflict with Interpretation 163 which states: “An ‘all-star’ contest is one which is called ‘all-star’ and/or in which there is participation by one or more ‘all-star’ teams.” The request was to allow the students to participate without future penalty as no competitions that the organization plans to attend are now known to include teams that purport to be “high school” or “all-star.” The Executive Committee did not approve the request to grant waiver of the rule or to immunize this student or others from the consequences of a violation if teams that are all-star by their name or their nature participate in the same events where this team participates. As long as MHSAA rules are followed, students will remain eligible for interscholastic athletics. If all-star teams appear at events, this team may participate, but individuals who want to remain eligible for interscholastic athletics must not participate.

The school requested reconsideration based on the differences in MHSAA competitive cheer and non-school cheer activities of this kind, specifically the structure of the competition, the age and genders of individuals involved in each, uniform requirements, presence of dance and music, etc.

The Executive Committee determined that the described activity is much more like competitive cheer than it is not and that the facts here differ little from many other cases where the rules have been interpreted to apply and have been enforced. If the rules are not applied here, they should not be applied in other cases, which would effectively change the rule, which the Executive Committee does not have the authority to do. The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Byron Center High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 241, a request to waive the three-/four-player rule for the 2014-15 school year was made on behalf of the head girls and boys swimming & diving coach who is employed as the aquatics director of the Byron Center Community Pool and also coaches the Byron Center Dawgs Swim Program. It is anticipated that the “BCD” program will have 175-200 participants ages 5-24, including students from several neighboring schools and districts: Grand Rapids-South Christian, Caledonia, Zeeland East and West, Holland, Holland Christian, East Kentwood, Jenison, Thornapple-Kellogg, Otsego, Allegan, Grandville, Rockford, Wayland-Union and Byron Center. It is estimated that 12 girls and eight boys from Byron Center Schools in grades 7-12 will participate in the “BCD” program in 2014-15. This coach has previously been granted a waiver while employed with Holland High School and with Byron Center in 2013-14.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for the 2014-15 school year.

Commerce-Walled Lake Northern High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 241, a request to waive the three-/four-player rule for the 2014-15 school year was made on behalf of the boys swimming & diving co-head coach who is a retired school employee and part-time assistant coach with the Kingfish Aquatics Club of Waterford. Besides his pension, coaching swimming is his only income. The Kingfish program will have over 130 swimmers ages 6-18, including students from several neighboring schools and districts: Brother Rice, Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Huron Valley, Livonia, Troy, Waterford, West Bloomfield and the Walled Lake Consolidated Schools. Currently there are two Walled Lake Northern students involved in the program.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for the 2014-15 school year.

Regulation III, Section 1(C) – Pursuant to *Handbook* Interpretation 265, the Executive Committee approved waiver of the enrollment regulation for the following junior high/middle schools to permit 6th-grade students to participate with and against 7th- and/or 8th-graders for the sports listed in the 2014-15 school year only.

Junior High/ Middle School	Sport(s)	High School Enrollment	Middle School Enrollment
Ashley	boys & girls basketball	90	44 7 th - & 8 th -graders
Bear Lake	boys & girls basketball	98	26 7 th -graders 32 8 th -graders
Carsonville-Port Sanilac	girls basketball	147	23 7 th -grade girls 12 8 th -grade girls
Lake Leelanau- St. Mary	boys & girls basketball	48	17 7 th -graders 18 8 th -graders
Marcellus	7 th -grade boys basketball	218	21 7 th -grade boys
Stephenson	boys & girls track & field	197	32 7 th -graders 52 8 th -graders
Suttons Bay	boys & girls basketball, boys & girls track & field	195	34 7 th -graders 45 8 th -graders

Tekonsha and Marshall Academy Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of boys and girls track & field to a cooperative program that exists in football between these two member schools. Tekonsha sponsored the sport previously and will be the primary school.

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 MHSAA membership for the following schools:

Brighton-Charyl Stockwell Preparatory Academy: This school is chartered by Central Michigan University, has operated since 1996 and is located on two sites in Brighton for grades 7-12 and one in Highland for K-6 where a competition gym is located. The school is under the management of CS Partners and has a 9-12 enrollment of 160 students. The school is exploring the possibility of becoming an International Baccalaureate high school in the future. An athletic program was started in 2008 and the school intends to sponsor boys and girls cross country, girls volleyball, boys soccer, boys and girls basketball, boys golf and baseball. Presently there are no outdoor athletic facilities or courts, so the school rents from other area schools or private facilities. The athletic program will be independent and not a league member at this time. A signed 2014-15 Membership Resolution and Preliminary Classification Form were received on Sept. 18, 2014. The Athletic Department Code of Conduct has been submitted. If a 2015-16 Membership Resolution is received prior to Oct. 2, 2015, and if all other regulations are followed, the school will be eligible for MHSAA tournaments for the 2015-16 school year.

Detroit-Cornerstone Health/Technology High School: This school is chartered by Grand Valley State University and has operated since 2012, moving into a newly renovated former Catholic school (St. Scholastica) this fall. There are three K-8 schools in the Cornerstone family of schools managed by Cornerstone Schools. This high school has a current 9-11 enrollment of 275 students. The school has indicated an intention to sponsor the following sports for boys and girls: basketball, cross country, golf, tennis and track & field, as well as girls volleyball, football, girls competitive cheer, girls softball and baseball. Presently there are no athletic facilities onsite. The school will use a gym at one of its K-8 schools (Lincoln-King) located in the former St. Martin DePorres High School. The athletic program will be a member of the Michigan Metro Athletic Conference. The current athletic director is retired after years of service as an assistant AD in the Pontiac Schools and attended an MHSAA Orientation in August 2014.

The MHSAA staff had discussions with the school both in advance of and during its membership orientation visit regarding several transfer students who enrolled at Cornerstone following the hiring by Cornerstone of these students' former boys basketball coach at Melvindale Academy for Business & Technology (MABT). This would have resulted in 180 school days of ineligibility for these students in boys basketball pursuant to the athletic related transfer regulation under Regulation I, Section 9(F). On Oct. 29, 2014, after the MHSAA staff visit, Cornerstone Health/Technology High School informed the MHSAA that the school removed the former MABT coach and is seeking another coach. Because of this action by the school to remove the coach, the students remain ineligible until Jan. 19, 2015 only. A signed 2014-15 Membership Resolution and Preliminary Classification Form were received on July 8, 2014. The Athletic Department Code of Conduct has been submitted. If a 2015-16 Membership Resolution is received prior to Oct. 2, 2015, and if all other regulations are followed, the school will be eligible for MHSAA tournaments for the 2015-16 school year as long as the stated condition is observed. The approval of this school for MHSAA membership is conditioned on the removal of the former MABT basketball coach until those students who transferred from MABT and might have been ineligible under Regulation I, Section 9(F) are no longer enrolled at this school.

Committees – The Executive Committee approved the appointment of members and meeting dates for committees which meet after Jan 1, 2015.

Finance –

- a. The MHSAA has transferred one-half of its 2013-14 operating surplus to the Designated “Innovation/Opportunity” fund.
- b. In good times the MHSAA transfers \$100,000 to each of two funds after fall tournaments are completed: to the Designated “Building Maintenance” Fund in December and to the Designated “Insurance Replacement” Fund in January. Because of capital improvements to the MHSAA building, that transfer did not occur during the 2013-14 fiscal year. Because of very bad weather for the first round of the 2014 Football Playoffs, one or both of these transfers is unlikely to occur during the 2014-15 fiscal year.
- c. In May of 1998 the MHSAA entered into a deferred compensation agreement with the executive director that is backed by a variable life insurance policy that, from the death benefit, reimburses the MHSAA for all costs of the agreement including payments, taxes and life insurance premiums.

Because of the increase in the cash value of the policy and the good health and projected life expectancy of the executive director, it is now possible to obtain a new (paid up) life insurance policy that benefits the MHSAA by eliminating future premium payments and benefits the insured by increasing the death benefit.

The Executive Committee (which approved the original agreement in 1998) approved this change from the ING (now VOYA) policy to a new company (likely the John Hancock Life Insurance Company) with the understanding that any decrease in assets of the MHSAA as a result of this change will be reimbursed at the time the death benefit is paid.

Next Meetings – The next meetings of the Executive Committee are scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 4, 2014, at 1 p.m. in East Lansing (Representative Council meeting follows on Dec. 5); Wednesday, Jan. 14, 2015, at 1 p.m. in East Lansing (Classification Committee meeting precedes at 9:30 a.m.); Wednesday, Feb. 18, 2015, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing (Audit & Finance Committee meeting follows); Thursday, Mar. 26, 2015, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing (Representative Council meeting follows on March 27); Wednesday, Apr. 22, 2015, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing (Audit & Finance Committee meeting follows); Sunday, May 3, 2015, at 10 a.m. in Glen Arbor (Representative Council meeting follows at 1 p.m.); and Wednesday, June 10, 2015, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing.