

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

East Lansing, October 2, 2019

Members Present:

Scott Grimes, Grand Haven
Pete Ryan, Saginaw
Kris Isom, Adrian
Karen Leinaar, Bear Lake
John Thompson, Brighton

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.

Allen Park-Cabrini, Dearborn Heights-Annapolis and Belleville High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – Pending support from the Catholic High School League, the Executive Committee approved the addition of Belleville to a cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity only) that currently exists between the other two schools at the varsity level only. The combined enrollment of 2,625 students will move one team from Division 3 to the Division 1 tournament. Cabrini will continue as the primary school.

Bay City-All Saints and Bay City Academy High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of boys and girls bowling (varsity only), boys basketball (varsity and JV), baseball (varsity only) and girls tennis (varsity only) to a program which exists between these two schools in 8-player football. The combined enrollment of 131 students will continue placement of a team in Division 4 tournaments. Bay City Academy is a new member school approved for MHSAA membership on Aug. 1, 2019, with the intention of forming cooperative programs with All Saints. All Saints sponsored the sports previously and will be the primary school. Support from the North Central Thumb League was submitted.

Boyne Falls and Boyne City-Concord Academy High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls basketball (varsity and JV) between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 94 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 4 tournaments. Boyne Falls sponsored the sports previously and will be the primary school. Concord Academy is seeking MHSAA membership later in this agenda. Support from the Northern Lakes Conference was submitted.

Chelsea and Dundee High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity only) between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 1,344 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 3 tournament. Chelsea sponsored the sport previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Southeastern Conference was submitted.

Clarkston-Everest Collegiate, Auburn Hills-Oakland Christian and Madison Heights-Bishop Foley Catholic High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Bishop Foley to a cooperative program in boys skiing (varsity only) that was approved on Sept. 4, 2019 between Everest and Oakland Christian. Finding that there were not enough students interested in skiing, Bishop Foley was added to this program. The combined three-school enrollment is 612 students, placing a new team in the Division 2 tournament. Everest will be the primary school. Support from the Catholic High School League was submitted.

East Kentwood and Grand Rapids-West Michigan Aviation Academy High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity only) between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 3,274 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 1 tournament. East Kentwood sponsored the sport previously and will be the primary school. West Michigan Aviation Academy was previously in a cooperative program that has dissolved. Support from the OK Conference was submitted.

Flushing, Goodrich and Swartz Creek High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – Pending approval of the Swartz Creek Board of Education, the Executive Committee approved the addition of Goodrich to a cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity only) which exists between Flushing and Swartz Creek. The combined enrolment of 3,303 students will continue a team in the Division 1 tournament. Goodrich was previously in a cooperative program with Otisville-Lakeville and other schools which has reformed. Flushing will continue as the primary school. Support from the Mid-Michigan Hockey Conference and Flint Metro League was submitted.

Grand Haven, Holland-Black River and Montague High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Montague to a cooperative program in boys and girls skiing (varsity only) that exists between the other two schools. The combined enrollment of 2,825 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 1 tournament. Support from the OK Conference and the Greater Grand Rapids High School Ski Conference was submitted.

Grand Rapids-NorthPointe Christian and Wyoming-The Potter's House Christian 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 of 539 students will move a team from the Division 3 to the Division 2 tournament. NorthPointe Christian sponsored softball previously and will be the primary school. Support from the OK Conference was submitted.

Grand Rapids-Northview, Comstock Park, Muskegon-Oakridge and Sparta High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Oakridge to a cooperative program that exists between the other three schools in ice hockey (varsity only) and whose combined enrollment of 3,052 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 1 tournament. Northview will continue as the primary school. Support from the OK Conference was submitted.

Holland-West Ottawa and Holland Christian High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-3]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in girls competitive cheer (varsity only) between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 2,815 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 1 tournament. This application was made under the provision of the regulation that permits an agreement in excess of 1,000 students for up to four years when a school has dropped the team in the previous season. Holland Christian dropped its team prior to the 2018-19 MHSAA tournament. West Ottawa will be the primary school. Support from the OK Conference was submitted. The program must dissolve or reform to under 1,000 students at the end of the 2022-23 school year.

Indian River-Inland Lakes and Mackinaw City High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls track & field (varsity only) between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 253 students will continue placement of teams in the Division 4 tournaments. Inland Lakes sponsored track & field previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Ski Valley Conference was submitted.

Richland-Gull Lake, Battle Creek-Harper Creek, Battle Creek-Pennfield, Kalamazoo-Comstock, Otsego, Parchment, Paw Paw and Plainwell High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – Pending approval of the Plainwell Board of Education, the Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity only) in excess of the 3,500-student enrolment limit under the new team startup provision that permits a program to form if none of the schools sponsored the sport previously. A new league has formed in this region of the state – the South Central High School Hockey League – that only permits school teams to participate. A former non-school team, the Kalamazoo Eagles, is converting to school sponsorship through this agreement. The combined enrollment among the eight schools is 5,610 students. Gull Lake will be the primary school. Support from the South Central High School Hockey League was submitted. The program must dissolve or reform under 3,500 students at the end of the 2022-23 school year.

Tecumseh and Manchester High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in girls gymnastics (varsity only) between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 1,093 students will continue placement of a team in the Girls Gymnastics Tournament. Tecumseh sponsored the sport previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Southern Central Gymnastics League was submitted.

Waterford-Our Lady of the Lakes and Auburn Hills Christian High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in girls softball and girls soccer (varsity and JV) between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 158 students will continue placement of teams in the Division 4 tournaments. Our Lady of the Lakes sponsored both sports previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Catholic High School League was submitted.

Tawas City-Tawas Area High School (Regulation I, Section 7) – A request to waive the previous academic credit record regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who was in and out of school several days during the 2018-19 school year due to poor health, resulting in the student passing less than 66 percent of a full-time student's course load. The student has not completed a make-up course which has been started. He is enrolled in a full course load for the first semester of 2019-20 and seeks to play football.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Jackson Christian High School (Regulation I, Sections 7 & 9) – A request to waive the previous academic credit record and transfer regulations was made on behalf 10th- and 12th-grade siblings whose home and former school in the Bahamas was destroyed by Hurricane Dorian in early September. As a photograph of a report card from the spring of 2019 shows, the student passed sufficient classes under the previous academic credit record regulation, but records with the student's academic and enrollment history did not survive (Interpretation 37). Jackson Christian is attempting to recreate the transcript. The students' parents brought the student and his 10th-grade sister to the home of an aunt and uncle in Jackson and are returning to the Bahamas. The student attended a Christian school in the Bahamas, and Jackson Christian is the closest school of the same denomination to the new residence. The 12th-grade student participated in soccer and basketball while in the Bahamas in 2018-19.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Allen Park-Cabrini High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who reenrolled at Cabrini on Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2019, after attending Riverview High School for one-half school day on Tuesday, Sept. 3. The student attended Cabrini for the 9th grade, played JV basketball and was not involved in athletics at Riverview.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Auburn Hills-Oakland 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 10th-grade student who attended Oakland Christian and moved with his father from Clarkston to a newly purchased home in Rochester and enrolled at Stoney Creek to begin the 2019-20 school year. The student's mother remained at the home in Clarkston. The parents have reconciled, the father will be selling his Rochester home and he and the student will be returning to the Clarkston home, reenrolling at Oakland Christian this month.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver once the elements of a full and complete residential change are met.

Bear Lake High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who began the school year at Bear Lake on Sept. 3, 2019, and enrolled at Muskegon-Orchard View for two school days (Sept. 9-10) before reenrolling at Bear Lake on Monday, Sept. 16. The student played JV girls volleyball for Bear Lake and had no sports participation at Orchard View in the 9th grade. The student attended Orchard View Middle School and moved over the summer with her mother to Bear Lake.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Boyne 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 12th-grade student who was abruptly relocated from his divorced father's home in Central Montcalm to his mother's home in Boyne City that is within the Boyne Falls School District. The mother's home is two miles closer to Boyne City High School than it is to Boyne Falls and just several hundred yards east of the district line. The student enrolled at Boyne City on Aug. 19, 2019. He has participated previously in cross country and track & field. An otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver on the student's 91st school day of enrollment at Boyne City High School, beginning Aug. 19, 2019.

Burton-Genesee Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – On May 5, 2019, the Executive Committee did not approve a request to waive the transfer regulation on behalf of a then 11th-grade student who previously attended Davison, participated in boys soccer and enrolled at Genesee Christian on Jan. 22, 2019. The student left his former school in fear of physical retaliation at the former school. The school requested reconsideration and submitted significant additional information including that the student intends to enter the Marines and was shunned by a group of friends with whom he was disassociating because of unhealthy activity. The claims were substantiated by staff who worked at the former school.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Charlevoix High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who participated in five ski meets as an individual at invitationals for Boyne City, which only had two boys interested and did not sponsor a boys ski team. The student experienced bullying while a student at the former school beginning in the 7th grade and continuing through the 9th grade, causing the student to enroll at Charlevoix to begin the 2019-20 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver. The student will be withheld from the first five ski meets of the 2019-20 season.

Clinton Township-Chippewa Valley High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who played JV ice hockey and experienced bullying while a student at Hartland. The student has moved into his father's home in Anchor Bay and enrolled at Chippewa Valley on Sept. 3, 2019. The student has several friends and families he has known who have attended Chippewa Valley Schools for years. Support for eligibility from the former school was submitted. Chippewa Valley Schools approved his enrollment under a Disability Transfer Request.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver on the student's 91st school day of enrollment at Chippewa Valley High School, beginning Sept. 3, 2019.

Cooks-Big Bay de Noc High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B-3]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who transferred from Manistique to Big Bay De Noc to begin the 2019-20 school year due to social issues at the former school. The student sought participation in basketball. The student and mother moved from Indiana the previous year and the student was not comfortable as an outsider at the former school.

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 an 11th-grade student who attended U of D Jesuit for the 9th and 10th grades and the start of the 2019-20 school year in August before attending Royal Oak for three school days (Sept. 3-5, 2019). The student reenrolled at U of D Jesuit on Monday, Sept. 9.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Farmington High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who sought to enroll at Farmington for its International Baccalaureate Program which was not available at Mercy where the student attended the 9th and 10th grades. The student was troubled by recent racial tensions at the former school.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Flint—Carman-Ainsworth 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 basketball game for Flint Southwestern Classical Academy in the 2018-19 school year while ineligible, which the school forfeited. In the 2018-19 school year, the student moved between parents who are separated from homes within the Flint Southwestern School District. The student played in no other sports other than the one basketball game in 2018-19.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver. The student will be withheld from the first boys basketball game of the 2019-20 season.

Flint—Carman-Ainsworth High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who has moved with his father only from Georgia to a home in the Carman-Ainsworth School District to be nearer extended family. The family bought a new home in Georgia and the student would have missed the first month of school there had the father not relocated to Flint. The mother remains in Georgia and the family intends to return there at a time less disruptive to his schooling. The student played football in Georgia and has interest in football and wrestling at Carman-Ainsworth. By rule, the student will be eligible in wrestling.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver for eligibility in football.

Grand Blanc High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who attended Goodrich for the 9th grade and Grand Blanc for the 10th grade in 2018-19 and participated in football. Over the summer, the student moved between divorced parents and enrolled at Flint—Carman-Ainsworth. Grand Blanc did not sign an Educational Transfer Form. The student attended Carman-Ainsworth for four school days (Sept. 3-6, 2019) before reenrolling at Grand Blanc on Monday, Sept. 9. The student did not play in a scrimmage or game for Carman-Ainsworth. The student attended middle school at Grand Blanc.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Harrison Township-L'Anse Creuse High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who attended L'Anse Creuse for grades 9-11 and played in three football games in the fall of 2018 before enrolling at Sterling Heights-Parkway Christian on Oct. 8, 2018. The student did not play sports at Parkway Christian. The student did not finish the school year at Parkway and reenrolled at L'Anse Creuse on April 16, 2019. The student has not played any sports at either school since the three games last fall and will have missed five games this fall prior to Executive Committee action.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Highland-Milford High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who attended Milford for the 9th and 10th grades and participated in hockey in the 2018-19 school year. The student's parents are divorced and the student enrolled at Hartland to begin the 2019-20 school year, joining five siblings who also attend Hartland Schools. Shortly after the school year started at Hartland on Aug. 21, 2019, the student was having difficulty and sought to return to his former school. Milford contacted the MHSAA on Sept. 6, 2019, regarding changing schools. The father was in Alaska on a hunting trip and unable to give permission for the change of schools as required by the divorce decree. The father returned the week of Sept. 16, and the student's first day of reenrollment at Milford was Monday, Sept. 23. The student did not participate in athletics at Hartland and was in attendance for 22 school days, from Aug. 21-Sept. 20. The student missed 14 days at Milford, which began school on Sept. 3, 2019.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Holland 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 from his mother's home in Muskegon Heights to the home of the mother of two half-brothers – the student's father is also the father of these two half-brothers. The father has never married either the student's mother or the mother of the two half-brothers. The two half-brothers with whom the student is residing attend Holland elementary schools and the student enrolled at Holland High School on Sept. 9, 2019, out of safety concerns. The school requested acceptance of an Educational Transfer Form as the student moves from his biological mother to the mother of his half-brothers. The student's biological father resides in a dwelling not suitable for raising a child. The student played football, basketball and track & field while enrolled at Muskegon Heights in the 2018-19 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver. An Educational Transfer Form is to be completed prior to participation in a scrimmage or contest. No other exception to the transfer rule may be used for this student.

Kalamazoo-Heritage Christian Academy (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Richland-Gull Lake in its home-school partnership program and participated in freshman soccer. Preferring a more traditional, non-home-school learning environment, the student enrolled at Heritage Christian to begin the 2019-20 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Kent 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 four 11th-grade international students from an Approved International Student Program whose host parents reside in the Grant or Ravenna School District. The students enrolled at Kent City because Grant and Ravenna had accepted their quota of international students and would not accept these students. The host coordinator is seeking homes in Kent City but has not been successful to date.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Lawrence 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 11th-grade student from an Approved International Student Program whose host family resides in Kalamazoo and has a son who has been attending Lawrence Schools for the past four years.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Leland High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Lake Leelanau-St. Mary for the 9th grade and enrolled at Leland to begin the 2019-20 school year because the student's large family is currently financially challenged and could no longer afford tuition. The student participated in cross country, basketball and baseball at the former school in 2018-19.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Michigan Center High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student who attended Michigan Center Middle School before changing residences with his divorced mother into Allen Park where the student practiced football in August and played in the preseason scrimmage. Prior to attending classes, the student moved to his father's home in Jackson and reenrolled at Michigan Center on Aug. 28, 2019. The student has missed five games to date and seeks to play subvarsity football at Michigan Center.

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

New Lothrop High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who is a ward of the court and whose placement was changed on Aug. 29, 2019, from a home in Birmingham to a home in Swartz Creek. The new foster parents have found it difficult to continue to transport the student to Brother Rice where he is currently playing football this fall and played basketball in the winter of 2018-19. The new host family's biological children have attended New Lothrop Schools for seven years. The 7th-grade brother of the student in question has been reunited with his brother and is residing with the same family in Swartz Creek. The student remains at Brother Rice and will enroll in November at new Lothrop.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Northville High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Northville Schools through the 8th grade and enrolled at Detroit Catholic Central for the 9th grade and first three weeks of the 2019-20 school year before reenrolling at Northville on Sept. 18, 2019. The student played 9th-grade football in 2018-19 and a preseason scrimmage and three JV football games during the 2019-20 school year at Detroit Catholic Central. The student found it difficult to continue at the former school and encountered incidents that have caused anxiety and stress for this student. The request was to permit participation in the final two JV football games this fall at Northville, or at minimum that the student be eligible for the 2020 football season.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver for football in the 2019-20 school year. The student will be eligible in football in the 2020-21 school year. The student will be withheld from the first three games of that season.

Northville High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Northville Schools through the 9th grade and enrolled at Detroit Catholic Central for the 10th grade to begin the 2019-20 school year. The student did not play football in 2018-19 but played JV lacrosse for Northville this past spring. The student enrolled at Detroit Catholic Central this fall from Aug. 14-Sept. 13, 2019, and played in the preseason scrimmage and three JV football games in the 2019-20 school year. The student found it difficult to continue at the former school and encountered incidents that caused the student to reenroll at Northville on Sept. 18, 2019. The parents recently had the arrival of a fifth child and they have children at four different schools. The request was to permit participation in the final two JV football games this fall at Northville, or at minimum that the student be eligible for the 2020 football season.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver in boys lacrosse or football for the 2019-20 school year. The student will be eligible in football in the 2020-21 school year. The student will be withheld from the first three games of that season.

Parchment 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 12th-grade student from an Approved International Student Program whose host family is unable to transport the student to their school of residence in Kalamazoo. The father works midnights and the mother has been a teacher at Parchment for eight years. The host parents do not have their own children but have distant cousins whose children attend Parchment. The host mother is also an exchange coordinator but worked through another agent to host this international student.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Riverview High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – On June 12, 2019, the Executive Committee did not approve a request to waive the transfer regulation made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who attended Riverview as an 8th-grader and began the 9th grade at Trenton in 2017-18. The student was treated as an outsider and experienced bullying and social exclusion by football teammates through the 9th grade and first half of the 2018-19 school year. The student enrolled at Riverview High School on Dec. 3, 2018. At about this same time, the student's older brother experienced a mental and medical tragedy that caused the student to return to Riverview Schools. A younger sibling continues to attend middle school in Trenton. The school submitted significant additional information from classmates, staff and other parents of the former school that substantiated the original claims.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

St. Joseph-Michigan Lutheran High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – On Aug. 22, 2018, the Executive Committee approved a request to waive the condition of Interpretation 94 that a boarding school have a minimum enrollment of 25 students for the 2018-19 school year, after which the school must have the minimum enrollment of 25 boarding students. After several years operating as a boarding school, Michigan Lutheran had registered to enrolled 26 boarding students in the summer of 2018 and notified the MHSAA of its intention to use the Boarding School Exception and file Educational Transfer Forms for all 10th- through 12th-grade incoming domestic boarding school students and international students in any grade, including 9th grade. In August 2019, the school had 21 students boarding on the first day of school and requested its status be allowed to continue as it anticipated reaching 25 boarding students this school year.

The school did reach 25 boarding school students for the 2018-19 school year, and as of September 10, 2019, there are 21 students in the boarding school program. The school requested its status as a boarding school continue for 2019-20. Five Educational Transfer Forms have been processed this fall for Michigan Lutheran students. The school's total enrollment reported in February 2019 is 103 students. The school has again been licensed by the Department of Education as a boarding school. The transient nature of some of its troubled boarding school students causes the enrollment to fluctuate.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for the 2019-20 school year. Consideration of this question in future years must be received by the Executive Committee at a meeting held prior to the start of school.

South Lyon East High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – 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 has a medical condition and transferred from Milford to South Lyon East midway through his 9th-grade year, on Feb. 4, 2019. The former school did not provide the special education services desired by the student. The student wrestled in 3-4 subvarsity meets in the 2018-19 school year and has not participated in athletics since then. He was adopted from Russia at age four.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver on the student's 91st school day of enrollment at South Lyon East High School, beginning Feb. 4, 2019.

Sterling Heights High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – On March 21, 2019, the Executive Committee did not approve a request to waive the transfer regulation made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended Warren-Cousino, a school of the same district, before enrolling at Sterling Heights on Jan. 22, 2019. The student was diagnosed with a medical issue in 2016 and changed schools in mid-year because of stress imposed by other students. The student participated in cross country, swimming & diving and JV basketball at her former school and was interested in playing girls soccer in the spring of 2018-19. The school requested reconsideration and submitted significant additional information that included new substantiation of her health concerns from a former coach and current teacher. The student sought to participate in the remainder of the cross country season, basketball and girls soccer and has played no athletics since enrolling in January 2019.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

West Bloomfield High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who was physically assaulted on two occasions during the winter of 2018-19 by classmates at the student's previous school. Two personal protection orders were issued against the students involved in the assaults. The student enrolled at West Bloomfield on March 11, 2019. The student participated in basketball at the former school. Support for eligibility was presented by the former school.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Byron Center High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 241, a request to waive the four-player rule for the 2019-20 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 250 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 20 girls and 15 boys from Byron Center Schools in grades 7-12 will participate in the BCD program in 2019-20. The former Byron Center coach has been granted a waiver for employment in this program previously. The current coach is in his first year at Byron Center.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this coach for the 2019-20 school year.

Grand Rapids-Forest Hills Central, Forest Hills Northern and Ada-Forest Hills Eastern High Schools (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 241, a request to waive the four-player rule for the 2019-20 school year was made on behalf of the newly hired girls gymnastics coach whose primary source of income is coaching Grand Rapids Gymnastics. This program includes 460 students from many local school districts including Lowell, Greenville, Jenison, East Grand Rapids and the three Forest Hills schools which are members of this cooperative program. Generally, this coach instructs participants ages 4-11 with limited involvement of eight students above the 7th grade.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this coach for the 2019-20 school year.

Highland-Milford High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 241, a request to waive the four-player rule for the 2019-20 school year was made on behalf of the girls gymnastics coach who is employed full-time by the Huron Valley Recreation and Community Education Department and runs the Huron Valley Gymnastics youth program. The Huron Valley Gymnastics Program is open to the public, and for 2019-20, has 120 participants ages 18 months to 18 years. Twenty-four students are current members of the Milford gymnastics team, 96 are 8th grade or below. In addition to Huron Valley Schools, the program involves students from, Holly, Walled Lake, and Waterford School Districts as well as several nonpublic schools. Milford and White Lake-Lakeland participate in a cooperative gymnastics program. Waiver has been approved for this coach and program in previous years.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this coach for the 2019-20 school year.

Jackson High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 241, a request to waive the four-player rule for the 2019-20 school year was made on behalf of the girls gymnastics coach of a six-team cooperative program (Concord, Grass Lake, Napoleon, Jackson, Lumen Christi and Jackson-Northwest). She has been the head gymnastics coach of this program for nine years. She is also the owner and lead instructor of SASGC Gymnastics. This program is open to the public and is the coach's primary job and source of income. The program has over 80 participants ages 5-26, and approximately 27 girls grades 7-12 would be in the program from among the schools in the cooperative program. Other participants are from a dozen schools in this area of the state. This request has been approved previously for this coach and program.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this coach for the 2019-20 school year.

Midland-H. H. Dow High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 241, a request to waive the four-player rule for the 2019-20 school year was made on behalf of the boys swimming & diving coach who is employed full-time by the Kronos Aquatics Club. The Kronos Aquatics Club is open to the public, and for 2019-20 is anticipated to include approximately 23 participants ages 15-21. The program involves college-age students, students from Freeland, Pinconning and Midland High Schools, and five participants from the H. H. Dow boys swim team. A similar request has been approved for this coach and program each year since the 2014-15 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this coach for the 2019-20 school year.

Bay City-All Saints and Bay City Academy Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of boys basketball (7th and 8th grades combined) to a cooperative program that exists in 8-player football and girls basketball between these two member middle schools. All Saints sponsored these sports previously and will be the primary school.

Bay City-Handy and Auburn-Bay City Western Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in wrestling (6th, 7th and 8th grades combined) between these two member middle schools of the same district. Bay City Western Middle School sponsored wrestling previously, but Handy will be the primary school.

Fairview and Mio AuSable Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls cross country (6th, 7th and 8th grades combined) between these two member middle schools. Fairview sponsored cross country previously and will be the primary school.

Martin and East Martin Christian Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these two member middle schools in boys and girls cross country, wrestling, boys and girls track & field (6th, 7th and 8th grades combined), and football (7th and 8th grades combined). Martin sponsored the sports previously and will be the primary school. East Martin Christian is a returning MHSAA member middle school.

Paw Paw and Lawrence Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in wrestling (6th, 7th and 8th grades combined) between these two member middle schools. Paw Paw sponsored wrestling previously and will be the primary school.

Cross Country Middle School Contest Limits & MHSAA Presenting Sponsor (Regulation IV, Section 10) – The Executive Committee considered if middle schools which participate in one of two cross country meets this fall where the MHSAA is a presenting sponsor can do so without counting it as one of the ten dates of competition allowed under Regulation IV, Section 10.

The Executive Committee determined that individual school teams may be given this allowance by MHSAA staff on a case-by-case basis in advance of the competition, depending on schedules and other factors.

Brighton-Livingston Christian Academy Middle School Membership – Pursuant to Article II, Section 2 of the MHSAA Constitution, this middle school, whose enrollment has fallen to 12 students, requested to continue its membership for the 2019-20 school year. The school does not have a 7th grade this year and the decrease below the 15-student minimum is temporary. Livingston Christian Middle School was a member school from 2013-2018 but was not a member in 2018-19, due in part to staff changes and the relocation of its school building. The high school has an enrollment of 63 students and needs 8th-graders to field some teams. It does not currently sponsor middle school teams.

The Executive Committee approved membership for this middle school for the 2019-20 school year.

New Member School – 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:

Boyne City-Concord Academy Boyne is a 9-12 grade charter school chartered by Lake Superior State University and managed by Lakeshore Management Company. Concord Academy Boyne is loosely affiliated with another new MHSAA member school – Concord Academy Petoskey. Concord Academy Boyne began in 2000 and has 160 K-12 students with a high school enrollment of 40 students. Membership is also submitted for the junior high school. At present, Concord Academy Boyne does not belong to a league or conference nor does it intend to sponsor any stand-alone teams. The school hopes to form cooperative programs with Boyne Falls. The school has outdoor field space but no gymnasium. An Athletic Department Code of Conduct was 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. Under the regulations, a new member school may participate in cooperative programs once approved by the Executive Committee.

Future Meetings – The next meetings of the Executive Committee are scheduled for 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).