

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Virtual, November 6, 2024

9:00 a.m.

Committee Members:

Scott Grimes, Grand Haven
John Thompson, Brighton
Vic Michaels, Detroit
Anna Rigby, Harbor Springs
Chris Riker, Portage

Staff Members:

Cody Inglis
Mark Uyl (Recorder)

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

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

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

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

The Executive Committee is not authorized to approve waiver based on alleged or actual differences between schools based on “environment,” demographics, curriculum or extracurricular offerings nor to change schools for athletics, discipline, or family finances. A determination of undue hardship is a matter addressed to the discretion of the Executive Committee within the educational philosophy and secondary role of voluntary extracurricular competitive athletics in the academic environment. The Executive Committee will avoid making exceptions that would create precedent that effectively changes a rule without Representative Council action or local board of education adoption, which would exceed Executive Committee authority. The agreement the MHSAA has with member schools obligates the MHSAA to not change rules during the school year.

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

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

Harbor Springs-Harbor Light Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a request to allow the use of 7th-grade student-athletes in their athletic programs. Harbor Light Christian will have 57 students in grades 9-12 for the 2024-25 school year. The request came to the Executive Committee with specific numbers, causes, and rationale about the positive impact of using 7th-graders at Harbor Light Christian in their girls basketball program and with league support.

Hillsdale Academy (Regulation I, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a request to allow the use of 8th-grade student-athletes in their athletic programs. Hillsdale Academy has 111 students in grades 9-12 for the 2024-25 school year. The request came to the Executive Committee with rationale about the positive impact of using 8th-graders in the Hillsdale Academy athletic program for the 2024-25 school year. League support was also received. This waiver was previously granted in the 2023-24 school year for Hillsdale Academy.

Lake Leelanau-St. Mary High School (Regulation 1, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a request to allow the use of 7th-grade student-athletes in their boys basketball programs. St. Mary High School has 57 students in grades 9-12 for the 2024-25 school year. The request came to the Executive Committee with rationale about the positive impact of using 7th-graders in the St. Mary boys basketball program for the 2024-25 school year. League support was also received.

Marion High School (Regulation I, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a request to allow the use of 8th-grade student-athletes in their athletic programs. Marion High School has 112 students in grades 9-12 for the 2024-25 school year. The request came to the Executive Committee with rationale about the positive impact of using 8th-graders in the Marion athletic program for the 2024-25 school year. League support was also received.

Pittsford High School (Regulation I, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a request to allow the use of 8th-grade student-athletes in their athletic programs. Pittsford High School has 121 students in grades 9-12 for the 2024-25 school year. The request came to the Executive Committee with rationale about the positive impact of using 8th-graders in the Pittsford athletic program for the 2024-25 school year. League support was also received.

Bad Axe and Harbor Beach High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in girls soccer (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 460 students will place the team in Division 3, removing two teams from Division 4. Bad Axe will be the primary school. Support from the Big Thumb Conference was submitted.

Bay City Central, Frankenmuth, Freeland and Saginaw-Swan Valley High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Swan Valley to an existing cooperative program in boys lacrosse (varsity and JV) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 2,675 students will place the team in Division 1, making no changes to the divisional assignments. Bay City Central would remain the primary school. Support from the Saginaw Valley League was submitted.

Carney-Nadeau and Powers-North Central High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in softball (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 162 students will place the team in Division 4, making no change to divisional assignments. Carney-Nadeau will be the primary school. Support from potential future opponents was submitted.

Cedar Springs, Greenville and Grand Rapids-Kenowa Hills High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls skiing (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 2,976 students will place the team in Division 1, adding one team to the division. Cedar Springs will be the primary school. Support from the River Cities Alliance was submitted.

Detroit-University Prep Academy, Detroit-University Prep Art & Design and Detroit-University Prep Science & Math High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E-2]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in baseball (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 1,460 students will place the team in Division 1, removing one school from both Division 2 and Division 3. University Prep Academy will be the primary school. Support from the Charter School Conference was submitted.

Detroit-University Prep Art & Design, Detroit-University Prep Academy and Detroit-University Prep Science & Math High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E-2]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in softball (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 1,460 students will place the team in Division 1, removing one school from Division 2. University Prep Art & Design will be the primary school. Support from the Charter School Conference was submitted.

Grand Rapids Christian and Hudsonville-Unity Christian High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in girls lacrosse (varsity and JV) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 1,453 students will place the team in Division 2, removing one team from the division. Grand Rapids Christian will be the primary school. Support from the OK Conference was submitted.

Grand Rapids-Kenowa Hills, Coopersville, Grand Rapids-Northview and Grand Rapids-West Catholic High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in gymnastics (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment will be 3,447 students. Kenowa Hills will be the primary school.

Houghton and Dollar Bay High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved cooperative programs in baseball and softball (varsity and JV) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 592 students will place the team in Division 2, making no change to divisional assignments. Houghton will be the primary school. Support from potential future opponents was submitted.

Lansing Catholic, Lansing-Waverly, Lansing Christian and Bath High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Bath to an existing cooperative program in girls lacrosse (varsity and JV) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 1,833 students will place the team in Division 1, removing one team from Division 2. Lansing Catholic will be the primary school. Support from the Capital Area Activities Conference was submitted.

Maple City-Glen Lake, Leland and Lake Leelanau-St. Mary High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in girls tennis (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 391 students will place the team in Division 4, making no change to divisional assignments. Glen Lake will be the primary school. Support from potential future opponents was submitted.

Menominee and Stephenson High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in wrestling (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 478 students will place the team in Division 3, making no change to divisional assignments. Menominee will be the primary school. Support from potential future opponents was submitted.

Muskegon Catholic Central and Fruitport-Calvary Christian High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E])

– The Executive Committee approved cooperative programs in boys and girls track & field (varsity only) in 2024-25 and boys and girls cross country (varsity only) beginning in 2025-26. The combined enrollment of 157 students will place the team in Division 4 for track & field, removing one team from the division. Muskegon Catholic Central will be the primary school.

Ontonagon and Ewen-Trout Creek High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E])

– The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in softball (varsity, JV and freshman) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 138 students will place the team in Division 4, making no change to divisional assignments. Ontonagon will be the primary school. Support from the Copper Mountain Conference was submitted.

Powers-North Central and Carney-Nadeau High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E])

– The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in baseball (varsity and JV) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 162 students will place the team in Division 4, making no change to divisional assignments. North Central will be the primary school. Support from potential future opponents was submitted.

Southfield Christian and Novi Christian Academy High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E])

– The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in softball (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 255 students will place the team in Division 3, removing one team from Division 4. Southfield Christian will be the primary school. Support from the Michigan Independent Athletic Conference was submitted.

Sterling Heights-Utica Ford II and Utica High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1])

– The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in girls lacrosse (varsity only) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 3,264 students will place the team in Division 1, removing one team from Division 2. Utica Ford will be the primary school. Support from the Macomb Area Conference was submitted.

Utica and Shelby Township-Utica Eisenhower High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E-2])

– The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls bowling (varsity and JV) between these schools. The combined enrollment of 3,878 students will place the team in Division 1, removing one team from the division. Utica will be the primary school. Support from the Macomb Area Conference was submitted.

Covert High School (Regulation I, Sections 4 & 5)

– A request to waive the maximum enrollment and maximum competition rules of the eligibility regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who is in his 9th semester of high school. The student participated in soccer at Covert High School and has already been enrolled in four first and four second semesters in his high school career. The student did not have the family or academic support needed during his high school career and did not participate in athletics until his 11th-grade year. The student has now had positive family changes as well as academic support at school which have changed his path in a good way. Covert is requesting athletic eligibility in all sports in what will be the student's fifth year of high school during 2024-25.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

West Bloomfield High School (Regulation I, Sections 4 & 5) – A request to waive the maximum enrollment and maximum competition rules of the eligibility regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who will be in his 9th semester of high school next school year. The student has participated in football and basketball at West Bloomfield High School after he attended both Brother Rice High School and Avondale High Schools' virtual program. The student went through a challenging situation with his parent's divorce and a subsequent custody battle. The student did not attend a second semester of his 9th-grade year and got behind academically. When he enrolled at West Bloomfield, he was a 10th-grader because of deficient credits. The student has now had positive family changes, received support, is living with his mother and has academically gotten back on track. West Bloomfield requested athletic eligibility in all sports during what will be the student's fifth year of high school in 2025-26.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Westland-John Glenn High School (Regulation I, Sections 4 & 5) – A second request to waive the maximum enrollment and maximum competition rules of the eligibility regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who attends the John Glenn High School Virtual program. The student withdrew from John Glenn High School after his 11th-grade year and transferred to PSAT Academy, a prep school in Texas, but had numerous challenges and unenrolled in October of 2023 and did not attend any school the rest of the school year. He reenrolled in John Glenn to start the 2024-25 school year. Because of these issues, the family requested athletic eligibility during what will be the student's fifth year of high school in 2024-25. New information was submitted about the challenges the student faced.

The Executive Committee did not approve 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 attended Taylor High School and transferred after the 2024-25 school year started on September 16, 2024. The student competed in seven soccer matches and will not compete the rest of the 2024-25 season. The student also competed in two track & field meets in 2023-24. The new school request was for eligibility after two track & field competitions in the 2024-25 season and after seven dates of competition in the 2025-26 soccer season.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver after two track meets and seven dates of soccer competition.

Allen Park-Inter-City Baptist High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation, specifically Interpretation #62 (closest non-public school to a new residence), was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who competed in the previous school year in JV basketball at Allen Park High School. The student transferred from Allen Park to Inter-City Baptist High School after his family moved from Texas to Allen Park just prior to his 9th-grade year. Since arriving in Michigan, the family completed another move to Taylor from Allen Park, where Cabrini is the closest non-public school to his new residence. The family desired to have the student attend Inter-City Baptist because of their Baptist faith that they have long practiced. The family provided letters from the former church in Texas and the new church in Michigan to confirm this fact. The request was for immediate eligibility in basketball at Inter-City Baptist during the 2024-25 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Belleville High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the sport-specific transfer rule was made on behalf of a 10th-grader who enrolled at Belleville High School to start the 2024-25 school year after being a student at Detroit Catholic Central High School for his 9th-grade year. The student was enrolled in Belleville School District from K-8th-grade. During a court proceeding, the mother and father determined that the student should go to Detroit Catholic Central for his 9th-grade year, but this arrangement quickly deteriorated because of several issues. The multiple family issues has created a challenging situation for this student and he desired to return to Belleville to start anew. Belleville requested immediate eligibility in basketball.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Berkley High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive exception #8 (move between divorced parents with a signed Educational Transfer Form) was made for a student who transferred from Clawson High School to Berkley High School to live with his mother instead of his father. The 12th-grade student attended Clawson for his first three years of high school and lived with his father in Clawson. The student started the 2024-25 school year off by moving to his mother's house in Berkley and requested the use of the ETF to gain athletic eligibility. Clawson determined that the transfer was motivated primarily by athletics and supplied evidence including emails and social media posts regarding the transfer. The family provided the perspective of challenges of living with his father because of a job change as the reasons for the transfer. The school asked for a waiver of the requirement that both schools need to sign the ETF given this evidence and requested immediate athletic eligibility in wrestling.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Brighton High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who transferred from Dexter High School to start the 2024-25 school year. While at Dexter, the student participated in girls lacrosse. The student experienced health issues during the spring of her 9th-grade year. The other student involved is still at Dexter and the family determined a new school was important to have the student continue her recovery. The new school asked for immediate eligibility in girls lacrosse based on the circumstances. Documentation from the former school was received along with social media screenshots.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Brooklyn-Columbia Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9[C]) – A request was made to waive Regulation I, Section 9(C) and Interpretation 62 (closest public school to the new residence) for a 10th-grade student who transferred from Jackson-Northwest High School to Columbia Central High School for the start of the 2024-25 school year. The student participated in hockey during the 2023-24 school year for the Jackson United hockey team, which involves both schools. The student and family changed residences from Jackson to Jerome to help care for his elderly grandmother, and the new residence is in the Addison attendance area. The student has previously attended Columbia Central schools and has two younger siblings enrolled there. Jackson-Northwest has provided documentation showing written support for the student's eligibility in the ice hockey cooperative programs as a student at Columbia Central during the 2024-25 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Chelsea High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student at Chelsea High School, who previously participated at Ann Arbor-Father Gabriel Richard High School in wrestling as a 9th-grader. The student now attends Chelsea after leaving Father Gabriel Richard because he experienced social and academic challenges. The student had previously attended Chelsea as an elementary and middle school student and thought a new experience at Father Gabriel Richard would work well. After his struggles at Father Gabriel Richard, the family felt that returning to his home school would help his well-being. The request was for immediate eligibility in wrestling at Chelsea. Support from the former school was included. New documentation included letters from the Chelsea staff members and new information from the family.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Clinton Township-Chippewa Valley High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation, specifically Interpretation #62 (closest public school to the new residence), was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who transferred to Chippewa Valley High School after making a full and complete move from North Carolina with her family over the summer because of a forced job change for the father. The family found a house in the Utica School District and made a school-of-choice decision to attend Chippewa Valley for diversity and other opportunities. The new school is asking for immediate eligibility in basketball for the student. New information and documentation were submitted with the second request, including the student's Native American heritage, equity issues, and the fact that she was injured much of the past two seasons in basketball while in North Carolina. The school again requested immediate eligibility in basketball this school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Flint-Kearsley High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who transferred back to Kearsley High School in early October after transferring from Kearsley to Clio High School to start the 2024-25 school year. While at Clio this fall, the student competed in golf. Last year, while at Kearsley, the student participated in volleyball, competitive cheer, and softball. The student and family have always lived in the Kearsley attendance area. The student desires to compete at Kearsley in the same sports she participated in last school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Flint-Powers Catholic High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student at Flint-Powers Catholic High School, who previously attended and competed in competitive cheer and softball at Swartz Creek High School as a 9th-grader. The student and family made the decision to transfer to Powers Catholic after many years of bullying and harassment. School administration and police were involved in the incidents which started while the student was in 6th grade and continued until the student transferred to Powers Catholic this year. Police reports, social media, and letters were provided as supporting documentation. The request was for immediate eligibility in competitive cheer and softball.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Gwinn High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for a 12th-grade student. The student transferred to Link Learning Virtual School to address academic challenges at the start of the second semester of the 2023-24 school year. The student participated on the Gwinn High School basketball team during the first semester in a limited number of games. The student has regained his academic credit and standing and is back at Gwinn, on track to graduate, and desires to play basketball again. The student did not compete in any sports while away from Gwinn. The request was for immediate eligibility in basketball.

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 12th-grade student who attended Muskegon High School as a 9th-11th-grade student, where he competed in wrestling during the 2023-24 school year. The student has now transferred to Holland High School to live with his aunt so he can graduate from high school. The student was deemed to be homeless under the McKinney-Vento federal law by Holland Public Schools. The request was for immediate eligibility in wrestling at Holland for the 2024-25 school year. Supporting documentation of the student's homeless status was provided along with a letter from the former school.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Hudsonville High School (Regulation I, Section 9[C]) – A request was made to waive Regulation I, Section 9(C), for an 11th-grade student who transferred from Hudsonville-Unity Christian High School to Hudsonville High School for the start of the 2024-25 school year. The student participated in hockey during the 2023-24 school year. Unity Christian and Hudsonville have a cooperative agreement in ice hockey, so 9(C) would apply by rule as a request. Unity Christian has provided documentation showing written support for the student's eligibility in the ice hockey cooperative programs as a student at Hudsonville during the 2024-25 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Imlay City High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who attended Yale High School until September 18, 2024. At that time, she and her younger sibling transferred to Imlay City High School. The student competed in competitive cheer and girls soccer while at Yale. The request was for immediate eligibility in girls soccer at Imlay City. The student transferred to Imlay City, wanting a fresh start after being falsely accused of making a school threat. The former school submitted a letter of support for the transfer along with a detailed outline of the situation.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Jackson-Lumen Christi High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to appeal the eligibility status was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who came to Chelsea on an F-1 Visa to start the 2023-24 school year at Chelsea High School from Germany with his father, who works in the automotive industry. The student competed in basketball and golf while at Chelsea. Because of the F-1 Visa regulations, the student had to leave Chelsea and enroll in a private school if he wanted to stay in the USA. The student chose the closest non-public school to his residence, Lumen Christi High School. The father is pursuing citizenship for himself and his son but that can't commence until they have lived in the USA for 912 days. This will take the student into his 12th-grade year before this is finalized. Lumen Christi requested immediate athletic eligibility in basketball and golf for the student during this time. Documentation included a letter from the father describing the steps they have taken to gain citizenship and legal documents.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Kalamazoo-Loy Norrix High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an 11th-grade student who attended Kalamazoo Central High School for his 9th and 10th-grade years and competed in basketball and track. The student transferred to Loy Norrix High School to start the 2024-25 school year after his mother had to provide healthcare for her parents. This caused the student to move to his uncle's home in Portage, but close to Loy Norrix, which resulted in the transfer to Loy Norrix. The request was for immediate eligibility in basketball and track.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Linden-Lake Fenton High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who transferred to Lake Fenton High School from Milford High School at the start of the 2024-25 school year. The student decided to change schools because a student who was involved in an incident was still at Milford. The student participated in competitive cheer at the former school. The family felt that the new start at Lake Fenton will allow the student to relieve anxiety and remove herself from the behavior she endured. Documentation included medical records, police reports, and a timeline of events.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Martin High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an 11th-grade student who attended Centreville High School during their 9th and 10th-grade years and participated in football, wrestling, and baseball. The student transferred to Martin High School, to live with a family friend whom he knows from playing travel baseball. The student and family desired a new start because the student was removed from the Centreville baseball team by the head coach. The student struggled at Centreville with this decision and the family took the important step to get a fresh start at Martin for his 11th-grade year. The request was for immediate eligibility in all sports for the 2024-25 school year at Martin. Documentation was included about the situation in the form of letters from the family. New information presented included the impact that this incident has had on the student's mental health and highlights how the previous school could not support the student, this includes letters of support and a new timeline.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Monroe High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an 11th-grade student who attended Monroe-St. Mary Catholic Central High School in the 2023-24 school year and competed in football and wrestling. The student transferred to Monroe High School to start the 2024-25 school year after experiencing challenges with other students via in-person and social media bullying and harassment. The issues resulted in the family determining that a new start was desired at a different school. St. Mary Catholic Central supported the change of school for the student. The request was for immediate eligibility in wrestling after two competitions at Monroe based upon the fact that the student participated in only two wrestling competitions at St. Mary Catholic Central in the 2023-24 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver after two dates of wrestling competition.

Monroe-Jefferson High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of 10th and 12th-grade brothers who transferred to Jefferson High School to start the 2024-25 school year after attending Gibraltar-Carlson High School for their academic careers. The students competed in wrestling at Carlson and live in the Jefferson attendance area. The students transferred to Jefferson because of issues with school and the younger brother's challenges and the family determined a new start and school was necessary. The former school supported the transfer and eligibility for both students with a letter of support. Other documentation included text and social media posts, notes from school investigations, and summaries of the timelines from the parents and students.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Muskegon Catholic Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the sport specific transfer rule was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who enrolled at Muskegon Catholic Central High School for the 2024-25 school year after attending Muskegon High School for her 9th and 10th-grade years. The student struggled with persistent bullying from teammates. The request was for immediate eligibility in basketball. New information included an email conversation between the parents and the Muskegon Public Schools superintendent as well as support from a therapist and the students education plan.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

New Haven-Merritt Academy (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation was made for an 11th-grade student who attended Richmond High School for his 9th and 10th-grade years and competed in basketball and baseball. The student transferred to Merritt Academy to start the 2024-25 school year after experiencing challenges that resulted in visits to a counselor. The family determined a new start was wanted at a different school. Richmond supported the change of school for the student. The request was for immediate eligibility in basketball and baseball. New information received included an updated letter detailing more specifically the challenges the student has been working through.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Northville High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation was made for a 12th-grade student who competed in competitive cheer the previous year at St. Catherine of Siena High School. The student transferred to Northville High School for the 2024-25 school year because. The request was for immediate eligibility in competitive cheer at Northville. New information included letters from medical professionals and a letter from the parent indicating why this transfer was desired for the student's well-being.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Pewamo-Westphalia High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who transferred from Ovid-Elsie High School to start the 2024-25 school year. While at Ovid-Elsie, the student participated in track & field. The student only competed in two meets at Ovid-Elsie prior to her hospitalization and the new school asked for immediate eligibility in track & field based on the circumstances. Documentation and support from the former school were received along with medical records.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for immediate eligibility.

Pontiac-Notre Dame Prep High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Rochester High School and competed in sideline cheer, competitive cheer, and track & field in her 9th-grade year. While in competitive cheer, she suffered a season-ending injury while stunting and only competed in three competitions. The student and family felt a change in school environments was important because of concerns about social media activity as well as the physical and psychological challenges she faced in her recovery from her injury. The family desired to start fresh in the student's academic and athletic high school experiences. The school request was for eligibility in competitive cheer at Notre Dame Prep High School after three competitions in the 2024-25 season.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver after three cheer dates of competition.

Rochester-Adams High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer rule was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who transferred from Rochester Hills-Stoney Creek High School to Adams High School after her 11th-grade year. During the 2023-24 school year, the student changed schools wanting a fresh start. The student participated in girls basketball at Stoney Creek and desired to do the same at Adams for her senior year. The new school requested eligibility in girls basketball for the 2024-25 school year on behalf of the student.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Saline High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student who has transferred from Dexter High School to Saline High School. The student attended Dexter where she played volleyball and basketball for her 9th-grade year before transferring to start trimester 3 at Saline. While at Dexter, the student experienced challenges with the basketball program. The parents felt a move to a different district would help with these issues. Saline requested a waiver for immediate athletic eligibility in basketball. Documentation included letters of support, medical letters, and email exchanges between the parents and schools involved. New information submitted included updated letters from the family, student, and a social worker who worked with the student. In addition, emails from the former school were included.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Traverse City Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who transferred to Traverse City Christian High School from Kingsley High School to start the 2024-25 school year. The student attended Kingsley as a 9th-grader and played basketball. A fresh start was desired, and the student's younger brother already attends Traverse City Christian. The school request was for immediate eligibility in basketball.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Warren-De La Salle High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 11th-grade student at De La Salle High School. The student transferred from Oak Park High School for the start of the 2024-25 school year. The student participated in basketball at Oak Park in only three games because of injury in 2023-24. The request was for immediate eligibility in basketball after three games at De La Salle. The former school has confirmed the number of games played.

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

Wayne Memorial High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation, specifically Interpretation #62 (closest public school to his new residence) was made on behalf of an incoming 10th-grade student who transferred from Romulus-Summit Academy North at the end of the 2023-24 school year. While at Summit Academy North, the student competed in basketball. The student struggled with the dismissal of a staff member and was traumatized because of this. The student decided to move to his father's home in Taylor to get a new start after he was homeschooled for the second semester in the 2023-24 school year. The student has attended therapy and felt that a new start in a new school would help aid his recovery. The new school asked for eligibility in basketball based on the circumstances.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

East Grand Rapids High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 241, a request to waive the four-player rule for the 2024-25 school year was made on behalf of the boys and girls swimming & diving coach employed full-time by the East Grand Rapids Aquatics USA Swim Club. The program will have over 200 participants, ages 6-college age, of which approximately 80 are East Grand Rapids students in grades 7-12. Approximately 40 participants come from seven other schools or districts (Byron Center, Caledonia, Grand Rapids-Catholic Central, Grand Rapids Christian, Grand Rapids Public Schools, Rockford, and the Forest Hills Schools). A similar request has been approved for this program since 2012-13.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

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

Quincy and Coldwater-St. Charles Borromeo Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in competitive cheer (6th, 7th and 8th grades combined) between these schools. Quincy will be the primary school.

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

Kalamazoo-Path of Life High School is a faith-based independent school not affiliated or connected to a specific church designed to give a faith based education to students in the Edison neighborhood of Kalamazoo who are underprivileged. The school campus has a standalone middle school building and a high school in a rented space at St. Joseph Catholic Church. The school has been in operation since 2010 and has 20 students in grades 9-12. The school also has a middle school called Tree of Life Middle School, and the strategic plan has a new school building, as the current building is maxed to capacity. The school curriculum is focused on a school-to-work model. The school currently sponsors athletic programs in boys and girls basketball and girls volleyball. They would like to investigate a cooperative agreement with other schools to offer football. MHSAA staff conducted an on-site visit on August 19, 2024. An Athletic Department Code of Conduct and Handbook were submitted. A signed 2024-25 Membership Resolution and Preliminary Classification Form were also received. The school is requesting MHSAA membership starting in the 2025-26 school year and will be eligible for MHSAA tournaments in 2026-27. Under the regulations, a new member school may immediately participate in approved cooperative programs, beginning in 2025-26, provided a 2025-26 Membership Resolution is submitted. The athletic director will attend the new AD In-service at the MHSAA in the future.

Next Meetings – Thursday, December 5 at 9 a.m. – Virtual (Representative Council meets the next day); Wednesday, January 8, 2025 at 9 a.m. – Virtual; Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 9 a.m. – Virtual; Thursday, March 20, 2025 at 9 a.m. – Virtual; Wednesday, April 9, 2025 at 9 a.m. – Virtual.