

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

East Lansing, August 27, 2013

Members Present:

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

Staff Members Present:

Tom Rashid
Jack Roberts (Recorder)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Ann Arbor-Gabriel Richard and Whitmore Lake High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys swimming & diving between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 904 students will place a new team in the Division 3 tournament. Neither school sponsored the sport previously. Gabriel Richard will be the primary school. Support from the Catholic High School League was received.

AuGres-Sims and Twining-Arenac Eastern High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E])- The Executive Committee approved the addition of boys basketball, girls softball and baseball to a cooperative program in that currently exists in football, girls volleyball and boys and girls track & field. The combined enrollment of 204 students will place a new team in the Class C Boys Basketball Tournament and one team in the Division 4 Softball and Baseball Tournaments. Both schools sponsored the sports previously. AuGres-Sims will be the primary school. Support from the North Star League was submitted.

Beverly Hills-Groves and Birmingham-Seaholm High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of boys and girls bowling to a cooperative program between these two schools of the same district for a three-year period through the 2015-16 school year (new sport startup provision). Neither school has sponsored bowling previously; Groves will be the primary school. The combined enrollment of 2,611 students will place a team in the Division 1 tournament. A cooperative program already exists between these schools in ice hockey and girls gymnastics. Support from the Oakland Activities Association was submitted.

Calumet and Lake Linden-Hubbell High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls bowling between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 559 students will place a new team in the Division 3 tournament. Neither school sponsored bowling previously; Calumet will be the primary school. Support from the UP Bowling Conference was submitted.

Elsie—Ovid-Elsie and Ashley High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in wrestling and boys swimming & diving between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 640 students will continue placement of teams in Division 3 of both Wrestling and Swimming Tournaments. Ovid-Elsie sponsored both sports previously and will be the primary school. Support from several future opponents was received for the swimming agreement. Support from the Tri-Valley Conference was submitted.

Fraser and Sterling Heights-Utica Ford II High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – Application was made with a request to waive the 3,500-student limit for an ice hockey cooperative program between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 3,693 students would place a new team in the Division 1 tournament. Fraser has sponsored ice hockey for the past six years, has a full schedule of league and non-league games, and reports it has only 11 returning players. Utica Ford II dropped the sport a few years ago and could contribute three to five players. Support from the Macomb Area Conference has been submitted.

Citing the history that led to the consideration and phased-in adoption of the 3,500-student limit, and the actions of many schools to comply with the limit during the past dozen years, the Executive Committee determined that the limit should not be waived in this case; otherwise, it would create precedent that would effectively remove a numerical limit which the Representative Council studied thoroughly and specifically approved. The request for waiver was not approved.

Grand Rapids-Kenowa Hills, Grandville and Grand Rapids-West Catholic High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of West Catholic to a cooperative program in girls gymnastics which has existed between Kenowa Hills and Grandville since 2000. The combined enrollment will be 3,405 students. Kenowa Hills will continue as the primary school. Support from the OK Conference was submitted.

Grand Rapids-Union, Grand Rapids-Ottawa Hills and Grand Rapids-West Michigan Aviation Academy (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – A request was made to waive the Aug. 15 deadline for submitting a winter sports cooperative program application in ice hockey between these three schools. Grand Rapids-Creston High School, which had been a part of the cooperative program, closed at the end of the 2012-13 school year. The cooperative team renewal was submitted in the spring to renew the program between Union and Ottawa Hills. West Michigan Aviation is in its first full year of MHSAA membership. The combined enrollment of the three schools would be 3,472 students, continuing placement of a team in the Division 1 tournament.

Because the request involves the addition of a school to an existing cooperative program and does not alter any MHSAA tournament divisions, the Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids-West Catholic, Cedar Springs and Coopersville High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Coopersville to a cooperative program in ice hockey which has existed between West Catholic and Cedar Springs since 2010. The combined enrollment of 2,114 students will place a new team in the Division 1 tournament. West Catholic will continue as the primary school. Support from the OK Conference was submitted.

Holt, Eaton Rapids and Portland High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Portland High School to a cooperative program in ice hockey which was formed last year between Holt, Eaton Rapids and Potterville. Potterville is withdrawing as it has no students interested. The combined enrollment of 3,282 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 1 tournament. Holt will continue as the primary school. Support from the Capital Area Activities Conference was submitted.

Ironwood-LL Wright and Bessemer-AD Johnston High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee tabled until not later than its Sept. 10 meeting an application for a cooperative program in boys and girls alpine skiing between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 425 students would continue placement of a team in the Division 2 tournament. LL Wright sponsored skiing previously and would be the primary school. Support from the league or future opponents has not been received.

Grand Rapids-NorthPointe Christian High School (Regulation I, Sections 2, 4 & 5) – On Sept. 11, 2012, the Executive Committee did not approve a request made on behalf of a 12th-grade student to interpret documentation to establish the student's age as 17 years and to waive the transfer regulation. The Executive Committee determined that the documentation that was provided indicated the student completed the 11th and 12th grades in Ethiopia before enrollment in Michigan and had no more interscholastic eligibility at any MHSAA member school, irrespective of issues related to age and transfer rules. The student was rescued from the Ethiopia trash yards by a faith-based project and placed in a Christian orphanage for two years before coming to a host family in the summer of 2012 whose residence is closest to NorthPointe Christian. It was asserted that the student's actual birthday of 11-28-95 was altered on his passport and other documents to 11-28-92, thinking it was easier to relocate the student from Ethiopia if he were older.

Since that time, the school has provided a new Ethiopian birth certificate with a date of birth of 11-28-95 and documentation that explains the Ethiopian educational system and this student's education. Due to his living conditions, the student attended school sparingly and was brought to a boarding school at the end of 8th grade where he was tested and then placed directly into a college preparatory track which was later noted as grades 11 and 12. It was reported that students are tested in Ethiopia at grade 8 and 10 and placed accordingly, and that this student was placed in the college preparatory track but only completed four semesters of school in Ethiopia before coming to NorthPointe Christian in 2012-13, making the 2012-13 school year the fifth and sixth semesters of schooling; the 2013-14 school year would be the student's seventh and eighth semesters.

Noting that the only visa provided for the student has expired, the Executive Committee determined that this student will be considered eligible under the maximum age and academic credit record sections of the eligibility regulation provided a valid (current) visa is provided with the 11-28-95 birthdate.

Grand Rapids-Union High School (Regulation I, Section 8) – On Aug. 7, 2013, the Executive Committee tabled a request made on behalf of 10th- and 12th-grade students to waive the current academic credit regulation and specifically Interpretation 47 (base-original school for non-traditional school students). The initial request was for two students who attended City High School (a non-traditional school of the district) and lived in the Creston High School attendance area. The Grand Rapids Public Schools have closed and redistributed the boundaries of Creston High School between Ottawa Hills and Union. The new residential boundary for these two students is in the Ottawa Hills attendance area, but a number of their former Creston teammates are Union residents. The request was to allow immediate eligibility for these two former Creston participants at Union by considering their base-original school to be Union, and not their school of residence, Ottawa Hills. It was reported that the 10th-grade student played baseball with 11 teammates assigned to Union and the 12th-grade student participated in girls basketball with 14 former teammates participating at Union. The Executive Committee was concerned that other students in this or other non-traditional schools or programs may request the same consideration and several students would be cut from teams.

In subsequent communication, the school district indicated that the numbers previously submitted were the total number of athletes in grades 9-12 and clarified that the 10th-grade student had played varsity baseball with four students who will be attending Union, and the 12th-grade student played girls basketball with five newly assigned Union students. The district also reported that it has received one additional request for a 12th-grade student who played girls soccer at Creston but did not indicate the number of newly assigned Union former teammates. The district reported it has no intention of making additional requests.

The Executive Committee noted that the three students identified to date are not without an opportunity to participate in interscholastic athletics and that it would establish poor precedent to allow students of either traditional or non-traditional schools to participate in sports at schools other than those to which they have been assigned during school district reorganization. The request for waiver was not approved.

Ada-Forest Hills Eastern High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Forest Hills Eastern as a 9th-grader, participated in football and then enrolled at Grand Rapids-NorthPointe Christian for the second semester of the 2012-13 school year. The student did not participate in athletics at NorthPointe Christian, and reenrolled at Forest Hills Eastern to begin the 2013-14 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver

Adrian High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who is changing schools due to a medical condition and bullying issues faced by his younger brother at the former school. The student previously attended Addison High School and participated in athletics.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Ann Arbor-Huron High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) – A request was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 73 (9th-grader practicing with another school in August) to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only. The student practiced soccer for six days with Ann Arbor-Skyline (Aug. 14-20, 2013) before the Ann Arbor Schools accepted a February 2013 application that the student's family had made to attend Huron. The student has not participated in a scrimmage or contest.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for eligibility in boys soccer at the subvarsity level only this season. This student is eligible immediately at any level in all other sports.

Athens High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of an incoming foreign exchange student from a CSJET-listed program who will be assigned to either the 10th or 11th grade. The host family lives in the Colon School District, has three children currently attending Athens, and has hosted three other foreign exchange students for whom a waiver has been approved previously.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Bath High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student whose parents drove from Minnesota and dropped all the student's belongings off at a family's home in Bath where the student had been staying. The mother, father and older siblings have health issues. The student has no prior history of athletics.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Battle Creek-Pennfield High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Pennfield Schools grades 6-8 while living with his divorced mother in the Battle Creek School District. The student attended Buckley High School for the 9th grade while living with his father. The student is returning to the home of his mother and reenrolling at Pennfield High School to begin the 2013-14 school year. An otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted as the student returns to his former school but not his school of residence. The student participated in athletics at Buckley.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Bay City-John Glenn High School (Regulation I, Section 9[C]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended Essexville-Garber High School and participated in the ice hockey cooperative program which both schools are involved with. Support from Garber was submitted.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for ice hockey only until Jan. 20, 2014, when the student becomes eligible for all sports.

Burr Oak High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended White Pigeon High School. On May 3, 2013, the student made a residential change into the Colon School District to a home large enough for the five family members and physically disabled grandmother.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Caro High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who moved to the home of his grandparents in Caro because of domestic difficulties with his stepfather and mother. The student previously attended Millington High School and has just completed summer school classes.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Caro High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 12th-grade foreign exchange student from a CSJET-listed program whose host family lives in the Akron-Fairgrove School District and has a 10th-grade student who has attended Caro Schools since 2nd grade.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Charlevoix High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student whose father was assigned as Officer in Charge of Coast Guard Station Charlevoix on Aug. 2, 2013. The family is staying in temporary housing in Ellsworth owned by another officer stationed in California while they seek permanent housing in Charlevoix. The nature of his duties requires the Officer in Charge to be close to the station.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Coldwater High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 12th-grade foreign exchange student from a CSJET-listed program whose host family lives in the Quincy School District and has two alumni graduates of Coldwater High School (Classes of 2009 and 2012).

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Detroit-U of D Jesuit High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) – A request was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 73 (9th-grader practicing with another school in August) to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only. The student practiced football for five days with Orchard Lake-St. Mary's (Aug. 12-16) before registering to enroll at U of D Jesuit on Aug. 19, 2013. The student has not participated in a scrimmage or contest.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver at the subvarsity level in football this season. The student is eligible in all other sports at any level.

Farmington Hills-Mercy High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (closest nonpublic school) was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose family is moving back to West Bloomfield from the Battle Creek-Lakeview School District and enrolling at Mercy to begin the 2013-14 school year. West Bloomfield-Frankel Jewish Academy is the closest nonpublic school but will not accept the student because she is not Jewish. Mercy is the next closest nonpublic school to the new residence. The student participated in athletics at Lakeview.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Gaylord-St. Mary High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 73 (9th-grader practicing with another school in August). The student practiced football for five days with Gaylord High School (Aug. 13-17) before registering to enroll at St. Mary on Aug. 19, 2013. The student has not participated in a scrimmage or contest. The student has been home schooled since the 3rd grade and relocated with his family from Maryland in December 2012. St. Mary does not have a subvarsity football team.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver to permit eligibility in varsity football this season. The student is eligible in all other sports.

Gladwin High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student whose parents have been separated for three years and who moved from Arizona to Gladwin with his father who found a job there over the summer. The student's mother is remaining in Arizona until the father solidifies his employment, at which time the mother and the student's 13-year-old sibling will relocate to the rented home in Gladwin.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Grand Blanc High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (public school of residence) was made on behalf a 10th-grade student who is moving from Elkhart, Indiana where he lived with his divorced mother to the residence of his father on the border of the Flint—Carman-Ainsworth School District. The student's 10th-grade sister has attended Grand Blanc Schools since the 7th grade. An otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids-Catholic Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (closest nonpublic school) was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose family moved from Greenville to Grand Rapids into a home one-half mile closer to NorthPointe Christian High School than to Catholic Central. The student and family is Catholic. The student began Kindergarten at Catholic school before moving to Greenville.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Grosse Pointe Woods-University Liggett High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended Grosse Pointe South, participated in athletics, experienced academic difficulties and will enroll at University Liggett to begin the 2013-14 school year, preferring its smaller class size.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Grosse Pointe Woods-University Liggett High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who previously attended Detroit-U of D Jesuit and will enroll at University Liggett to begin the 2013-14 school year due to the former school's inability to serve the student's academic, emotional and physical needs. The student's older brother is a 2012 University Liggett graduate.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Hart High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A confidential request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student whose father died and whose mother sent the student to the home of an uncle in the Hart School District. The student previously attended Scottville-Mason County Central.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Hazel Park High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student whose mother lost her job and her house and dispersed her family to relatives. The student previously attended Detroit Edison Academy and is living with his grandfather and a cousin in Hazel Park.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Highland-Milford High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation as made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended Novi-Detroit Catholic Central High School where he struggled academically. The student will be enrolling at Milford to begin the 2013-14 school year, has not participated in school sports previously and would like to try out for varsity ice hockey. Milford does not sponsor JV hockey.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver to permit eligibility for varsity ice hockey. The student is eligible at the subvarsity level for all sports until Jan. 20, 2014 and thereafter is eligible at the varsity level for all sports.

Holland Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose parents have two homes: one in Florida where the student, mother and an 18 year old sibling who will graduate high school in June 2014 have resided, and one in Holland where the father has lived. The father has maintained a medical practice in Holland since 2002 and takes frequent trips to Florida. The student attended Holland Christian Schools K-3rd grade and Christian schools in Florida through the 9th grade. The student and mother have joined the father in Holland. The 18 year old brother will live by himself in Florida until graduation. The student will be enrolling at Holland Christian, the closest Christian school to the Holland residence, to begin the 2013-14 school year. The student participated in sports in Florida. The family does not intend to sell their home in Florida until the 18 year old son graduates.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this one time only; thereafter, no exceptions to the transfer regulation will apply to this student.

L'Anse High School (Regulation I, Section 9[C]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who previously attended Baraga High School and participated in the ice hockey cooperative program which both schools are involved with. Support from Baraga High School was submitted.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for ice hockey only until Jan. 20, 2014, when the student becomes eligible for all sports.

Lansing-Waverly High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who was removed from his parents' home three years ago in Lansing and placed in foster care by court order at Boys Town in Nebraska. The student's stay at Boys Town has ended and guardianship has been granted to the student's older sister who resides in the Waverly School District. The student participated in athletics in the 9th grade and has no other residential option than to reside with his sister.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Leland High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 12th-grade foreign exchange student from a CSJET-listed program whose host family lives in the Northport School District but has a 2nd-grade student who has attended Leland Schools since Kindergarten. The host mother is also a graduate of Leland High School.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Madison Heights-Bishop Foley High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – On Aug. 7, 2013, the Executive Committee approved, with conditions, a request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (closest nonpublic school) on behalf of 11th- and 12th-grade sisters who previously attended Rochester-Adams while living in an apartment with their mother while attempting to sell their home in Eastpointe. When the home would not sell, the family returned to Eastpointe and enrolled the students at Bishop Foley to begin the 2013-14 school year. Grosse Pointe Woods-University Liggett is the closest nonpublic school but the family is Catholic and the students previously attended St. Joan of Arc Catholic Grade School. The closest Catholic high school is an all-girls high school (Regina); Bishop Foley is the closest coed Catholic high school to their home. The Executive Committee indicated that the matter was to be returned to the committee if the students attended a high school other than Rochester-Adams since beginning the 9th grade. The 12th-grade student had attended St. Clair Shores-Lakeview for the 9th grade when the family lived in Eastpointe. Both students enrolled at Adams when they moved to Rochester in 2011-12 and the current 11th-grade student began the 9th grade.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Marysville High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of two 12th-grade foreign exchange students from a CSJET-approved program whose host families live in the Port Huron and Memphis School Districts but who have had students attending Marysville Schools for several years.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Midland-Bullock Creek High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose family has relocated from Alpena to the Midland School District over the past year. The family will be living with the student's aunt, who is an employee at Bullock Creek, in the original childhood home of the mother and aunt. The father moved to Midland in July 2012 when he took a new job. The mother and student finished the school year and waited for an older brother to graduate and have now relocated. The student played subvarsity volleyball at Alpena and would do the same at Bullock Creek.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Midland-Bullock Creek High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf a 10th-grade student who grew up in an orphanage in China and endured many struggles during her lifetime including unspecified family circumstances which caused the student to leave Gladwin High School. The student and her sister were adopted by a family in Gladwin that preferred the students reside with the Bullock Creek family with a history of foster care. On Aug. 7, 2013, the Executive Committee approved a request for eligibility at the subvarsity level only; this current request was for full eligibility as the student runs cross country and there are few subvarsity meets.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver. Until Jan. 20, 2014, the student is eligible at the subvarsity level. Thereafter, the student is eligible at any level.

Monroe High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended Monroe-St. Mary Catholic Central and was the subject of harassment and bullying by members of the football team, causing the student to enroll to begin the 2013-14 school year at Monroe High School. The former school acknowledged the activity and addressed the issue with the football team. The student participated in athletics previously.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Monroe-St. Mary Catholic Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) – A request was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 73 (9th-grader practicing with another school in August) to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only. The student practiced football for five days with Monroe High School (Aug. 12-16, 2013). The student had registered to enroll at St. Mary in March of 2013 but could not attend when need-based financial aid was misrouted and rejected. The financial aid matter was corrected and the student enrolled at St. Mary on Aug. 26, 2013. The student has not participated in a scrimmage or contest.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for eligibility for football at the subvarsity level only this season. This student is eligible immediately at any level in all other sports.

Morenci High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (public school of residence) was made on behalf an 11th-grade student whose family moved from Ohio to affordable housing owned by relatives in the Waldron School District. The student's mother is a Morenci graduate and many cousins currently attend Morenci Schools. There are also many relatives residing in Morenci.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Niles-Brandywine High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student whose mother abandoned him in the 8th grade. An uncle became the student's guardian and the student attended Cassopolis High School. Conditions with the uncle became physically and mentally abusive, and the student has been taken in by a family in the Brandywine School District where the student had attended middle school.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Reading High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) – A request was made on behalf of two 9th-grade students to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 73 (9th-grader practicing with another school in August) to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only. The students practiced football for four days with Camden-Frontier (Aug. 12-15) before registering to enroll at Reading High School on Aug. 16, 2013. The students have not participated in a scrimmage or contest.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for eligibility for football at the subvarsity level only this season. These students are eligible immediately at any level in all other sports.

Reading High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who moved into the Reading School District in the 7th grade and continued to attend Jonesville Schools through the 9th grade where he participated in athletics. During the summer of 2013, the family moved to another home within the Reading School District which increased the distance to Jonesville and caused the student to enroll at Reading High School.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Saginaw-Swan Valley High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student whose mother died in March and whose father is not in the student's life. The student previously attended St. Charles Schools and lived with an older sister whose home was recently foreclosed. The sister and student then found affordable housing in the Saginaw-Heritage School District and enrolled at the much smaller Swan Valley High School. The student's sister has two elementary school children attending school in the Heritage School District.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

St. Ignace-LaSalle High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose father has been incarcerated. The student's mother is under investigation by Child Protective Services. The student previously attended Traverse City Central while living with his mother and moved over the summer to an aunt and uncle in the St. Ignace School District. The student participated in athletics during the 9th grade. The student had attended St. Ignace Schools from Kindergarten through 7th grade.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Schoolcraft High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) – A request was made on behalf of two 9th-grade twin brothers to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 73 (9th-grader practicing with another school in August) to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only. The students practiced football for four days with Mattawan (Aug. 12-16) before registering to enroll at Schoolcraft High School on Aug. 19, 2013. The students have not participated in a scrimmage or contest and attended Schoolcraft Middle School for 8th grade.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for eligibility for football at the subvarsity level only this season. These students are eligible immediately at any level in all other sports.

Sparta High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (public school of residence) was made on behalf a 12th-grade student who moved with her mother from Colorado. The mother married a resident of the Howard City-Tri Country School District who has a son attending Sparta High School. The request was to permit step-brother and stepsister to attend the same high school (Sparta).

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Sterling Heights-Stevenson High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) – A request was made on behalf of a 9th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 73 (9th-grader practicing with another school in August) to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only. The student practiced football for five days with Utica Ford II High School (Aug. 12-16, 2013). The Utica Community Schools approved the student's transfer between schools of the same district on Aug. 19, 2013. The student has not participated in a scrimmage or contest.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for eligibility for football at the subvarsity level only this season. This student is eligible immediately at any level in all other sports.

Union City High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation is made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who is one of nine children who left an abusive and neglectful home in March 2013 to live in a teen shelter in Coldwater and continued to attend Quincy High School. The student has worked on farms to support himself, and at the request of the Branch County Children's Advocate, now resides with a family on a farm in the Tekonsha School District. The family has a son who attends Union City High School. The student ran cross country and track as a 10th-grader and now would like to play football.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Vestaburg High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – On May 5, 2013, the Executive Committee did not approve a request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 61 (public school of residence) on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose father's job was relocated and who changed residence to residential property located in both the Blanchard-Montabella and Vestaburg School Districts. Vestaburg is six miles from the student's new residence; Montabella is 12 miles. The student previously attended Farwell High School and will be enrolling to begin the 2013-14 school year at Vestaburg. The school submitted additional information and the superintendent of Montabella has written in support of the transfer and eligibility.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

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

| Requesting High School | Grade | Former High School | Date of Enrollment | Length of Subvarsity Eligibility Status |
|--|--------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Adrian | 10 | Adrian-Madison | Sept. 3, 2013 | Jan. 20, 2014 |
| Battle Creek-Pennfield | 10 | Richland-Gull Lake | Sept. 3, 2013 | Jan. 20, 2014 |
| Bay City-John Glenn | 10 | Bay Arenac Community | Sept. 3, 2013 | Jan. 20, 2014 |
| Berrien Springs | 10 | Berrien Springs-Andrews Academy | Sept. 3, 2013 | Jan. 20, 2014 |
| Byron Center | 10 | Grand Rapids-West Mich Aviation Acad | Sept. 3, 2013 | Jan. 20, 2014 |
| Concord | 10 | Texas | Sept. 3, 2013 | Jan. 20, 2014 |
| Concord | 10 | North Adams-Jerome | Sept. 3, 2013 | Jan. 20, 2014 |
| Elk Rapids | 10 | Valdez, Alaska | Sept. 3, 2013 | Jan. 20, 2014 |
| Grand Rapids-West Michigan Aviation Acad | 10 | Hudsonville-Freedom Christian | Sept. 3, 2013 | Jan. 20, 2014 |
| Holland Christian | 10 | Battle Creek-Central | Sept. 3, 2013 | Jan. 20, 2014 |
| Linden-Lake Fenton | 10 | Jacob Penrod | Sept. 3, 2013 | Jan. 20, 2014 |
| Oxford | 10 | Waterford Mott | Sept. 3, 2013 | Jan. 20, 2014 |
| Oxford | 10 | Vance-Charlotte, NC | Sept. 3, 2013 | Jan. 20, 2014 |
| Pontiac-Notre Dame Prep | 10 | Shelby Township-Malow Jr. High | Sept. 3, 2013 | Jan. 20, 2014 |
| Ray Township-Austin Catholic | 10 | Clinton Township-Chippewa Valley | August 2013 | Jan. 20, 2014 |
| St. Ignace-LaSalle | 10 | Stanton-Central Montcalm | Sept. 3, 2013 | Jan. 20, 2014 |

| Requesting High School | Grade | Former High School | Date of Enrollment | Length of Subvarsity Eligibility Status |
|--------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|--------------------|---|
| St. Joseph-Mich Lutheran | 10 | Sabine-Ball-Schule, Germany | Sept. 3, 2013 | Jan. 20, 2014 |
| St. Joseph | 10 | Home School | Sept. 3, 2013 | Jan. 20, 2014 |
| Sterling Heights-Utica Ford II | 10 | Macomb-Lutheran North | Sept. 3, 2013 | Jan. 20, 2014 |

Regulation III, Section 1(C) – Pursuant to 2013-14 *Handbook* Interpretation 262, the Executive Committee approved waiver of the enrollment regulation for the following junior high/middle schools to permit 6th-grade students to participate with and against 7th- and/or 8th-graders for the sports listed in the 2013-14 school year only (unless otherwise indicated below).

| Junior High/ Middle School | Sport(s) | High School Enrollment | Middle School Enrollment |
|--------------------------------|---|------------------------|--|
| Battle Creek-Calhoun Christian | boys & girls basketball, girls volleyball | 52 | 15 7 th -graders 13 8 th -graders |
| Burr Oak | boys & girls basketball, boys & girls track & field, girls volleyball | 70 | 27 7 th -graders 16 8 th -graders |
| Caseville | boys & girls basketball, boys & girls track & field, girls volleyball | 91 | 20 7 th -graders 26 8 th -graders |
| Northport | boys & girls basketball, boys soccer, girls volleyball | 49 | 26 7 th - & 8 th -graders |

AuGres-Sims and Twining-Arenac Eastern Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of boys and girls basketball to a cooperative program in football which was begun in the fall of 2012. AuGres-Sims sponsored basketball previously and will be the primary school. Cooperative agreements now exist in many sports at the high school level between these two school districts.

Burr Oak and Sturgis-Trinity Lutheran Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in girls volleyball between these two schools. Burr Oak sponsored girls volleyball previously and will be the primary school.

Central Lake and Ellsworth Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in football between these two schools. Central Lake sponsored football previously and will be the primary school.

Grand Rapids-Aberdeen and Grand Rapids-North Park Montessori Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in several sports between these two schools of the same district: football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls swimming & diving, boys and girls basketball, girls competitive cheer, wrestling and boys and girls track & field. Aberdeen will be the primary school.

Grand Rapids-G R Ford and Grand Rapids-Dickinson Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in several sports between these two schools of the same district: football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls swimming & diving, boys and girls basketball, girls competitive cheer, wrestling and boys and girls track & field. G R Ford will be the primary school.

Grand Rapids-University Preparatory Academy and Grand Rapids-GR Montessori Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in several sports between these two schools of the same district: football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls swimming & diving, boys and girls basketball, girls competitive cheer, wrestling and boys and girls track & field. University Preparatory sponsored all sports previously and will be the primary school.

Reese and Reese-St. Elizabeth Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – Because St. Elizabeth Middle School is not an MHSAA member school, the Executive Committee tabled the application for a cooperative program in football, boys and girls cross country and boys and girls track & field. Neither school sponsored these sports previously. Reese Middle School would be the primary school.

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

Detroit-University YES Academy High School has been operating grades K-8 at this site for three years and will be adding a 9th grade for the first time this fall (2013-14). It is located at the former Detroit Public Winship Middle School near 7 Mile and Hubbell on the west side of Detroit. The school is chartered through Bay Mills and operated by New Urban Learning. This is the company's only school. It has approximately 300 students in attendance in grades K-6, 220 7th- and 8th-grade students and anticipates 125 incoming 9th-graders with a maximum enrollment cap of 500 high school students. It has a practice-only gymnasium with no seating and limited outdoor space. The school intends to sponsor girls volleyball this fall and has a ten-game schedule in place. It will also sponsor boys and girls basketball, boys and girls track & field and cheerleading (uncertain if it will be in competitive cheer in the early years). The current athletic director has served at Detroit Community High School and is well versed on charter schools, MHSAA regulations and athletic administration. The signed 2013-14 Membership Resolution for the high school and middle school was received July 22, 2013, as was the Preliminary Enrollment Declaration Form. The Athletic Department Code of Conduct was submitted. If a 2014-15 Membership Resolution is received prior to Sept. 26, 2014, and all other regulations are followed, the school will be eligible for MHSAA tournaments for the 2014-15 school year.

St. Helen-Charlton Heston Academy has been operating a K-8 school previously and will be adding a 9th grade for the first time this fall (2013-14). The school is chartered through Lake Superior State University and governed by a five-person board of community members appointed by Lake Superior State. The school anticipates 25 incoming 9th-graders with a maximum enrollment cap of 50 high school students per grade to a total of 200 students. There are 52 7th- and 8th-graders enrolled. The school day runs from 8 am to 4:30 pm and is in session 200 days a year. The school intends to build a new facility on its 24-acre campus to open in 2014. It will sponsor boys and girls cross country, boys and girls bowling, boys and girls golf and boys and girls track & field initially, hoping to add sports. The signed 2013-14 Membership Resolution for the high school and middle school was received July 8, 2013, as was the preliminary Enrollment Declaration Form. The Athletic Department Code of Conduct was submitted. If a 2014-15 Membership Resolution is received prior to Sept. 26, 2014, and all other regulations are followed, the school will be eligible for MHSAA tournaments for the 2014-15 school year.

Next Meetings – The next meetings of the Executive Committee are scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 10, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; Wednesday, Oct. 2, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; Wednesday, Nov. 6, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing; and Thursday, Dec. 5, at 1 p.m. in East Lansing.