

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

East Lansing, August 22, 2018

Members Present:

Scott Grimes, Grand Haven
Pete Ryan, Saginaw
Vic Michaels, Detroit
Kris Isom, Adrian
Pat Watson, West Bloomfield

Staff Members Present:

Tom Rashid
Mark Uyl (Recorder)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Alba and Mancelona-North Central Academy High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E-1]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of JV girls volleyball to a cooperative program which exists between these two schools in boys and girls basketball (varsity, JV and middle school). The combined enrollment is 93 students. Alba will be the primary school. Support from the Northern Lakes Conference was submitted.

Belleville and New Boston-Huron High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys lacrosse (varsity and JV) between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 2,564 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 1 tournament. Belleville sponsored boys lacrosse previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Kensington Lakes Activities Association was submitted.

Bloomfield Hills-Academy of the Sacred Heart, Madison Heights-Bishop Foley Catholic, Royal Oak-Shrine Catholic and Wixom-St. Catherine of Siena Academy High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Bishop Foley and St. Catherine to a cooperative program in girls alpine skiing (varsity only) which has existed between Academy of the Sacred Heart and Shrine. The combined enrollment of 1,276 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 2 tournament. Academy of the Sacred Heart will continue as the primary school. Support from the Catholic High School League was submitted.

Essexville-Garber, Bay City-All Saints Central, Bay City-John Glenn, Gladwin, Pinconning, and Standish-Sterling High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Gladwin and Standish-Sterling to a cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity only) which currently exists between the other four schools. Gladwin was previously in a cooperative program with Roscommon which has dissolved. The combined enrollment of 2,949 students will move one team from the Division 2 tournament and place a new team in the Division 1 tournament. Garber will continue as the primary school. Support from the Saginaw Valley High School Association was submitted.

Grand Rapids-NorthPointe Christian and Grandville-Calvin Christian High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in wrestling (varsity only) between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 654 students will place one team in the Division 3 tournament. Both schools sponsored wrestling previously; NorthPointe Christian will be the primary school. Support from the OK Conference was submitted.

Harrison and Farwell High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girl skiing (varsity and JV) between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 748 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 2 tournaments. Harrison sponsored skiing previously and will be the primary school. Support from three future opponents was submitted.

Highland-Milford and White Lake-Lakeland High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of boys swimming & diving (varsity only) to cooperative agreements among these schools of the same district that currently exist in boys and girls lacrosse and girls gymnastics. The combined enrollment of 3,177 students will remove two teams from Division 2 and place one team in Division 1. Both schools sponsored the sport previously; Milford will be the primary school. Support from the Lakes Valley Conference was submitted. Previous participation numbers were also submitted.

Holt, Eaton Rapids, Grand Ledge, Portland and Potterville High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-3]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Grand Ledge to a cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity only) that exists between the other four schools. The combined enrollment of 4,978 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 1 tournament. This application was submitted under a provision that permits an agreement to form in excess of the 3,500-student enrollment limit for up to four years when one of the teams in the agreement dropped the sport in the previous season. Grand Ledge dropped ice hockey in 2017-18. Support from the Capital Area Activities Association was submitted. The program may not continue over the 3,500-student enrollment cap past the 2021-22 season.

Lansing Christian and Lansing-New Covenant Christian High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of girls basketball (varsity and JV) to a cooperative program which exists between these schools in baseball. The combined enrollment of 197 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 4 tournament. Lansing Christian sponsored girls basketball previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Greater Lansing Athletic Conference was submitted.

Morenci and Waldron High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in girls competitive cheer (varsity only) between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 270 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 4 tournament. Morenci sponsored the sport previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Tri-County Conference was submitted.

New Boston-Huron, Belleville, Carleton-Airport and Flat Rock High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – On Aug. 2, 2018, the Executive Committee approved a request to waive the 3,500-student enrollment limit to permit the combination of two existing cooperative programs in ice hockey which may not be able to field teams without combining for one season (2018-19). The combined enrollment of the four schools would be 3,974 students and place one new team in the Division 1 tournament. Currently, Belleville (1,642 students) and New Boston-Huron (922 students) are in a Division 1 program. Airport (811 students) and Flat Rock (599 students) were in a Division 2 program that previously included Romulus-Summit Academy North, which has dropped from the program as it has provided no participants.

The Executive Committee approved this cooperative program for the 2018-19 school year only, after which one team, possibly Belleville, will be withdrawn so the 3,500-student enrollment limit will be met.

Royal Oak, Clawson and Madison Heights-Lamphere High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity and possibly JV) between these three schools whose combined enrollment of 2,651 students will move one team from the Division 3 tournament into the Division 1 tournament. Royal Oak sponsored ice hockey previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Oakland Activities Association was submitted.

Troy-Athens, Auburn Hills-Avondale, Berkley and Troy High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – On June 14, 2018, the Executive Committee approved a request to allow Troy High School to join a cooperative program in boys and girls alpine skiing (varsity and JV) between the other three schools which was approved as a “new sport start-up” cooperative program beginning in 2016-17. The request was to permit Troy to join for the remaining two years of the agreement, as it also has not sponsored alpine skiing. The team’s past participation and success have been marginal, and concerns for the future involvement of Berkley exist as the school considers an extended school day. The combined current 2018-19 enrollment is 4,726; the addition of Troy would raise the enrollment to 6,951 students. The team would continue to participate in the Division 1 tournaments. Support from the Oakland Activities Association was submitted.

The Executive approved the completed application for this cooperative program for two years, for the 2018-19 and 2019-20 seasons, after which it must dissolve or reform to be under the 3,500-student enrollment limit.

Ubley, Bad Axe, Croswell-Lexington, Deckerville, Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port, Marlette and Sandusky High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey (varsity only) between these seven schools whose combined enrollment of 2,291 students will place a new team in the Division 2 tournament. Sandusky had sponsored a team in the past. Ubley will be the primary school. Support from four future opponents was submitted.

Utica and Sterling Heights-Utica Ford II High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-3]) – A request was made to permit these two schools of the same district to form a cooperative program in ice hockey in excess of the 3,500-student enrollment limit for a two-year period, through the 2019-20 season, to attempt to create a viable program. Utica Ford II has not had a hockey program in over five years. Utica has sponsored a team with less than 20 players each year. The combined enrollment of 3,842 students would move one team from Division 2 into the Division 1 tournament. Support from the Macomb Area Conference was submitted.

The Executive Committee approved this cooperative program through the 2019-20 season.

Whitmore Lake and Whitmore Lake-Livingston Classical Academy High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program at the subvarsity level only between these two schools in all sports sponsored by Whitmore Lake High School: baseball, boys and girls basketball, boys bowling, girls competitive cheer, boys and girls cross country, football, boys golf, girls softball, boys swimming & diving, boys and girls track & field, girls volleyball and wrestling. Livingston Classical Academy is a new member high school in its first year of MHSAA membership. Livingston Classical Academy's students may not participate in MHSAA tournaments in 2018-19. The combined enrollment is 323 students. Whitmore Lake will be the primary school. Support from the Tri-County Conference was submitted.

Ada-Forest Hills Eastern High School (Regulation I, Section 7) – A request to waive the previous academic credit record regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who is a refugee from Africa eligible under Exception 3 of the transfer regulation who attended Forest Hills Eastern for eight school days. The eight days of attendance means that the student must have a satisfactory previous academic credit record and one was not achieved in only eight days. The student did pass 66 percent of a full-time student's course load during his most recent full term of enrollment at Montverde Academy in Florida – the second semester of 2016-17. During 2017-18, prior to enrollment on May 21, 2018 at Forest Hills Eastern, the student was living in a government facility in Chicago as an unaccompanied minor while a foster family placement was sought. The student did not attend any school or participate in athletics. The 2018-19 school year is the final year of eligibility as the student turns 19 in June 2019.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Richland-Gull Lake High School (Regulation I, Section 7) – A request to waive the previous academic credit record regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who has been experiencing health issues and has been hospitalized. The student was unable to complete enough classes, including online courses, to meet the eligibility standard. The student will be attending the Gull Lake alternative education program. Students in this program are permitted to participate in athletics.

The Executive Committee tabled this 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 is not permitted to return to his former school, Riverview-Gabriel Richard, where he participated in athletics. The student had paid a tuition installment and been given a schedule of classes before being notified he would not be permitted to return. Support for eligibility was submitted by the former school.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Bath High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who is 18 years old and moving unaccompanied by either parent. The student attended Bath his entire career until December 2017 when the family moved to Elsie and the student enrolled at Ovid-Elsie on Feb. 1, 2018. The student has moved to the home of an older brother in East Lansing and will reenroll at Bath to begin the 2018-19 school year. An otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted.

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 mother was notified she must be out of the family home in New York by Aug. 30, 2018. The student will be arriving this weekend to reside with an aunt who lives in Bath and will be enrolling to begin the 2018-19 school year on Monday, Aug. 27, 2018. Because the eviction occurred so fast, the residency of the mother and two other siblings will be at the home of a great aunt in Seattle.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Battle Creek-Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student whose foster care has been dissolved and who is moving into the home of the grandparents of a stepsibling who reside in Battle Creek. The student was released to his father in June 2018 but the father was again incarcerated in July of 2018. The mother has been in Florida since November 2012, caring for a younger child with medical issues. The student attended Union City High School for the 9th and 10th grades while placed with other grandparents in Union City prior to the father's original release from jail.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Bear Lake High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and the elements of a full and complete residential change was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who attended Bear Lake Schools eight years ago (Kindergarten-3rd grade) and who is returning to live in the family's summer home in Bear Lake. The father remains in Oklahoma pending the sale of the former residence and finding employment in Michigan. The mother has found employment in Michigan and the home in Oklahoma is listed for sale.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Benton Harbor High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of 11th- and 12th-grade students who have attended Benton Harbor-Dream Academy which was announced to be closing this past spring. With the subsequent appointment of a new superintendent by the Department of Education, Dream Academy will continue to operate as an alternative school of the district with a primarily online curriculum which was not in place in 2017-18. The school's MHSAA membership as a second high school of the Benton Harbor Area School District has recently been reinstated. Dream Academy sponsors a boys basketball team and is in a cooperative program with Benton Harbor High School in several sports, except football. With the closure of Dream Academy, the students were set to enroll at Benton Harbor, preferring the traditional curriculum and not the new online curriculum. The students have been practicing with Benton Harbor's football team but have not participated in a scrimmage or contest.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Big Rapids High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who has been living with his father in Muskegon, moving to the home of his stepmother in Big Rapids and enrolling to begin the 2018-19 school year. The student's parents were married in 2012 and lived together for only a short time because the father is a disabled veteran. In 2017, the stepmother moved with her four biological children to an apartment in Big Rapids in order to attend Ferris State University. The student remained for 2017-18 with the father in Muskegon. The student lived with his stepmother for the 9th grade. The stepmother has since been able to find housing that will accommodate the student who is the subject of the request. Support for eligibility from the former school was submitted.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Bronson High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose house burned just prior to the start of his 9th-grade year, causing the family to be out of their home for over a year. The student experienced emotional, health and academic difficulties at his former school as a result of the fire. The student went from a straight A student to average after the fire and became withdrawn. The student participated in golf at Coldwater.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Cedar Springs High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who is returning to Cedar Springs after attendance at Sparta during the 2017-18 school year. The student attended Cedar Springs his entire career until the end of the 10th grade when the student was involved in a court proceeding that resulted in charges being dropped. The student was to have no contact with the victim in the proceeding and the court had recommended that the student attend another school for the 11th grade. The student attended Sparta in 2017-18 where he did not participate in athletics. The student is a lifelong resident of Cedar Springs, and having no further court restriction, sought to reenroll to begin the 2018-19 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Eastpointe High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who attended St. Clair Shores-Lake Shore before enrolling at Eastpointe on March 8, 2018. The student had attended Eastpointe as a 9th-grader.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver following the student's 90th scheduled school day of enrollment at Eastpointe High School beginning March 8, 2018.

Flint—Carman-Ainsworth High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who was subjected to racial harassment and cruel treatment from classmates, that at times was physical, while a student at Davison. The student has always been a resident of the Carman-Ainsworth School District and will be enrolling to begin the 2018-19 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids-Forest Hills Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation, and specifically an element of a full and complete residential change, was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose father accepted a new job in Grand Rapids. The parents are originally from Grand Rapids and the family has lived in Utah for 13 years. The family has sold their home in Utah and purchased a home in the Forest Hills Central attendance area. The parents and a 9th-grade sibling have moved to Grand Rapids. A 12th-grade brother will remain in Utah to graduate and will be staying with family friends before attending college in Utah.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student whose father was very involved in Forest Hills Eastern's athletic program as a booster and parent leader. Because of this activity and atmosphere, the student was adversely impacted in athletics while a student at the former school. He enrolled at Grand Rapids Christian to begin the 2018-19 school year. Support for eligibility was submitted by the former school.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Hartland High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who attended a residential facility during the 2017-18 school year and is returning to the home of his grandparents with whom he lived beginning in the 9th grade and who are his legal guardians. The student attended Hartland as a 9th-grader and will be reenrolling to begin the 2018-19 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Ionia High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who attended Middleville-Thornapple Kellogg while residing with his mother and stepfather. The student relocated to his grandfather's home in Ionia and enrolled at Ionia on March 20, 2018. For several weeks, the grandfather attempted to drive the student to school in Middleville before it became unrealistic and he enrolled at Ionia.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Jackson High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – On Aug. 2, 2018, the Executive Committee did not approve a request to waive the transfer regulation on behalf of a 12th-grade student who left a troubled family situation in Texas in January 2018 to reside with his aunt and uncle in Jackson and enrolled at Jackson-Lumen Christi on Jan. 15, 2018. The student struggled at the new school and then enrolled at Jackson High School on March 28, 2018. It has since been discovered that the student turned 18 on May 3, 2018, and Exception 12 may be applicable except that the residential change from Texas occurred when the student enrolled at Lumen Christi, one month prior to enrollment at Jackson.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver pending successful completion of the Educational Transfer form between Jackson-Lumen Christi and Jackson High School.

Jonesville High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 12th-grade international student from an Approved International Student Program (AISP) who will be residing with a host family that lives in the Hillsdale School District. The host family has an 11th-grade daughter who has attended Jonesville for two years.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Kalamazoo-Loy Norrix High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student whose mother has been unable to return from a foreign country after visiting grandparents. The student is residing with his older sister in the Loy Norrix attendance area. The student attended Loy Norrix for most of the 9th and 10th grades except for a five-month period when the student was abroad and eventually enrolled in school. The student was able to return to Loy Norrix, reenrolling in mid-April 2018. The mother remains outside of the United States and is unable to return.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Kentwood-East Kentwood High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student present in the US on a J-1 visa from an Approved International Student Program. The student's host family lives in the Grand Rapids-Ottawa Hills attendance area but the student has enrolled at East Kentwood as her home is surrounded by the East Kentwood district. The student would be more easily transported to East Kentwood. The exchange coordinator strongly recommended East Kentwood.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Lake Orion High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose mother lost her home in Detroit and moved into the home of an aunt and uncle in Lake Orion with the student who enrolled at Lake Orion on March 13, 2018. The student previously attended Detroit-University Prep Math & Science and lived with several people when the home was lost. The father is incarcerated out of state and the mother is unable to care for the student. While the student has no history of sports participation, the school prefers that he participate on the same varsity football team as the cousin with whom he lives.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only until Jan. 21, 2019, at which time the student becomes eligible at any level.

Macomb-Dakota High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) – A request was made on behalf of an incoming 9th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 74(a) (practicing with another school in August) to permit eligibility at the subvarsity level only in football. The student practiced football for one day (Aug. 6, 2018) with L'Anse Creuse North High School before registering to enroll at Dakota on Aug. 8, 2018.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for subvarsity football only. The student is eligible immediately in all other sports.

Muskegon—Reeths-Puffer High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student whose stepfather is in the military and has been assigned to Italy. The family lived in North Carolina and the parents have relocated to Italy while the student has moved into the home of his uncle in the Reeths-Puffer School District. The uncle has Power of Attorney over the student who will begin the 2018-19 school year at Reeths-Puffer.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Muskegon—Reeths-Puffer High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 14 (expelled student returning to former school) was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who completed three online courses during the second semester of 2017-18 at Success Virtual School. The student was expelled on Feb. 20, 2018, and enrolled in three online courses beginning Feb. 28, 2018. The courses take 3½ - 4 weeks to complete and the student was enrolled in less than 66 percent of a full-time student's course load because it was late into the second semester. The school believes the student met the academic minimum (66 percent) for a student enrolling this late in the semester. The student did not participate in athletics and has met all other conditions of Exception 14.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Niles High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation, and specifically the language of Exception 2, was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who is returning to live with his father who recently moved into Niles. The student previously attended Niles-Brandywine when he was sent to a residential facility for the 2017-18 school year. The parents never married, and the student is returning to live with his father, the only parent with whom the student has most recently lived.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Pickford High School (Regulation I, Section 9[C]) – A request to waive the transfer regulation to permit participation in football is made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who participated in the eight-player football cooperative program between Pickford and Kinross-Maplewood Baptist Academy in the 2017-18 school year. Support from the previous school was submitted.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this student in football only during the first semester of the 2018-19 school year. The student is eligible for all sports on Jan. 21, 2019.

Pigeon—Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port-Laker High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of two international students, grades 9 and 12, from two Approved International Student Programs who will be residing with a host family that lives in the Unionville-Sebewaing School District. The host family has a student who graduated in 2015 and a current 12th-grade student who has attended Laker Schools for six years.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Plymouth Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who has physical disabilities. The student has participated in soccer at Washtenaw Christian, which is struggling as a school. The student's two siblings will also be enrolling at Plymouth Christian this fall.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Pontiac-Notre Dame Preparatory High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (closest nonpublic school) was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student whose family moved from Bloomfield Hills to Birmingham in December 2017 while the student was in the 9th grade at Cranbrook and participated in volleyball. The student finished the 2017-18 school year at Cranbrook and will be enrolling at Notre Dame Prep to begin the 2018-19 school year. The family attends both Kensington Community Church and St. Hugo Catholic Church in Bloomfield Hills. Notre Dame Prep is not the closest nonpublic school or the closest Catholic coeducational high school to their new residence.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Riverview High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who is moving between parents who never married, from her father's home in Kentucky to the mother's residence in the Southgate School District. The student has a younger 5th-grade sibling who has attended Riverview Schools for five years. An otherwise completed Educational Transfer Form was submitted.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Rockford High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of a 12th-grade international student from an Approved International Student Program whose host family lives in the Grand Rapids-Northview attendance area but whose two children have attended Rockford Schools for the past three years.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Romulus High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who lives in Romulus and attended Dearborn-Edsel Ford for the 9th and 10th grades. The student was allowed to enroll in Edsel Ford because his mother was a part-time employee of the district. Later in the 2017-18 school year, the mother took a full-time job outside of the district and was informed that the student could no longer attend Edsel Ford. The student enrolled at Romulus to begin the 2018-19 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Sand Creek High School (Regulation I, Section 9[B]) – A request was made to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 74(a) (practicing with another school in August) on behalf of an incoming 9th-grade student who practiced volleyball with Adrian-Madison for three days (Aug. 8-10, 2018) before deciding to return to Sand Creek. The student did not participate in a scrimmage or contest. The student attended Sand Creek Schools since the 4th grade.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for subvarsity volleyball only. The student is eligible immediately in all other sports.

St. Joseph-Michigan Lutheran High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request was made to waive the condition of Interpretation 94 that a boarding school have a minimum enrollment of 25 students. After several years operating as a boarding school, Michigan Lutheran had registered to enroll 26 boarding students this summer and notified the MHSAA of its intention to use the boarding school exception and file Educational Transfer Forms for all 10th-12th grade incoming domestic boarding school students and international students in any grade, including 9th grade. One form was submitted, one is anticipated – both for out-of-state domestic students who have been enrolled since Aug. 15, 2018 (first day of school). The school had 21 boarding students on the first day of school and requested its status be allowed to continue as it anticipates reaching 25 boarding students this school year.

The Executive Committee approved the school's boarding school status for 2018-19. For this status to continue past the 2018-19 school year, the school must have the minimum enrollment of 25 boarding students.

Scottville-Mason County Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who is a resident of the Mason County Central School District, was previously home schooled and most recently attended a local charter academy, Gateway to Success. The student has no history of participation in sports and will be enrolling to begin the 2018-19 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only until Jan. 21, 2019, at which time the student becomes eligible at any level.

Scottville-Mason County Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who is a resident of the Mason County Central School District, was previously home schooled and most recently attended a local charter academy, Gateway to Success. The student has no history of participation in sports and will be enrolling to begin the 2018-19 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Scottville-Mason County Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who attended Mason County Schools through the 9th grade before attending a local charter academy, Gateway to Success, for the 10th and 11th grades. The student is a resident of the Mason County Central School District, sought a different school environment and is now returning to the school where his siblings attended and graduated. The student has no history of participation in sports and will be enrolling to begin the 2018-19 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Traverse City West High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – On March 23, 2018, the Executive Committee approved a request on behalf of an 11th-grade student (2018-19) to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment. The student previously attended Traverse City-St. Francis and enrolled at Traverse City West on Feb. 26, 2018. The student participated in athletics previously. Since that time, the school has learned that the student has been under medical treatment since February 2015. The student’s medical team strongly recommends his full participation this fall. Support for eligibility from the former school was submitted.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Waterford Kettering High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – On June 13, 2018, the Executive Committee did not approve a request to waive the transfer regulation on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Waterford Schools through the 7th grade and Clarkston Junior High for the 8th and 9th grades for its advanced curriculum. The student participated in 9th-grade football. The student had a difficult time at his former school and experienced some harassment, causing the student to register to enroll to begin the 2018-19 school year at Waterford Kettering. The student lives in the Waterford Mott attendance area but attended a feeder elementary and middle school of Waterford Kettering. The Waterford School District has approved the intra-district enrollment. The matter was submitted to the Executive Committee for reconsideration, noting that the student was physically confronted on a regular basis by one student and then other students. The student was reluctant to disclose the names or nature of the harassment and had some health issues related to the harassment. Additional documentation was submitted, including a letter from the Clarkston principal and the student and an email from the parent. Clarkston school records were also submitted supporting the claim that the student’s grades dropped and he was frequently absent because he did not want to attend school due to the harassment.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Waterford-Our Lady of the Lakes High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who received special education accommodation. The student’s difficulties led to his suspension from school. The student’s therapist recommended a change of schools. The student participated minimally in football while a student at Clarkston. Support for eligibility from the former school was submitted.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

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

Requesting High School	Grade	Former High School	Date of Enrollment	Length of Subvarsity Eligibility Status
Ann Arbor-Huron	10	Ann Arbor-Skyline	Sept. 4, 2018	Jan. 21, 2019
Armada	10	Macomb-Dakota	Sept. 4, 2018	Jan. 21, 2019
Auburn Hills-Avondale	10	Ortonville-Brandon	Sept. 4, 2018	Jan. 21, 2019
Belleville	10	Canton Preparatory	Sept. 4, 2018	Jan. 21, 2019
Beverly Hills-Groves	10	Beverly Hills-Detroit Country Day	Sept. 4, 2018	Jan. 21, 2019

Requesting High School	Grade	Former High School	Date of Enrollment	Length of Subvarsity Eligibility Status
Brownstown-Woodhaven	10	Southgate Anderson	Sept. 4, 2018	Jan. 21, 2019
East Lansing	10	Haslett	Aug. 28, 2018	Jan. 21, 2019
Flint-Powers Catholic	10	Burton-Atherton	Aug. 28, 2018	Jan. 21, 2019
Grand Rapids-NorthPointe Christian	10	Grand Rapids-Northview	Aug. 27, 2018	Jan. 21, 2019
Holly	10	Grand Blanc	Sept. 4, 2018	Jan. 21, 2019
Jackson	10	Parma-Western	Sept. 4, 2018	Jan. 21, 2019
Muskegon-Western Michigan Christian	10	Grand Haven	Aug. 27, 2018	Jan. 21, 2019
North Adams-Jerome	10	Hillsdale	Aug. 22, 2018	Jan. 21, 2019
Royal Oak	10	Royal Oak-Shrine	Sept. 4, 2018	Jan. 21, 2019
Saginaw-Swan Valley	10	Saginaw-Heritage	Mar. 12, 2018	91 st Day of Enrollment
Saugatuck	10	Holland-West Ottawa	Sept. 4, 2018	Jan. 21, 2019
Taylor	10	Taylor Prep Academy	Sept. 4, 2018	Jan. 21, 2019
Taylor	10	Taylor Prep Academy	Sept. 4, 2018	Jan. 21, 2019
Warren-Mott	10	Clintondale Virtual Academy	Sept. 4, 2018	Jan. 21, 2019

Regulation II, Section 8: Cross Country NFHS Playing Rules – The Executive Committee approved a staff recommendation for adoption now of two new rules approved at the June 2018 NFHS Track and Cross Country Rules Committee meeting (NF 4-3-1 and 4-3-2). The uniform rules are set to take effect for track this spring (2019) and for cross country in the fall of 2019-20. The Executive Committee approved the adoption to take effect immediately during the 2018 MHSAA cross country season.

Highland-Milford High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 241, a request to waive the four-player rule for the 2018-19 school year was made on behalf of the girls gymnastics coach who is employed full-time by the Huron Valley Recreation and Community Education Department and runs the Huron Valley Gymnastics youth program. The Huron Valley Gymnastics Program is open to the public, and for 2018-19, has 115 participants ages 18 months to 18 years old. Nineteen students are current members of the Milford gymnastics team. In addition to Huron Valley Schools, the program involves students from Brighton, Holly, Walled Lake and Waterford School District as well as several nonpublic schools. Milford and White Lake-Lakeland participate in a cooperative gymnastics program. Waiver has been approved for this coach and program in previous years.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this coach for the 2018-19 school year only.

Jackson-Lumen Christi and Jackson-Paragon Academy Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these two member middle schools in football, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls tennis, wrestling, boys and girls track & field and girls competitive cheer. The program will consist of separate 7th- and 8th-grade teams. Paragon Academy is a first-time MHSAA member middle school. Lumen Christi has sponsored these sports previously and will be the primary school.

Whitmore Lake and Whitmore Lake-Livingston Classical Academy Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these two member middle schools in all sports sponsored by Whitmore Lake Middle School. Combined 6th- and 7th-grade teams and 8th grade teams will be sponsored in boys and girls basketball, girls competitive cheer, girls volleyball and wrestling. Combined 6th-, 7th- and 8th-grade teams will be sponsored in boys and girls cross country and boys and girls track & field. Livingston Classical Academy is a new member middle school. Whitmore Lake will be the primary school.

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

Flint-The New Standard Academy – Membership was approved at the junior high/middle and high school level for this 6-9 charter school chartered by Saginaw Valley State University and managed by The Romaine Group-Education Service Provider. The middle school has a current enrollment of 117 students and was established in 2015. The 2018-19 school year will be the first year with a 9th grade, and additional grades will be added each year. There are currently 50 9th-grade students enrolled. The middle school includes grades 6-8. The school is housed in the former building occupied by Flint-Powers Catholic High School with a gymnasium with a 1,500-seat capacity and ample outdoor facilities. The school plans to sponsor 9th-grade teams in boys and girls basketball, football, girls volleyball and boys and girls track & field. The current athletic director has attended a New AD Orientation this summer. A signed 2018-19 Membership Resolution and Preliminary Classification Form were received in early July 2018. An Athletic Department Code of Conduct was submitted. If a 2019-20 Membership Resolution is received prior to Sept. 27, 2019, and all other regulations are followed, the school will be eligible for MHSAA tournaments for the 2020-21 school year.

Whitmore Lake-Livingston Classical Academy – Membership was approved at the junior high/middle and high school level for this K-10 charter school chartered by Hillsdale College and managed by Equity Education and housed in the former Whitmore Lake Middle School. The school of 30 students in grades 7 & 8 and 40 current 9th- and 10th-graders has operated since 2015. The school does not plan to sponsor athletics on its own at this time but will seek to form cooperative programs with Whitmore Lake High School at the subvarsity level only in all sports sponsored by Whitmore Lake as soon as possible for the 2018-19 school year. The current athletic director of Livingston Classical Academy is also the athletic director at Whitmore Lake High School. The middle school includes grades 7 and 8. A signed 2018-19 Membership Resolution and Preliminary Classification Form were received on July 10, 2018. An Athletic Department Code of Conduct was submitted. If a 2019-20 Membership Resolution is received prior to Sept. 27, 2019, and all other regulations are followed, the school will be eligible for MHSAA tournaments for the 2020-21 school year. As is permitted under Interpretation 12(d), a new MHSAA member school which would not be eligible for MHSAA tournaments until its second full year of MHSAA membership may participate in MHSAA tournaments sooner if that school becomes part of a cooperative program with a tournament-eligible member school. However, subvarsity cooperative teams do not participate in MHSAA tournaments. Livingston Classical Academy students in subvarsity cooperative programs will only have eligibility with their school of enrollment for MHSAA post-season tournaments.

Resolution Authorizing Financial Operations – The Executive Committee approved a resolution updating the list of those authorized to conduct various financial operations of the association.

Next Meetings – The next meetings of the Executive Committee are scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 5, 2018, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing; Wednesday, Oct. 3, 2018, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; Wednesday, Oct. 31, 2018, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; and Thursday, Nov. 29, 2018, at 1:30 p.m. in East Lansing (all onsite) (Representative Council meeting next day).