

# MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

East Lansing, August 23, 2022

### Members Present:

Scott Grimes, Grand Haven  
Nicole Carter, Novi  
Vic Michaels, Detroit  
Kris Isom, Adrian  
Meg Seng, Ann Arbor

### Staff Members Present:

Cody Inglis  
Mark Uyl (Recorder)

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

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

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

It is possible that some of the information presented as facts to the Executive Committee by school personnel and others may be inaccurate. However, to avoid constant repetition in this report of phrases such as “it was alleged” or “it was reported,” no attempt 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.

Berkley, Ferndale & Royal Oak High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Ferndale to a cooperative program that exists between the other two schools in ice hockey (varsity only). The combined enrollment will be 3,368 students. Berkley will continue as the primary school. Support from the Oakland Activities Association was submitted.

Detroit-Cesar Chavez Academy and Detroit-Hope of Detroit Academy High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – Pending receipt of a 2022-23 MHSAA Membership Resolution from Hope of Detroit Academy, the Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these two schools in wrestling (varsity only). The combined enrollment of 970 students will keep one team in the Division 2 tournament. Cesar Chavez Academy sponsored the sport previously and will be the primary school. Support from four future opponents was submitted.

Dundee and Monroe-St. Mary Catholic Central High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these two schools in boys swimming & diving (varsity only). The combined enrollment of 843 students will keep one team in the Division 3 tournament. Dundee sponsored the sport previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Huron League and five future opponents was submitted.

Macomb-L'Anse Creuse North and Harrison Township-L'Anse Creuse High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E-1]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these two schools in boys soccer (JV only). The combined enrollment will be 3,207 students. L'Anse Creuse North will be the primary school. Support from the Macomb Area Conference was submitted.

New Boston-Huron, Carleton-Airport, Dearborn Heights-Crestwood and Garden City High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Crestwood to a cooperative program that exists between the other three schools in ice hockey (varsity only). The combined enrollment will be 3,761 students. New Boston-Huron will continue as the primary school. Support from the Huron League was submitted.

Parma-Western and Hanover-Horton High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these schools in girls gymnastics (varsity only). The combined enrollment will be 1,141 students. Parma-Western sponsored the sport previously and will be the primary school. Support from the South Central Gymnastics League was submitted.

Romulus and Dearborn Heights-Robichaud High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – A request was made to waive the 1,000-student limit for schools which are not in the same public school district. These two member schools would like to begin a boys and girls soccer cooperative program (girls in the 2022-23 school year and boys beginning in 2023-24). Both schools have shown a demonstrated lack of participation which has forced the teams to cancel their seasons due to low numbers. The combined enrollment would be 1,096 students, which would put them over the combined 1,000-student limit for cooperative programs in both sports. The schools desire to know the status of the waiver prior to the intensive cooperative team application process, which would be completed if a waiver would be granted.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver of the 1,000-student limit, for one year only. The application must be submitted before the Oct. 15 deadline for spring sports cooperative programs.

Sandusky, Bad Axe, Brown City, Cass City, Croswell-Lexington, Deckerville, Peck and Pigeon—Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port Laker High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these eight schools in ice hockey (varsity only). The combined enrollment will be 2,327 students; Sandusky will be the primary school. Support from the Greater Thumb Conference was submitted.

Sterling Heights-Stevenson and Sterling Heights-Utica Ford II High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-3]) – A request was made to waive the 3,500-student limit in order for these two schools to apply for a cooperative program in boys lacrosse. The combined enrollment would be 4,297 students. The school district has struggled with participation and experienced a significant drop in participation numbers in the spring of 2022. A letter from the district indicating the numbers of participants the past few years was submitted, along with support from the Macomb Area Conference. The schools desire to know the status of the waiver prior to the intensive cooperative team application process, which would be completed if a waiver would be granted.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver of the 3,500-student limit. The application must be submitted before the Oct. 15 deadline for spring sports cooperative programs, and the program may not exist beyond four school years.

Tawas City-Tawas Area, Au Gres-Sims, Hale, Oscoda and West Branch-Ogemaw Heights High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Hale to a cooperative program that exists between the other four schools in ice hockey (varsity only). The combined enrollment will be 1,454 students. Tawas Area will continue as the primary school. Support from three future opponents was submitted.

Traverse City-St. Francis, Charlevoix, Elk Rapids, Kalkaska, Kingsley, Lake Leelanau-St. Mary, Mancelona and Suttons Bay High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F-2]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these eight schools in ice hockey (varsity only). The combined enrollment will be 2,448 students. St. Francis will be the primary school. Support from the Northern Michigan Hockey League was submitted.

Utica and Sterling Heights-Stevenson High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E-2]) – These schools of the same district would like to renew their cooperative program in wrestling. The combined enrollment of 4,316 students requires Executive Committee approval in this sport. There must be a demonstrated history of low participation numbers in order for the cooperative program to continue. An email was received as well as support from the Macomb Area Conference.

The Executive Committee approved the continuation of this cooperative program for the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years.

Grand Rapids-West Catholic High School (Regulation I, Section 2) – A request to waive the age regulation was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student at West Catholic. The student came to the United States from a refugee camp. The student attended Grand Rapids-Union High School for his first three years in the US. During his third year at Union, the student experienced a missed year of education because of COVID-19 and a lack of access to technology. His academic progress stalled and he changed schools to West Catholic. He was academically reclassified at West Catholic High School to continue to be a junior as the only way to remain on a graduation pathway. During this year, the student also started participating in soccer and track & field at West Catholic and found a connection to classmates and the West Catholic school community. The student turned 19 on Aug. 10, 2022. Medical documentation, past transcripts and athletic participation were provided by the school.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver as it did not fit the circumstances as required in Regulation I, Section 2.

Allen Park-Cabrini High School (Regulation I, Sections 2, 4 & 5) – A request to waive the age and maximum enrollment and competition portions of the eligibility regulation was made on behalf of a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student at Cabrini High School. The student has had difficult life circumstances and moved between multiple schools in his educational career. The student lives with his aunt after residing with various family members and friends over the past five years. He has attended Cabrini since the fall of 2020 and participated in football, basketball and baseball at Cabrini during the 2021-22 school year. He transferred from Annapolis High School in the fall of the 2019-20 school year after attending several schools during his elementary education, including a 6<sup>th</sup>-grade year which he had to take twice, which resulted in earning no academic credit and forced to return to Cabrini High School in order to graduate in the 2022-23 school year. The request was for immediate and continued athletic eligibility in football, basketball and baseball for the 2022-23 academic year. The first semester of 2022-23 will be the student's fifth first semester and ninth overall since 2018 when he was a student at Annapolis High School. Support from Cabrini coaches, medical doctors, community members and his guardian was received along with medical documentation, past transcripts and athletic participation. The student turned 19 on July 3, 2022.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver as it did not fit the circumstances as required in Regulation I, Section 2.

Ann Arbor-Father Gabriel Richard High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who has attended Plymouth High School since transferring there following his 9<sup>th</sup>-grade year. The student played football while at Plymouth and was granted a subvarsity waiver to do so for his 10<sup>th</sup>-grade season at Plymouth. The student and family now desire to return to Father Gabriel Richard because of school lockdowns that occurred during the school year at Plymouth High School. The student desired to play varsity football at Father Gabriel Richard. Support for eligibility was submitted by the former school. New information included a letter from the mother with more detailed information about why the move occurred from Plymouth back to Father Gabriel Richard. This included safety concerns at Plymouth High School.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Armada High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a student who has transferred from Richmond High School to Armada. Bullying issues were present at the previous school. Various documentation was provided along with a letter of support from a coach at the previous school. The student sought immediate eligibility at Armada High School in football. The new information provided by the parent offered clarification and reasoning for the transfer which included text messages, a letter of support and copies of emails.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Athens High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who is transferring to Athens from Union City High School for the start of the 2022-23 school year. The student experienced bullying and social media harassment by students while at the former school. The student entered counseling and desired a change of schools. She participated in volleyball and track & field at the former school. The request was for eligibility in all sports previously played. Support from a counselor and copies of social media posts were provided as documentation.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Battle Creek-Pennfield High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who is transferring to Pennfield from Marshall High School for the start of the 2022-23 school year. The student has moved residences to live with family friends in the Pennfield School District after leaving his father's home in Marshall. The student's mother passed away in June of 2019 and the father and son experienced issues that caused the son to leave his father's residence in November of 2021. While he finished the school year at Marshall, family friends have now gained guardianship of the student for his senior year and would like him to attend Pennfield where their other children attend. The school requested immediate eligibility in football, the only sport that the student participated in while at Marshall. Guardianship documents were submitted as support.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Bellevue High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of incoming 10<sup>th</sup>- and 12<sup>th</sup>-grade sisters from Barry County Christian High School. The students attended Barry County Christian where their mother was a staff member and she provided transportation from their residence in Bellevue to the school. Because of an injury and subsequent surgery, the mother resigned her job at Barry County Christian in order to take care of their farm operations with the husband/father's recovery from back surgery. The students played volleyball at Barry County Christian, a non-MHSAA member school, during the 2021-22 school year. The students are transferring to Bellevue High School, their district of residence, and requested immediate eligibility in volleyball.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Big Rapids High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who is transferring to Big Rapids from Pine River High School for the start of the 2022-23 school year. The student has experienced health challenges and social/emotional issues, some of which were related to slurs at the former school. The student entered counseling and desired a change to deal with her health. The student participated in basketball, soccer and track & field at the former school. The family believed the new school would allow the student to thrive academically and socially and also moved younger siblings to Big Rapids Public Schools. The request was for eligibility in all sports. Support from the counselor and former school was included.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Caledonia High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 74 (practicing with another school in August) was made on behalf of a 9<sup>th</sup>-grade student who practiced football for two days with Caledonia High School (Aug. 8 and 9, 2022) before deciding to enroll at Grand Rapids Catholic Central. He practiced football there on Aug. 10, 2022. After that practice, he was informed that he would not be eligible to play at Grand Rapids Catholic Central by rule. He decided to come back to Caledonia where his twin brothers also attend and participate. The school requested immediate subvarsity eligibility for the student. The previous school confirmed the timing and dates of practice.

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

Calumet High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who attended Lake Linden-Hubbell High School until Sept. 20, 2021. At that time, he transferred to Calumet High School. The student competed in one scrimmage and two football games while at Lake Linden-Hubbell, and the request was for subvarsity eligibility on the third date of the 2022 football season at Calumet after sitting the scrimmage and the first two games of the football season. Verbal support of eligibility and confirmation of the games played was provided by the previous school.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver at the subvarsity level only. The student will be withheld from one scrimmage and the first two football games of the 2022 season.

Central Lake High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who is transferring to Central Lake after the unexpected cancellation of the football program at Bellaire High School, where he attended since his 9<sup>th</sup>-grade year. While at Bellaire, the student participated in football and baseball. The transfer was because of the loss of the football program and the inevitable loss of the baseball program, given the number of students. The request was for immediate eligibility in both sports at Central Lake High School.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Farmington High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who is returning to Farmington High School after one semester at U of D Jesuit (where he played football) and one semester at Farmington High School for his 9<sup>th</sup>-grade year. The request was for eligibility at Farmington High School in football. The student is on an IEP which the former school did not recognize, and thus the student sought out special education services in his home district to meet his needs.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Goodrich High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who participated in volleyball, basketball, swimming & diving and softball while a 9<sup>th</sup>-grader at Brandon High School. The family chose to transfer the student to Goodrich after it was discovered that their residence is now in the Goodrich School District and not in the Ortonville-Brandon School District. This rare change in school district boundaries occurred in 2018 without the family's knowledge, was discovered after the family looked into moving residences, and has been confirmed with the Hadley Township office, which made the switch, as well as with supplied tax records. One of the reasons the family desired to move from the Brandon district was because Brandon High School would possibly not have a varsity softball program this school year because of lack of numbers. The former school documented its support of the move to Goodrich for this student. Goodrich High School sought immediate varsity athletic eligibility in all sports in which the student played at the previous school.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Grand Haven High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student. The student attended Spring Lake High School as a freshman and transferred to Grand Haven due to alleged repeated bullying that culminated in a physical altercation at Spring Lake with another student. Continued threats to the student also persisted. The parents removed the student for the final trimester of the 2021-22 school year and home-schooled him. The student is currently enrolled in the Grand Haven Public Schools virtual school program. While at Spring Lake, the student competed in football and requested eligibility in that sport at Grand Haven.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids-NorthPointe Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who previously attended Lowell High School and participated in basketball. The student experienced bullying behaviors from other teammates and basketball families related to both school and non-school basketball which has impacted her health and ability to continue on the basketball team at Lowell. The student has also worked with counselors regarding these issues. Her grades, behavior and confidence suffered because of these events and the family desired a new school to help the student's health. Multiple letters of support and documentation, including from the former school, supported the allegations as well as eligibility at the new school.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Grand Rapids-Northview High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of incoming 10<sup>th</sup>- and 12<sup>th</sup>-grade students who are transferring to Northview from Middleville-Thornapple Kellogg High School after attending since Kindergarten. While at Thornapple Kellogg, the students experienced repeated racial harassment from other students in and out of school, especially the 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student. The family and students desired a more inclusive and diverse school environment at Northview. The 10<sup>th</sup>-grader experienced harassment and threats, and the situation rose to include police involvement. This resulted in visits to a counselor and a desire to move to a more supportive school environment. The family believed that the former school did all that it could and handled the incidents appropriately, but the culture will not change to help support their children. The 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student competed in basketball, while the 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student competed in soccer, basketball and track & field. Strong supporting documentation was received from the former school superintendent as well as a doctor and counselor.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Grant High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who has moved from his father's home in Fremont to the home of an aunt in the Grant School District. While at Fremont High School, the student participated in football and wrestling. The student's aunt is also the school social worker for Grant Public Schools and the student has previously lived in Grant and attended Grant Public Schools through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. The student's biological mother is incarcerated and has gone through addiction issues that led to the student being removed from his mother's custody. The aunt now has full custody of the student with the father's approval. The student has also gone through challenging times with health, counseling and adjusting to his father's new family. He asked to return to Grant to live with the aunt and attend his former school for a fresh start. The former school submitted support for immediate eligibility at Grant.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Grosse Pointe South High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who is transferring to Grosse Pointe South after attending Brother Rice High School during his 9<sup>th</sup>-grade year. While at Brother Rice, he participated in football and wrestling. The parent of the student transferred him to Brother Rice following COVID-related challenges of online learning. He is coming to Grosse Pointe South High School, which is his district of residence, based on a learning disability diagnosis and a return to in-person learning. The school requested subvarsity eligibility at Grosse Pointe South. Supporting documentation from a counselor was submitted.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Jackson-East Jackson High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who participated in football and wrestling while a student at Michigan Center where he experienced email threats on his life. These threats were investigated by the school district and local police and included a police report being filed. The student's family did not believe the situation was handled appropriately and subsequently pulled the student from the district and enrolled him to start the 2022-23 school year at East Jackson High School in order to get a new start. The police report was submitted as supporting documentation. Significant and new information included an updated letter from both the family and the school which clarified and detailed the specific incident in question.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Lake Odessa-Lakewood 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 incoming 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student whose father recently remarried and moved from Fife Lake to the Saranac School District. The student attended Fife Lake-Forest Area as a 9<sup>th</sup>-grader and competed in volleyball, basketball and softball. The new residence with the father's new wife is on the border of the Saranac and Lakewood School Districts. The new blended family has students (stepsiblings) who have attended Lakewood since they started school and all other siblings (three) in the new household will attend Lakewood Public Schools. The new school requested immediate eligibility in all sports at Lakewood.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Lansing-Sexton High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who transferred from Waverly to Sexton. While at Waverly High School, the student's father was the head coach of the varsity football team and the student was the starting quarterback at Waverly. While playing for Waverly, the student was harassed by parents of football players, including being told that he was only the quarterback because his father was the coach and also included verbal altercations involving family members in the stands at games. The father is no longer the head coach at Waverly. The student desired to attend Sexton High School and sought immediate eligibility in football because of the extenuating circumstances that existed at Waverly and within the football program. The student attended football practice at East Lansing High School for one week this August. Emails and letters were submitted to outline the situation and provide details of some of the harassment that occurred.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Manistee Catholic Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who competed in cross country during the fall of 2021 at Manistee High School. The student transferred from Manistee in January of 2022 because of alleged claims of emotional and psychological stress from individuals at the former school. This challenging environment caused the family to transfer the student to Manistee Catholic Central and the transfer was made for health issues and needing a new school start. The former school was contacted by the current school and did not oppose athletic eligibility. The request was for immediate eligibility in the cross country cooperative program with Mason County Central High School.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.



Mattawan High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who has moved from his adopted grandmother's home in Plainwell to the home of an aunt in the Mattawan School District. While at Plainwell, the student played football and basketball during his 9<sup>th</sup>-grade year. The student has suffered the loss of his biological grandfather, and his biological mother has been in and out of prison over the last two years. The mother is awaiting prison sentencing which prompted the recent move to live with his aunt in Mattawan where he now has his own room and bed, which was not available at the former residence. The former school submitted strong support for immediate eligibility at Mattawan.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Morley Stanwood High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who is transferring to Morley Stanwood High School from Creative Technologies Academy for the start of the 2022-23 school year. The student participated in basketball at the former school, Cedar Springs CTA, which is not an MHSAA member school. The family believed the new school would allow the student to find success in the classroom and with athletics. The request was for subvarsity eligibility in basketball, the only sport played by the student at CTA.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Muskegon-Mona Shores 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 incoming 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student. The student has been deemed homeless under the McKinney-Vento Act and living with his aunt in the Reeths-Puffer School District. The student previously lived in Oregon and competed in high school golf at his previous school. His reason for wanting to attend Mona Shores was because of its strong academic reputation, high ACT/SAT scores and high number of AP classes. The new school requested immediate eligibility in high school golf at Mona Shores on behalf of this student.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Muskegon-Orchard View High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student to Orchard View High School who participated in soccer in the fall of 2021 at Orchard View prior to transferring to Ithaca High School to live with his biological father from November of 2021 to March of 2022. The student transferred back to Orchard View after an attempt to live with his father in Ithaca and did not participate in sports while at Ithaca. In addition to previously attending Orchard View, the student is returning to his full guardian with whom he has lived in the past. He has been in and out of his biological mother's and father's homes and lives. Both parents have struggled with addiction, prison time and giving up on him. He desired to come back to Orchard View to resume his education and athletic participation. The temporary stay with his father did not work and was not in his best interests. This new move back to his full guardian would help him return to a better, more supported life. Orchard View desired immediate and full eligibility in soccer for this student upon his return.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver. No subsequent transfer back to Ithaca will be permitted under any exception.

Novi-Detroit Catholic Central 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 two incoming brothers, 10<sup>th</sup>- and 12<sup>th</sup>-grade students whose family made a full and complete residential change from Bloomfield Hills to Novi. While at Bloomfield Hills High School, they both played football and basketball. Detroit Catholic Central is not the closest nonpublic high school, but is the closest Catholic high school. The students and their parents are Catholic and the boys attended Catholic grade school.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Novi-Detroit Catholic Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student from Northville High School. The student attended Northville as a freshman and transferred to Detroit Catholic Central due to documented bullying that occurred at Northville by several other students. Continued threats to the student also persisted at Northville until the student told his parents. The new school will be with a peer group that he is comfortable with and the belief was that this would result in a better experience academically and socially at the new school. While at Northville, the student competed in tennis as a 9<sup>th</sup>-grader and desired eligibility in that sport at Detroit Catholic Central. If full eligibility is not granted, the school requested immediate subvarsity eligibility. The former school submitted documentation that the incidents did occur and were addressed.

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

Onsted High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 74 (practicing with another school in August) was made on behalf of a 9<sup>th</sup>-grade student who practiced football for one day (20 minutes) with Madison High School (Aug. 8, 2022) before he was informed that he was not accepted as a school of choice student at Madison. The student then enrolled at Onsted on Aug. 11. The school requested immediate subvarsity eligibility for the student. The previous school confirmed the timing and dates of practice.

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

Parchment High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who attended Comstock High School as a freshman. The student, along with her 9<sup>th</sup>-grade sister, transferred to Parchment for the start of the 2022-23 school year. The 9<sup>th</sup>-grader is eligible by rule in all sports. The move was made because of connections to Parchment High School where family members previously attended. The family desired to make the move prior to the 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student's 9<sup>th</sup>-grade school year but COVID-related issues put a stop to physically moving into the district. The request was for subvarsity eligibility for the 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student in all sports.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Pickford 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 incoming 12<sup>th</sup>-grade exchange student. The exchange student is a J-1 visa student from an approved international study program and the host family lives in the DeTour Public Schools attendance area. The host family has hosted six other exchange students. The parents send their own children (7<sup>th</sup>- and 8<sup>th</sup>-graders) to Pickford Middle/High School. In addition, the parents both are employed at Pickford Public Schools and would like to bring all three students to Pickford to experience the year together. The student desired to compete in football, basketball and track & field at Pickford. Pickford requested immediate eligibility in all sports on behalf of this student.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Pigeon—Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port Laker High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student who participated in football, basketball and track & field while a student at Bad Axe High School and its alternative program, Ascent High School. The family chose to transfer the student to Laker in order to get a better social and emotional environment and fresh start for the student's senior year. The school requested immediate athletic eligibility in all sports given that he is a 12<sup>th</sup>-grade student. The new information provided by the school clarified the reasons why the student is now going to attend Laker High School, letters of support from the former school, counselors, school social worker and the superintendent. The request was for immediate eligibility in all sports for his senior year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Pigeon—Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port Laker High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of three incoming 10<sup>th</sup>-grade students who transferred to Laker from Kingston High School after their 9<sup>th</sup>-grade year. While at Kingston, the students participated in volleyball and track & field. All three students are also softball players but chose to not play for the Kingston team because of personal reasons. The students desired eligibility in all sports at Laker based on the family making a full transfer of all 13 of their children to the Laker School District and desiring a full new experience at Laker Public Schools. Supporting documentation was received from the former school.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Portage Northern High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A second request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 62 (public school of residence) was made on behalf of an incoming 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student whose father recently accepted a job in the Kalamazoo area after a move from the Jackson area where the student attended Northwest High School. The family was unable to find a home in the Portage School District but immediately enrolled the student at Portage Northern, primarily for the IB Diploma program. Portage Public Schools is the only school system in Kalamazoo County to offer the IB Diploma program. The family purchased a home in the Comstock School District. The student played 9<sup>th</sup>-grade football for Northwest High School in the fall of 2021. New information on the reasoning and clarification of the transfer to Portage Northern was presented by the family and school. The request was for immediate subvarsity eligibility in football.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Rochester Hills-Rochester High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who is transferring to Rochester High School from Avondale High School for the start of the 2022-23 school year. The student experienced bullying issues at the former school. He entered counseling and is now living with his grandmother in the Rochester High School attendance area. The student participated in soccer at the former school. The family believed the new school would allow the student to relieve his anxiety. The student has already made a bond with the new soccer team and several of its players. The request was for soccer eligibility at the varsity level. Support from the counselor was included in the request.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Traverse City-St. Francis High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of incoming 11<sup>th</sup>- and 12<sup>th</sup>-grade brothers who participated in cross country and track & field at Benzie Central High School. The family transferred the students from Benzie Central to St. Francis after threats and harassment were allegedly committed against the brothers' younger sister at a co-ed track practice. The threats were looked into by the school district. The family did not believe the former school handled the situation appropriately and the failure to investigate the harassment claims led to the family pulling the students from the district and enrolling them to start the 2022-23 school year at St. Francis High School in order to get a new start in a new environment. Supporting documentation from the school and family included a letter and a summary of the family's meeting notes with the superintendent of Benzie Central Schools. The request was for immediate eligibility in all sports for the student-athletes.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Wyoming-Lee High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 11<sup>th</sup>-grade student who played football and basketball while a student at Kelloggsville High School as a 9<sup>th</sup>- and 10<sup>th</sup>-grader. The transfer to Lee High School is being made so that the student can receive guidance and support from a staff member at Lee who has mentored him in the past. The mother desired a new start based on challenges that the student had while at Kelloggsville, including both academics and discipline. It was hoped that a new start at Lee High School and with his mentor would allow him to succeed and not fall into the same negative behaviors that an older brother exhibited. A supporting letter from the former school was included. The request was for immediate eligibility in both football and basketball.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Wyoming High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an incoming 10<sup>th</sup>-grade student who participated in football, basketball and track & field while a student at Godwin Heights High School as a 9<sup>th</sup>-grader. The family chose to transfer the student to Wyoming High School in order to get a new academic and social start and to help with discipline, academics and transportation challenges. The school sought immediate subvarsity athletic eligibility.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Midland High School (Regulation II, Section 11[H]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 241, a request to waive the four-player rule for the 2022-23 school year was made on behalf of the head girls swimming & diving coach who is also employed by the Midland Dolphins Swim Team. While non-school swimming is not the coach's primary source of income, she relies on the additional income to pay down student loans. The club is open to the public, and for 2022-23, it is anticipated to include 150-200 participants, ages 5-18. Approximately 50-75 students in grades 7-12 participate. The program includes students from six school districts.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for this coach for the 2022-23 school year.

Flint-International Academy of Flint and Flint Cultural Center Academy Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these two member middle schools in football (6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades combined). International Academy of Flint will be the primary school.

Mt. Pleasant and Mt. Pleasant-Renaissance PS Academy Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these two member middle schools in football (separate 7<sup>th</sup>-grade and 8<sup>th</sup>-grade teams). Mt. Pleasant will be the primary school.

Pigeon—Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port Laker and Pigeon-Cross Lutheran Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program between these two member middle schools in boys and girls soccer (6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades combined). Laker will be the primary school.

Watervliet, Benton Harbor-Riverside and Watervliet-Grace Christian Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Riverside School to a cooperative program that exists between the other two middle schools in football (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades combined). Watervliet will be the primary school.

Next Meetings – The next meetings of the Executive Committee are scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 8, 2022, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing (Virtual); Thursday, Sept. 29, 2022, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing (Virtual); Wednesday, Nov. 2, 2022, at 9 a.m. in East Lansing (Virtual); and Thursday, Dec. 1, 2022, at 1 p.m. in East Lansing (Representative Council meets next day).