

MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

REVISED

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

East Lansing, August 11, 2009

Members Present:

Jim Derocher, Negaunee
Scott Grimes, Grand Haven
Vic Michaels, Detroit
Rudy Godefroidt, Hemlock
Fred Smith, Buchanan

Staff Members Present:

Tom Rashid
Jack Roberts (Recorder)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Summary of 2008-09 Waivers – During the 2008-09 program year, there were 540 (versus 524 in 2007-08, 448 in 2006-07, 518 in 2005-06, 436 in 2004-05, 355 in 2003-04 and 408 in 2002-03) requests by member schools to waive regulations, of which 419 (396 in 2007-08, 326 in 2006-07, 387 in 2005-06, 297 in 2004-05, 24 in 2003-04 and 215 in 2002-03) were approved by the Executive Committee. Of the total, 354 (372 in 2007-08, 282 in 2006-07, 276 in 2005-06, 295 in 2004-05, 232 in 2003-04 and 291 in 2002-03) requests involved the transfer regulation, of which 263 were approved (275 in 2007-08, 198 in 2006-07, 204 in 2005-06, 196 in 2004-05, 144 in 2003-04 and 130 in 2002-03).

Rationale for Transfer Regulation – The following rationale for the transfer regulation, first established by the Executive Committee on Aug. 6, 1985 and last reviewed Aug. 11, 2008, was reaffirmed:

- a. The rule tends to insure equality of competition in that each school plays students who have been in that school and established their eligibility in that school.
- b. The rule tends to prevent students from "jumping" from one school to another.
- c. The rule prevents the "bumping" of students who have previously gained eligibility in a school system by persons coming from outside the school system.
- d. The rule tends to prevent interscholastic athletic recruiting.
- e. The rule tends to prevent or discourage dominance of one sport at one school with a successful program, i.e., the concentration of excellent baseball players at one school to the detriment of surrounding schools through transfers and to the detriment of the natural school population and ability mix.
- f. The rule tends to create and maintain stability in that age group, i.e., it promotes team stability and team work expectation fulfillment.
- g. The rule is designed to discourage parents from "school shopping" for athletic purposes.
- h. The rule is consistent with educational philosophy of going to school for academics first and athletics second.
- i. It eliminates family financial status from becoming a factor on eligibility, thus making a uniform rule for all students across the state of Michigan (i.e., tuition and millage considerations).
- j. It tends to encourage competition between nonpublic and public schools, rather than discourage that competition.
- k. It tends to reduce friction or threat of students changing schools because of problems they may have created or because of their misconduct, etc.

Clio and Otisville-Lakeville High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 1,707 students will place the team in the Division 2 tournament. Clio has sponsored hockey previously and will be the primary school. The Flint Metro League declined to support the agreement due to league rules. Support from future opponents was received from many league members who will be playing the proposed team as an independent.

Detroit-Cody and Detroit-Osborn High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1) – Assistant Director Nate Hampton reported that the Detroit Public Schools are opening several new small specialized curriculum schools within a school on the sites of Cody and Osborn High Schools to begin the 2009-10 school year. These small schools will only serve students from each school's respective attendance area and will only enroll 9th-grade students this fall. Grades 10-12 at Cody and Osborn will operate as Cody and Osborn Upper Schools for three years and are planned to be phased out as students remain in their respective specialized schools. The Detroit Public Schools, under the direction of a state-appointed emergency financial manager, requested that these 9th-grade students enrolling at a specialized curriculum school be eligible at Cody or Osborn, respectively, for the 2009-10 school year with a determination of future eligibility to come in early 2010 when the longer-range plans can be finalized by the district and the MHSAA.

The Executive Committee observed that these specialized schools are intended for students who reside within the Cody or Osborn attendance area, will be housed within the Cody or Osborn facilities and intending to receive a diploma identified with Cody or Osborn. Therefore, the Executive Committee determined that these 9th-grade students shall be eligible for interscholastic sports teams of Cody or Osborn, respectively; and that the transfer rule will apply to all other students who enroll in any of these schools-within-schools. If these schools-within-schools close, their students will be eligible only at Cody or Osborn, respectively, unless Cody Upper School or Osborn Upper School also closes. Communication between Cody and Osborn will be necessary prior to their submission of Enrollment Declaration Forms in February of 2010 to review school district plans for 2010-11 and beyond within the context of MHSAA policies and procedures for interscholastic athletics.

Durand and Linden-Lake Fenton High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey between these two schools which sponsored hockey previously and whose combined enrollment of 1,081 students will continue the placement of one team in the Division 3 tournament. Durand will be the primary school. Support from the Genesee Area Conference was provided.

Freeland and Carrollton High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 1,072 students will continue the placement of one team in the Division 3 tournament. Freeland sponsored the sport previously and will be the primary school. Support from several future opponents was provided.

Grand Rapids: Creston, Central, Ottawa Hills and Union High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey between these four schools of the same district which previously sponsored hockey in two separate cooperative programs and whose combined enrollment of 3,378 students will place one team in the Division 1 tournament. Creston will be the primary school. Support from the OK Conference was provided.

Haslett, Bath and Williamston High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Bath High School to a cooperative program in girls gymnastics that has existed between Haslett and Williamston. The combined enrollment will be 1,862 students. Haslett will continue as the primary school. Support from the Capital Area Activities Conference was provided.

Jackson, Jackson-Vandercook Lake, Parma-Jackson County Western and Springport High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey between these four schools whose combined enrollment of 3,242 students will continue placement of one team in the Division 1 tournament. Jackson High School sponsored hockey previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Capital Area Activities Conference was provided.

Jenison, Zeeland East and Zeeland West High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – Because league support had not been received, the Executive Committee tabled a cooperative program in ice hockey between these three schools whose combined enrollment of 3,344 students will place a new team in the Division 1 tournament. Jenison sponsored ice hockey previously and will be the primary school.

L'Anse and Baraga High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in boys and girls bowling between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 421 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 4 tournament. L'Anse sponsored the sport previously and will be the primary school. Support from several future opponents and the UP Bowling Association was received.

Midland-Bullock Creek and Sanford-Meridian High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[F]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in ice hockey between these two schools which have not sponsored the sport previously and whose combined enrollment of 1,078 students will place a new team in the Division 3 tournament. Support from several potential future opponents was received.

Rogers City and Posen High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in wrestling between these two schools whose combined enrollment of 323 students will continue placement of a team in the Division 4 tournament. Rogers City sponsored wrestling previously and will be the primary school. Support from the Straits Area Conference was received.

Vassar, Millington and Caro High Schools (Regulation I, Section 1[E]) – The Executive Committee approved the addition of Caro to a cooperative agreement in girls gymnastics which has existed between Vassar and Millington since 1994. Caro was previously in an agreement with Cass City which has dissolved. All three schools sponsored gymnastics previously; Vassar will continue as the primary school. The combined enrollment will be 1,660 students. Support from future opponents was provided.

Harbor Springs High School (Regulation I, Sections 4 & 5) – A request to waive the maximum enrollment and competition portions of the eligibility regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student entering his fifth year of high school. The student attended Harbor Springs High School for the 9th grade in 2005-06 and participated in football and basketball while residing with his mother and stepfather and has had a variable living situation since that time. The student moved with his family and enrolled at Schoolcraft for the 2006-07 school year. The mother and stepfather moved back to Harbor Springs but the student remained at Schoolcraft, residing with his birth father and then an aunt during the 2007-08 school year. In February 2009, the student moved back to Harbor Springs with his mother and stepfather and reenrolled at Harbor Springs for the third trimester of the 2008-09 school year. The student did not participate in athletics during the 12th grade in 2008-09, and it is anticipated the student will graduate from Harbor Springs at the end of the 2009-10 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Holly High School (Regulation I, Sections 4 & 5) – A request to waive the maximum enrollment and competition portions of the eligibility regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who attended Waterford Kettering High School for the 9th and 10th grades from 2005-2007, passing very few classes each semester before enrolling at Holly High School to begin the 11th grade in 2007-08 where the student passed all classes over six trimesters. The student experienced the death of three grandparents with whom she was quite close between April and November of 2005. The student did not participate in athletics during the 9th and 10th grades or first semester of her 11th grade.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Newaygo High School (Regulation I, Sections 4 & 5) – A request to waive the maximum enrollment and competition portions of the eligibility regulation is made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who began the 9th grade in the 2005-06 school year at White Cloud High School before transferring to Fremont High School, receiving no credit for eight courses taken in the 9th grade, and credit for five of eight classes in the 10th grade. In 2007-08, the student began the 11th grade at Newaygo High School and received credit for seven of eight courses; and six of eight courses in the 12th grade during the 2008-09 school year. A fifth year of eligibility was requested due to a lack of proper procedures at other schools the student has attended.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Fenton High School (Regulation I, Section 7) – A request to waive the previous academic credit record regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who did not accomplish a satisfactory previous credit record for either semester of the 2008-09 school year. While it is anticipated the student will successfully complete two summer school classes (the maximum number of summer school classes the school district permits a student to take), the student would still be deficient by one-half credit, which he may be able to overcome through an online course. The student's academic deficiencies are attributed to the confidential revelation in November 2008 regarding the student's father which forced the family to move from Missouri to Fenton at that time. The student has been receiving professional care.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver provided the student passes the two summer school courses.

Athens High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a foreign exchange student (grade to be determined) from a CSIET-approved program who resides with a host family in the Colon School District. The host family owns a business in Athens and has three children attending Athens Schools in grades 2, 3 and 7.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Atlanta High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who previously attended St. Clair Shores-Lake Shore High School while living with her mother and her mother's boyfriend. The student left the home and school and lived on the street after the boyfriend's brother committed a criminal act. At the mother's urging, the student has moved to the residence of her aunt in Atlanta while the 11-year-old remains with the mother. The boyfriend's brother was convicted and sentenced in late July.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Auburn-Bay City Western High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who attended Sanford-Meridian High School for the 9th and 10th grades and intends to enroll at Bay City Western to begin the 2009-10 school year due to harassment and threats while enrolled at Meridian High School. Outside documentation was not received.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Auburn Hills-Oakland Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who previously attended Auburn Hills Christian School and is changing schools for academic reasons. The former school did not sponsor a soccer team and the school requested eligibility in soccer only. A sibling is also changing schools.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Bloomfield Hills-Cranbrook Kingswood High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 59 (closest nonpublic school) was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Cranbrook-Kingswood Schools previously through the 7th grade before moving to Australia with her family due to employment. The student has returned to the same residence and intends to reenroll at Cranbrook for the 2009-10 school year. Cranbrook is the former school but not the closest nonpublic school to the family's residence.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Byron High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 59 was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who previously attended Swartz Creek High School while residing with his mother. The student was placed by the court in a residential facility in the Bay City School District for 18 months. Due to that situation, the student's high school siblings enrolled at Byron High School in January 2009. The student has returned to live with his mother and will enroll at the school where his siblings attend.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Calumet High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended school in Richmond, Illinois while living with his parents and is having difficulty at home and in school. The student has moved to Calumet to live with his grandparents, played sparingly on the high school team in Illinois, and will enroll at Calumet to begin the 2009-10 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Canton-Plymouth High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student because the family can no longer afford tuition at Novi-Detroit Catholic Central High School. The student will be enrolling at Plymouth High School to begin the 2009-10 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Canton-Salem High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student because the family can no longer afford tuition at Ann Arbor-Gabriel Richard High School. The student will be enrolling at Salem High School to begin the 2009-10 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Clarkston High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Clarkston Schools from kindergarten until May 2009 when the father lost his job, the family was evicted from their home and lived with relatives for a month. The family purchased a home in Holly where the student enrolled for the last three weeks of the 2008-09 school year. The student has moved with his mother only to Clarkston, again residing with relatives. The student intends to reenroll at Clarkston High School to begin the 2009-10 school year.

Because of the brief time away and return to the same school, the Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Clarkston High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who previously attended Waterford Mott High School while living with his parents. The father has undergone procedures and quit his job for insurance purposes. The parents have determined it best for the student to move in with his grandmother rather than endure the stress of the father's illness.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Delton Kellogg High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who attended Coopersville High School for the 9th grade while residing with his mother, stepfather and younger brother, participated in athletics, made poor choices and was cited for a legal violation. The family determined it best that the student move to the residence of his aunt in Delton where the student will enroll to begin the 2009-10 school year. The parents have been divorced since the student was two years old; he will be living closer to his biological father who resides in Wayland.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

DeWitt High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student whose mother is not part of the student's life and whose father will be traveling out of state for business reasons. The student previously attended Lansing-Eastern High School, was suspended and then attended Lansing-Sexton High School at the request of the Lansing School District. While attending Lansing schools, the student lived with his father. The student will be residing with a family friend in DeWitt while the father is out of state.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Evert High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who previously attended Remus-Chippewa Hills High School before enrolling at Evert on March 17, 2009 due to threats which involved law enforcement at the previous school.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver on the basis of the limited documentation provided.

Gladstone High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who previously attended Stephenson High School for the 9th and 10th grades while living with her adopted mother of eight years. The student was removed from her biological mother; the father is in prison. The student was having difficulty with her adopted mother, and has moved to the residence of an aunt in Gladstone who has received power of attorney.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Grandville-Calvin Christian High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation and specifically interpretation 59 (closest nonpublic school by drivable highway miles). The student previously attended Wyoming-Kelloggsville High School and moved with his family to an apartment in Grandville located adjacent to the Kent County Trail upon which the student can walk ($\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ mile) to Calvin Christian High School. Using drivable miles, the student is slightly closer ($\frac{1}{2}$ mile) to Wyoming-Tri-unity Christian than to Calvin Christian High School.

Citing the small difference and the fact that the distance was actual and walkable, the Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Grosse Pointe Woods-University Liggett High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended Detroit-U of D Jesuit High School and was adopted by a step-parent in February 2009. The student attended Liggett schools for elementary and middle school before enrolling after the adoption at U of D Jesuit and participated in 9th-grade football. The student was unhappy at his former school and is hoping for a fresh start at Liggett.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Harrison Township-L'Anse Creuse High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student whose mother suffers with substance abuse and whose father's whereabouts have been unknown for ten years. The student has lived with his grandparents in Florida who have been his guardians since 2001. The grandfather recently experienced health issues which make it difficult for the grandparents to continue to care for the student who then moved in with his great aunt and uncle in the L'Anse Creuse School District over the summer. The student will be enrolling at L'Anse Creuse to begin the 2009-10 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Ishpeming High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who resides in the Ishpeming School District and attended Ishpeming High School for the 9th and 10th grades and first half of the 11th grade until enrolling at Ishpeming-Westwood High School on Feb 16, 2009 due to health issues. The student was hospitalized April 27-29, 2009 and has been receiving counseling to aide his recovery. The student reenrolled at Ishpeming High School on May 5, 2009.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Kalamazoo Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously attended Kalamazoo Christian High School and participated in athletics. The student enrolled at Kalamazoo Central High School on March 30, 2009 because, as a minority student, he preferred a more diverse atmosphere. If immediate eligibility was not granted, the school requested eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment for compelling reasons.

The Executive Committee did not approve either request for waiver.

Litchfield High School (Regulation I, Section 9[D]) – A request was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit eligibility on the 91st school day of enrollment. The student previously attended Brooklyn-Columbia Central High School before enrolling at Litchfield on March 3, 2009.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver effective with the student's 91st school day of enrollment commencing March 3, 2009.

Madison Heights-Bishop Foley High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who previously attended Warren-Cousino High School after withdrawing from Bishop Foley at the end of the 2007-08 school year because both parents lost their jobs and could no longer afford tuition. The student and a younger sibling attended Catholic schools their whole careers. The parents have found employment and the student is reenrolling at Bishop Foley to begin the 2009-10 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Manistee-Catholic Central High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request was made on behalf of a 12th-grade foreign exchange student to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 82 (two semesters of eligibility and then no more). The student enrolled at Catholic Central to begin the 2008-09 school year through a CSJET-listed program (Pacific International Exchange) and played two and one-half months of junior varsity volleyball. The previous host parents have become legal guardians of the student.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Memphis High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who has experienced difficulties related in part to his father leaving the family eight years ago. The student has moved from the residence of his mother and siblings in the Sterling Heights-Utica Ford II attendance area to the home of an aunt and uncle and will be enrolling at Memphis High School to begin the 2009-10 school year. The family believes the student needs a change of environment and the uncle will provide a positive male role model which the student has been lacking.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Midland-Bullock Creek High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who has been adopted since age four. When the adopted father died four years ago, the student began to have difficulty and spent two periods of time in a home for troubled children, the most recent for ten months during the 10th grade. During the 11th grade, the student's mother could no longer care for the student and sought placement of the student with a family who resides in the Bullock Creek School District. The student spent several weekends with the new family in the summer of 2009 and intends to enroll at Bullock Creek High School to begin the 2009-10 school year for a better living arrangement.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Muskegon-Oakridge High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who previously attended school in Tennessee while living with his mother and father, who is being deployed to Afghanistan. The student has two brothers with special needs, one who will be going to a facility in North Carolina and one who will remain with the mother. The student has been sent to live with an uncle who resides in the Oakridge School District.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Otsego High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who attended Otsego High School to begin the 9th grade in the 2007-08 school year and transferred to Plainwell for the second semester, spending time with his grandparents who lived near Plainwell High School. The student encountered an unhealthy lifestyle, tested positive for marijuana and quit the wrestling team. The student intends to reenroll at Otsego High School to begin the 2009-10 school year.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Oxford High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 59 (public school of residence). The student was an 8th grader attending and residing within the Oxford School District until the family sold their home and moved to Mexico due to the father's employment. The student attended 9th grade and participated in athletics in Mexico. The family will be moving back to the United States in mid-August and wish to reenroll the student at Oxford but are uncertain if they will find a home in the Oxford School District.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Parchment High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A late request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who previously attended Muskegon High School for grades 9-10 where he did not participate in athletics. On May 8, 2009, the student took up residency with an uncle in Muskegon due to disciplinary issues at his former school. The student continued at Muskegon High School from the uncle's residence and completed the school year on June 12. Over the summer the uncle, his family and the student moved closer to the uncle's work.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver. The student is not eligible immediately unless he meets one of the exceptions to the transfer rule and is eligible under all other rules.

Royal Oak High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation and specifically the language that a residential change is from one school district to another school district. The student previously attended Madison Heights-Bishop Foley High School before the family lost their home through foreclosure, after which the family moved to a rental property. Both residences are in Royal Oak. The student's former home in Royal Oak was ¼ mile from Bishop Foley. The student now lives in a rental property closer to Royal Oak High School than to Bishop Foley.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Saginaw-Heritage High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who was raised by her grandmother since she was two years old except for the past two years when the student lived with an aunt in Florida because the grandmother moved to Saginaw. The father died before the student was born and the mother is unstable and has not been in the child's life for years. The school contends that the grandmother is more the parent than the parent and the student should be eligible under Exception 2 (student not living with parent, returns to live with parent).

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Saginaw-Michigan Lutheran Seminary (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit delayed application of the Educational Transfer Form. The student and his parents reside on an Indian reservation in Arizona and the student began the 9th grade at East Fork Lutheran School which ceased to operate (Exception 6) at the end of the student's 9th grade year in June 2007. The student then enrolled for the 10th grade at Michigan Lutheran Seminary in August 2007 as a bona fide boarding school student using a completed Educational Transfer Form (Exception 13). Because the father left the reservation to seek employment, the student returned to the reservation to care for his mother and siblings and enrolled at the local public high school in Arizona for the 11th grade. The student is now returning to Michigan Lutheran Seminary and wishes to use the boarding school exception and Educational Transfer Form, requesting that the eligibility in the 2007 enrollment at Michigan Lutheran Seminary be considered under Exception 6 because the former school ceased to operate.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Sand Creek High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student who attended Sand Creek Schools until his father died and the student experienced difficulty which resulted in changing residences with the mother to Texas, and many hardships. The student has returned to the area and is living with an aunt in Adrian whose children also attend Sand Creek. The student will reenroll at Sand Creek to begin the 2009-10 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

South Haven High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who attended South Haven High School since the 9th grade in the 2006-07 school year while residing with his aunt and legal guardian for the past two and one-half years. When the aunt lost her home in December 2008, the student relocated to Arizona to temporarily reside with his mother and grandmother. The aunt has reestablished an adequate home and the student has returned to South Haven and will reenroll to begin the 2009-10 school year at South Haven High School. The student did not participate in athletics in Arizona.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Swartz Creek High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student who previously lived in Texas and whose mother is in the military and is being deployed to Iraq for at least one year. The father is not in the student's life. The student will reside with an uncle in Swartz Creek and enroll to begin the 2009-10 school year.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Vestaburg High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request was made on behalf of an 11th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation to permit a second use of the Educational Transfer Form. In September 2008, the student lived with his mother in Vestaburg and changed residences to his father in Carson City-Crystal using an Educational Transfer Form before reenrolling at Vestaburg on March 27, 2009. The student experienced the death of his grandfather in 2001, parents divorcing in 2002, and illness of his sister in 2005 and 2007.

The Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Westland-Lutheran High School Westland (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request was made on behalf of a 10th-grade student to waive the transfer regulation and specifically Interpretation 59 (closest nonpublic school). The student's father is a Lutheran minister of the Missouri Synod previously assigned to a church in Reed City who has accepted a position in Livonia. The entire family will relocate to a residence to be determined close to the Lutheran church in Livonia and the two Lutheran schools of the Missouri Synod to which the children have registered to enroll. As the family has not as yet obtained a residence in the area, it is likely that Lutheran High School Westland will not be the closest nonpublic school but will be the closest school of the Lutheran Missouri Synod to their new residence. The younger siblings previously attended a Lutheran grade school in Reed City; a Lutheran high school was not available.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Williamston High School (Regulation I, Section 9) – A request to waive the transfer regulation was made on behalf of a 12th-grade student who previously attended Fowlerville High School until the student experienced school attendance problems stemming from a relationship with a girlfriend.

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 only 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 Sub-varsity Eligibility Status
Clarkston	10	Home School	Sept. 2009	Jan. 18, 2010
Livonia-Clarenceville	10	Dearborn-Divine Child	Sept. 2009	Jan. 18, 2010
Quincy	10	Quincy-Tri-State Christian	Sept. 2009	Jan. 18, 2010
Troy	10	Bloomfield Hills-Brother Rice	Sept. 2009	Jan. 18, 2010

Midland-Dow High School (Regulation II, Section 6) – A request to waive the 600-mile round-trip travel limitation was made to allow Bradley-Bourbonnais High School (Illinois) to play football at Midland Community Stadium on Saturday, Sept. 19, 2009, at 2 p.m. Bradley-Bourbonnais is 319 miles from Midland. Dow High School had a verbal agreement with Melvindale-Academy for Business and Technology for a game on this date which was cancelled on July 1, 2009. Academy for Business and Technology is sponsoring football for the first time and is playing Flint Northwestern on that date. Only Peck High School (enrollment 165 students) is open on the date in question. Attempts to schedule with schools in Ohio, Indiana and Ontario have not yielded an opponent.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver.

Central Oakland Middle School Athletic Conference (Regulation III, Section 1[C]) – Pursuant to Interpretation 249, requests to allow 6th-grade students to participate with and against 7th- and 8th-grade students in cross country, swimming & diving, tennis and track & field were received from the six middle schools which are members of the Oakland Middle School Athletic Conference: Berkley-Anderson, Berkley-Norup International, Birmingham-Derby, Bloomfield Hills-East Hills, Bloomfield Hills-West Hills and Bloomfield Hills—Cranbrook-Kingswood Middle Schools. Corresponding high school enrollments are as follows: Berkley 1,241; Beverley Hills-Groves 1,352; Birmingham-Seaholm 1,208; Bloomfield Hills-Andover 1,013; Bloomfield Hills-Lahser 946; and Cranbrook-Kingswood 771.

Noting that the size of the schools here far exceeds those for which waiver has been approved in the past, and considering the Representative Council's recent decision to not modify this Section, the Executive Committee did not approve the request for waiver.

Climax-Scotts Middle School (Regulation III, Section 1[C]) – On June 11, 2009, the Executive Committee did not approve a request to permit 6th graders to participate with and against 7th and 8th graders in volleyball, basketball, track & field and wrestling, due in part to a prohibition against 6th graders participating in junior high/ middle school wrestling and in part to the enrollments of Climax-Scotts High School (223 students) and Middle School (44 7th graders and 35 8th graders). The school resubmitted its request, removing wrestling and including additional information regarding the low numbers of participants and enrollment projections which may result in dropping junior high/middle school athletics. In addition, it was reported that five schools in their middle school league have been allowed to use 6th graders and the approval was previously granted for the 2007-08 school year when both the high school and middle school enrollments were higher than projected for 2009-10. The school reported that it only requests the 6th-grade option when it is necessary to maintain the athletic program.

The Executive Committee approved the request for waiver for 2009-10 for volleyball, basketball and track & field.

Regulation III, Section 1(C) – Pursuant to Interpretation 249, the following junior high/middle schools were approved for waiver of the enrollment regulation to permit 6th-grade students to participate with and against 7th and/or 8th graders for the sports listed in the 2009-10 school year only:

Junior High/ Middle School	Sport(s)	High School Enrollment	Middle School Enrollment
Burton-Faithway Christian	boys & girls basketball, girls volleyball	51	25 7 th & 8 th graders
DeTour	all sports	69	15 7 th graders 13 8 th graders
Escanaba-Holy Name	all 7 th -grade teams	N/A	30 7 th & 8 th graders
Hillman	boys & girls basketball, boys & girls track & field	166	41 7 th graders 43 8 th graders
Litchfield	boys & girls basketball, boys & girls cross country, boys & girls track & field, girls volleyball	132	27 7 th graders 22 8 th graders
Pentwater	all sports	92	21 7 th graders 21 8 th graders
Tekonsha	boys & girls basketball, boys & girls cross country, boys & girls track & field, volleyball	108	40 7 th & 8 th grad- ers
Waldron	all sports	131	26 7 th graders 23 8 th graders
Warren-Macomb Christian	boys & girls basketball, boys soccer, volleyball, baseball & softball	68	23 7 th & 8 th grad- ers
Watersmeet	all sports	73	20 7 th graders 15 8 th graders

Grosse Pointe Woods-Parcells and Grosse Pointe Farms-Brownell Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved a cooperative program in wrestling between these two schools of the same district. Both schools sponsored wrestling previously, Parcells will be the primary school.

Holland: West, East, Jefferson, Holland Heights and Eight @ HHS Middle Schools (Regulation III, Section 1[D]) – The Executive Committee approved two cooperative agreements among these five member schools, three of which are new schools resulting from the merger of some elementary schools in the Holland Public Schools. All 8th graders will be housed at a new school at Holland High School called “Eight @ HHS,” and two new K-7 schools called Jefferson and Heights will be opened. Holland West and Holland East Middle Schools continue. The school district is opening three new junior high/middle schools and forming two cooperative agreements:

Holland Heights, East, Jefferson and West Middle Schools – A cooperative agreement joining 7th grade students from these schools of the same district in boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, football and girls volleyball. Holland will have stand-alone 8th-grade teams at Eight @ HHS in these sports. East and West sponsored these sports previously; the other schools are newly opened. Holland Heights Middle School will be the primary school.

Holland-Eight @ HHS, Holland Heights, East, Jefferson and West Middle Schools – A cooperative agreement between these five schools of the same district in boys and girls tennis, boys and girls swimming & diving, boys and girls track & field and wrestling. East and West sponsored these sports previously; the other schools are newly opened. Eight @ HHS Middle School 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:

Kentwood-Grand River Preparatory High School is operated by American Dream Network Company with feeder schools from the National Heritage Academy Network and was chartered through Grand Valley State University. This school first opened in 2008-09 with a 9th grade, adding a grade each year. Currently there are 240 students attending grades 9-10 with a waiting list. The school is located in a former religious school with a multipurpose room serving as gymnasium. New school and athletic facilities are in process. In 2009-10, the school intends to sponsor boys soccer, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, basketball, track & field, baseball and softball. The signed 2009-10 Membership Resolution was received July 7, 2009. The Athletic Department Code of Conduct and Preliminary Enrollment Declaration were also received. If a 2010-11 Membership Resolution is received prior to Oct. 2, 2010, the school will be eligible for MHSAA tournaments for the 2010-11 school year.

Manistee-Casman Alternative Academy is a public school academy chartered through the Manistee Intermediate School District in 1997. With a 9-12 enrollment of approximately 80 students, the school intends to enter into cooperative programs with Manistee-Catholic Central High School beginning with the winter of 2009-10 in all sports sponsored by Catholic Central. The school's title of Alternative Academy is descriptive of the instruction and not necessarily to the makeup of the students. The school operates on a semester basis and one of 12 schools selected by the Michigan Department of Education to provide students some or all of their classes online. The signed 2009-10 Membership Resolution was received June 25, 2009. The Athletic Department Code of Conduct and Preliminary Enrollment Declaration were also received. If a 2010-11 Membership Resolution is received prior to Oct. 2, 2010, the school will be eligible for MHSAA tournaments for the 2010-11 school year. If accepted into membership, students from Casman Academy may participate in cooperative programs also approved by the Executive Committee for the 2009-10 school year. Casman Academy does not anticipate offering stand-alone athletic teams in the future because it lacks facilities.

Consolidation of MHSAA *Bulletin* and *Mentor* Publications for 2009-10 – The Executive Committee approved a new publication to be published three times annually to replace both the *MHSAA Bulletin* and *Mentor*.

Committees – The Executive Committee approved dates and invitations for MHSAA committees which meet before Dec. 14, 2008. They reflect the third year of reductions in size of 25-33 percent from the 2006-07 school year.

Changing Developments in Swimsuits – Assistant Director Gina Mazzolini reviewed changes in swimsuit specifications recently approved by FINA, NCAA and US Swim and those proposed by the National Federation Swimming & Diving Committee to the National Federation Board of Directors – which address layering, length and material – for the purpose of maintaining the integrity of the sport and competitive equity.

The Executive Committee determined that the committee's proposal will be adopted for MHSAA member schools for the 2009-10 school year even if the National Federation Board of Directors does not approve the changes or delays implementation.

(Note: Later on Aug. 11, 2009, the National Federation Board of Directors adopted the proposals requiring 100 percent textile suits, not layered and of prescribed length.)

Next meetings – The next meetings of the Executive Committee are Wednesday, Sept. 9, 2009, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; Monday, Oct. 5, 2009, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; Wednesday, Nov. 4, 2009, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing; Thursday, Dec. 3, 2009, at 1:30 p.m. in East Lansing (with the Representative Council meeting the following morning); Wednesday, Jan. 13, 2010, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing (with the Classification Committee meeting at 1 p.m.); Wednesday, Feb. 24, 2010, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing (with the Audit and Finance Committee to follow); and Thursday, March 25, 2010, at 8:30 a.m. in East Lansing (with the Representative Council meeting the following morning).