

October 7, 2021, OHSAA Appeals

The OHSAA Appeals Panel met with appellants on October 7, 2021, in person at the OHSAA offices. Appeals Panel members were Mr. Tony Mantell, former superintendent of Portsmouth City Schools; Mr. Andy Bixler, superintendent of Anna Local Schools; and Dr. Kathy McFarland, deputy chief executive director of the Ohio School Boards Association. Mr. Mantell served as the appeals hearing officer.

Also in attendance for all or portions of the appeals: Steve Craig, OHSAA legal counsel; Bob Goldring, OHSAA director of communications and special projects; Kristin Ronai, OHSAA director of compliance; and Ronald Sayers, OHSAA manager of membership and compliance.

A. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, a 12th-Grade Student, Toledo Whitmer High School (Northwest District)

A 12th-grade student transferred from Toledo St. Francis de Sales High School to Toledo Whitmer High School. As a transfer student, the student becomes ineligible beginning with the second 50 percent of the maximum allowable regular season contests and the OHSAA postseason tournament(s) in any sport in which the students participated during the 12 months immediately preceding the transfer. The Executive Director's Office determined that none of the enumerated exceptions to Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, and specifically exception 1, were applicable.

The student; the student's parent, Gisele McCoy; Sean Flemmings, Whitmer athletic administrator; and Kadee Anstadt, Washington Local School District superintendent, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Whitmer High School.

There was a motion to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 3-0.

B. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, an 11th-Grade and a 10th-Grade Student, Hannibal River High School (East District)

An 11th-grade and a 10th-grade student transferred from Magnolia High School (WV) to Hannibal River High School. As transfer students, the students become ineligible beginning with the second 50 percent of the maximum allowable regular season contests and the OHSAA postseason tournament(s) in any sport in which the students participated during the 12 months immediately preceding the transfer. The Executive Director's Office determined that none of the enumerated exceptions to Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, and specifically exception 1, were applicable.

The students; the students' parents, Aaron and Amy Cisar; and the students' sibling appealed the ruling so that the students could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at River High School.

There was a motion to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 3-0.

C. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, a 12th-Grade Student, Canton South High School (Northeast District)

A 12th-grade student transferred from Massillon Washington High School to Canton South High School. As a transfer student, the student becomes ineligible beginning with the second 50 percent of the maximum allowable regular season contests and the OHSAA postseason tournament(s) in any sport in which the students participated during the 12 months immediately preceding the transfer. The Executive Director's Office determined that none of the enumerated exceptions to Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfers, and specifically exception 2, were applicable.

The student; the student's parent, Brett Mundell; and Matt Dennison, South athletic administrator, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at South High School.

There was a motion to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 3-0.

A. Bylaw 4-3-3, Semesters, A 12th-Grade Student, Wheelersburg High School (Southeast District)

A 12th-grade student exhausted his eight semesters of eligibility at the high school level during the 2020-21 school year. By operation of Bylaw 4-3-3, Semesters, the student is ineligible to compete at the high school level in Ohio. The Executive Director's Office determined that none of the enumerated exceptions to Bylaw 4-3-4 could be met.

The student and his mother, Melissa Gregg, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics during the fall semester at Wheelersburg High School.

There was a motion to **deny** the appeal.

Motion passed 3-0.