

October 12, 2022, OHSAA Appeals

The OHSAA Appeals Panel met with appellants on October 12, 2022, virtually through Microsoft Teams. Appeals Panel members were Dr. Kathy McFarland, deputy chief executive director of the Ohio School Boards Association; Dr. John Richard, former superintendent of Perry Local Schools and deputy superintendent of Ohio Department of Education; Dr. Keith Bell, former superintendent of Euclid City Schools and Westerville City Schools; and Mr. Tyrone Olverson, former superintendent of Trotwood City Schools. Dr. McFarland 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; Ronald Sayers, OHSAA manager of membership and compliance; Alexis Holderman, OHSAA membership and compliance administrative assistance; and Doug Ute, OHSAA Executive Director.

A. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, an 11th-Grade Student, Ironton High School (Southeast District)

An 11th grade student transferred from Ashland, KY to Ironton High School to start the 2022-23 school year. 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 student 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's father, Ellis Pittman, and Trevon Pendleton, Ironton athletic administrator, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Ironton High School.

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

Motion Passed 4-0.

B. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, an 11th-Grade Student, Ironton High School (Southeast District)

An 11th grade student transferred from Ashland, KY to Ironton High School to start the 2022-23 school year. 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 student 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 mother, Melodee Thacker; Amy Solaro, the family's legal counsel; and Trevon Pendleton, Ironton athletic administrator, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Ironton High School.

Based on the information presented during the appeal, there was a motion to **grant** the appeal.

Motion passed 4-0.