

## **November 17, 2022, OHSAA Appeals**

The OHSAA Appeals Panel met with appellants on November 17, 2022, in person at the OHSAA offices and virtually through Microsoft Teams. Appeals Panel members were Dr. Kathy McFarland, deputy chief executive director of the Ohio School Boards Association; Dr. Dale Fortner, former superintendent of Wadsworth City Schools; Dr. Keith Bell, former superintendent of Euclid City Schools and Westerville City Schools; and Mr. Tony Mantell, former superintendent of Portsmouth 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 Eric McLaughlin, OHSAA compliance staffer.

### **A. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, an 11<sup>th</sup>-Grade Student, Sycamore Mohawk High School (Northwest District)**

An 11<sup>th</sup> grade student transferred from Upper Sandusky High School to Sycamore Mohawk High School in August 2022. 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 7, were applicable.

The student; the student's mother, Christa Shasteen; and Paul Dunn, Mohawk boys basketball coach, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Mohawk High School. Logan Slavinski, Upper Sandusky Assistant Principal, also appeared virtually through Microsoft Teams.

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

Motion passed 4-0.

### **B. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, a 12<sup>th</sup>-Grade Student, Brooklyn High School (Northeast District)**

A 12<sup>th</sup> grade student transferred from Parma Heights Valley Forge High School to Brooklyn High School in April 2022. 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 exceptions 2 and 9, were applicable.

Brooklyn athletic administrator, Mike Becker, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Brooklyn High School.

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

Motion passed 4-0.

### **C. Bylaw 4-7-7, Transfer, a 12<sup>th</sup>-Grade Student, Cleveland Benedictine High School (Northeast District)**

A 12<sup>th</sup> grade student transferred from Parma Heights Holy Name High School to Cleveland Benedictine High School in August 2022. 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 the requirements set forth in Bylaw 4-7-7 were not met.

The student; the student's parents, Jena and Craig Patton; Kelly Cunningham, the student's psychotherapist; and John Carter, Benedictine athletic administrator, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Benedictine High School.

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

Motion passed 4-0.

### **D. Bylaw 4-7-5, Transfer, a 12<sup>th</sup>-Grade Student, Ironton St. Joseph Central High School (Southeast District)**

A 12<sup>th</sup> grade student transferred from Coal Grove Dawson-Bryant High School to Ironton St. Joseph Central High School in August 2022. 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 the requirements set forth in Bylaw 4-7-5 were not met.

The student; the student's parents, Crystal and Mike Staton; and Greg Bryant, St. Joseph Central athletic administrator, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at St. Joseph Central High School.

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

Motion passed 4-0.