

January 26, 2023, OHSAA Appeals

The OHSAA Appeals Panel met with appellants on January 26, 2023, virtually through Microsoft Teams. Appeals Panel members were Dr. Dale Fortner, former superintendent of Wadsworth City Schools; Dr. John Richard, former superintendent of Perry Local Schools and deputy superintendent of Ohio Department of Education; Ms. Jan Wilking, former athletic administrator of Wyoming City Schools; and Dr. Tyrone Olverson, former superintendent of Trotwood City Schools. Dr. Fortner served as the appeals hearing officer.

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

A. Bylaw 4-7-2, Transfer, an 11th-Grade Student, Westerville North High School (Central District)

An 11th grade student transferred from Columbus Walnut Ridge High School to Westerville North 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 2, were applicable.

The student's guardians, Tee and Shelia Perkins; Stanley Jackson, Perkins family friend; Wes, Elifritz, Athletic Administrator; and Kurt Yancy, Westerville North Principal, appealed the ruling so that the student could be fully eligible to participate in interscholastic athletics at Westerville North High School.

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

Motion passed 4-0.