

August 29, 2022

Dear Board:

The high school English Department is requesting permission from the Okemos Public Schools School Board for a trip to Stratford, Ontario. The purpose of the trip would be to see a Shakespeare play in Stratford. The trip would take place on October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Fifty students and 2 teacher chaperones would be taking a Blue Lakes Charter bus. The attached permission forms for students contains specific information, including:

- Date (page 2)
- Play to be seen (page 2)
- Agenda for the trip (page 3)
- Documentation needed for US citizens to cross the border (including that needed regarding COVID) (pages 2-4)
- Documentation needed for non-US citizens to cross the border (including that needed regarding COVID) (pages 2-4)
- Payment details (including scholarships) pages (3-4)
- Emergency information required for the student to participate (page 5)

Although this trip has not been taken since 2014, it does have a long-standing tradition at Okemos Public Schools, one that dates back more than 20 years prior to its temporary suspension in 2014. I would like to see it revived.

Thank you for considering this.

Amy Huntley  
English Teacher  
Okemos High School

# Stratford Field



<https://www.stratfordfestival.ca/WhatsOn/PlaysAndEvents/Production/Alls-Well-That-Ends-Well>

We will be taking a trip by Blue Lake Charters and Tours bus to Stratford, Ontario on October 20. Our objective is to see a live performance of *All's Well that Ends Well*. FUN! FUN! (See the schedule on page 2)

### To participate, US citizens need to:

- have either a passport **or** a Michigan Real ID/Driver's license



Check here on your driver's license or ID.

(a regular driver's license is not enough.) Licenses issued since October of 2020 are Enhanced, but check to be sure

**It is also required that you bring the original document (license or passport). Copies will not be accepted at the border.**

- be fully vaccinated according to Canadian status (more on this below)
- have a receipt from ArriveCAN (more on this also below)

**Non-US citizens who would like to go must:**

- have a passport
- be fully vaccinated according to Canadian status (more on this below)
- have a receipt from ArriveCAN (more on this also below)
- bring along your green card (**This must be the original; you will not be allowed to use a photocopy at the border.**)

*Students will not be allowed on the bus the morning of the trip if they do not have with them all the proper documentation. This is because our whole bus could be denied entry into Canada if someone does not have the needed materials.*

You may sign up with Ms. Huntley (room A108) on a first come, first serve basis. The cost is **\$90.00**. **If you would like to attend but this cost is a financial hardship for you, please see Mrs. Huntley. We do have some scholarships available.**

**Because all money received at the time of sign up is committed to bus and ticket payment (both of which must be paid for ahead of time), refunds cannot be issued. Please, therefore, pay close attention to all the information below to be certain you will be eligible to go. Also check your calendar closely.**

### Field Trip Schedule

**5:45 AM** Check in at student parking lot. Bring a sack lunch and/or money for lunch in Canada. Many businesses accept American money but do not account for variations in the exchange rate.

**10:30 AM** Arrive at Stratford. Do some shopping/sightseeing/see where theater is.

**10:45-1:20:** Shopping in Stratford and lunch on your own. You may bring a bag lunch or eat in Stratford at one of the locations pointed out on our brief tour. If you plan to eat there, be sure to bring money.

**1:45 PM** Be at the theater to pick up your tickets for the performance. If you don't arrive in time, you'll have to pick your tickets up at the box office. You are expected to be at the play and to stay for the entire performance.

**4:45 PM** Depart from the theater after visiting the gift shop.

**6:00-7:00 PM** Arrive in Port Huron for dinner at Wendy's or Burger King. Have money for dinner.

**10:15 PM** Arrive at school—have your ride home pre-arranged. You may use your cell phone to call your ride and give him/her notice about 15 minutes before we arrive.

**If you are willing to allow your child to attend this field trip, please...**

1. Review all the links provided below.

Find out if you are eligible to travel to Canada:  
<https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid/travel-restrictions/wizard-start>

Get a receipt from ArriveCAN 72 hours before our departure: <https://arrivecan.cbsa-asfc.cloud-nuage.canada.ca/en/privacy>

Non-US Citizens only, find out what documents you may need **in addition to your ArriveCAN receipt** to cross the border:  
<https://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp>

Non-US Citizens only, look over this webpage to be certain you meet the requirements for re-entry to the U.S. Though it refers to “air travel” cross referencing reveals the same standards apply at POE (point of entry) crossings such as the Port Huron border.  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/proof-of-vaccination.html>

2. Help your child fill out the ArriveCAN form online (<https://arrivecan.cbsa-asfc.cloud-nuage.canada.ca/en/privacy>) *This must be done on October 18th or 19th in order to receive a receipt that will be valid at the border.*

3. Fill in the emergency information on page 4.

4. Discuss the necessary border crossing information with your child to make sure both of you are aware of what is needed to ensure a border crossing. Be sure you both understand behavior expectations on this trip will comply with OPS policy.

5. You and your child should sign page 5.

6. Send pages 4 and 5 in with the required money (checks should be made out to **Okemos Public Schools**).