



**Dr. Steven Hope, Interim Superintendent**

November 18, 2020

To Whom it May Concern,

As a high school, GHS has regularly provided opportunities for students to travel outside of the state for music competitions and cultural activities. This year was to be no exception, and the music department was moving ahead with plans to travel this spring. However, as we all know, our state has been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. As much as the directors would love to give the GHS music students the experience of travel and a higher level of competition from around nation, we know that it is simply not wise to travel at this time. We know this will be disappointing for students in a year of already too many disappointments, but our number one priority is to do what is in the best interests of students, and taking students out of state during a pandemic is not in the best interests of students' health.

GHS planned the trip with an organization called World Strides, and we understand that if we cancel the trip now, we can get a full refund for students. If we wait longer to make the decision to cancel the trip, it may impact the amount of refund we will be able to get for our students/families.

The process for families to get a refund for the trip is this:

Complete the Refund Request Form, attach receipts and return to Tonia Immel, Deputy Treasurer Goshen Community Schools, 613 E. Purl St., Goshen, IN 46526 or email [timmel@goshenschools.org](mailto:timmel@goshenschools.org)  
The Refund Request Form is attached and can also be found on our website.

**The Refund Request Form must be completed entirely and signed with receipts or cancelled checks (for your safety if attaching mark out your account on the front of the check) attached, by Friday, December 11, 2020.**

For questions please contact Tonia Immel [timmel@goshenschools.org](mailto:timmel@goshenschools.org) or your child's music teacher.

Sincerely,

Dr. Steven Hope, Interim Superintendent  
Katie O'Leary and Tom Cox, GHS Music Department Co-chairs