[Date Here]

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

This letter is to inform you that an individual at your child’s school was recently diagnosed with impetigo. Impetigo is a skin infection commonly caused by group A streptococci or staphylococcus aureus bacteria. Impetigo causes small, red pimples or fluid-containing blisters with crusted yellow scabs and typically occurs on the face around the nose and mouth, but may be found anywhere on the body.

The illness is highly infectious until the skin sores have been treated with antibiotics for at least 24 hours or the crusting lesions are resolved. Impetigo can be spread through contact with sores of an infected person or contact with contaminated surfaces.

To prevent spread of the illness, cover the sores, keep fingernails of the infected person short, and wash hands carefully with soap and water. In addition, clean and sanitize contaminated surfaces.

Individuals showing symptoms should be evaluated by a healthcare professional. Once the individual is treated, the affected area should be covered and hand hygiene should follow changing bandages. **If the lesions are covered, the child may return to school once an antibiotic is started or with permission from a healthcare provider.**

If you have questions regarding this information, please contact the school nurse at: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ or the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) at (312) 746-6015.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

[Principal] [School Nurse]