[DATE]

Dear [SCHOOL COMMUNITY MEMBER]:

I am writing to inform you that a case of mpox has been identified in the [SCHOOL NAME] community.

Mpox is a viral infection that causes a painful rash that changes shape throughout the course of the illness, starting from a small lesion (like a pimple) to a fluid-filled lesion (like a blister), to a pus-filled lesion with a divot in the center. Often the rash is accompanied by flu-like symptoms such as fever and chills, and swollen lymph nodes. It can last for up to 3 weeks.

Mpox is spread through close contact with the sores of an infected individual, often through intimate or sexual contact. **It is important to know that while most cases of mpox so far have occurred in gay and bisexual men, anyone can get mpox**. **However, the risk of contracting this disease in the classroom setting is low.** To reduce risk, you should maintain open communication with any intimate partners about your sexual health and limit your intimate activities if you are feeling ill. If you have had intimate or contact with multiple or anonymous partners over the past few weeks, especially at a large party or event, you should monitor yourself for symptoms and consider getting vaccinated.

For more information about mpox, visit: **https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/monkeypox/home.html**

To find a list of providers that carry the mpox vaccine appointment visit: [**https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/monkeypox/home/vaccine.html**](https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/monkeypox/home/vaccine.html)

Thank you,

[STUDENT HEALTH CENTER]