[Date Here]

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

An individual in your child’s school was recently diagnosed with molluscum contagiosum. Molluscum Contagiosum is caused by a virus that commonly affects the outer layer of the skin.

The signs and symptoms of molluscum contagiosum include skin lesions that are usually small pink, white, or flesh-colored bumps on the skin with small hard dimple in the center. They are usually painless; however, they may become red, swollen, itchy, and sore. On average, the lesions are about 2 to 5 mm in size. In healthy individuals, lesions can be self-limiting and resolve without treatment in 6 to 12 months; some skin lesions may take as long as 4 years to resolve.

The viruses that cause molluscum contagiosum are generally spread through close personal contact with an infected individual or through contaminated objects and surfaces. Molluscum contagiosum is only mildly contagious and is more often spread to other areas of the affected child’s body rather than to other children.

Your child’s health care provider can identify molluscum contagiosum by the symptoms reported, and the appearance and location of the rash. Molluscum Contagiosum will resolve over time in healthy individuals, treatment may not be necessary. However, some children may need treatment for cosmetic reasons if they have many visible lesions, or if they have underlying health conditions that would make it easier for the rash spread to other body areas or that cause more severe presentation (such as certain skin allergies).

You can control the spread of molluscum contagiosum by making sure your child always washes their hands carefully with soap and water after using the bathroom, after contact with skin lesions. Teach children to avoid scratching, touching, or picking on the lesion. Do not share clothing or towels.

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]