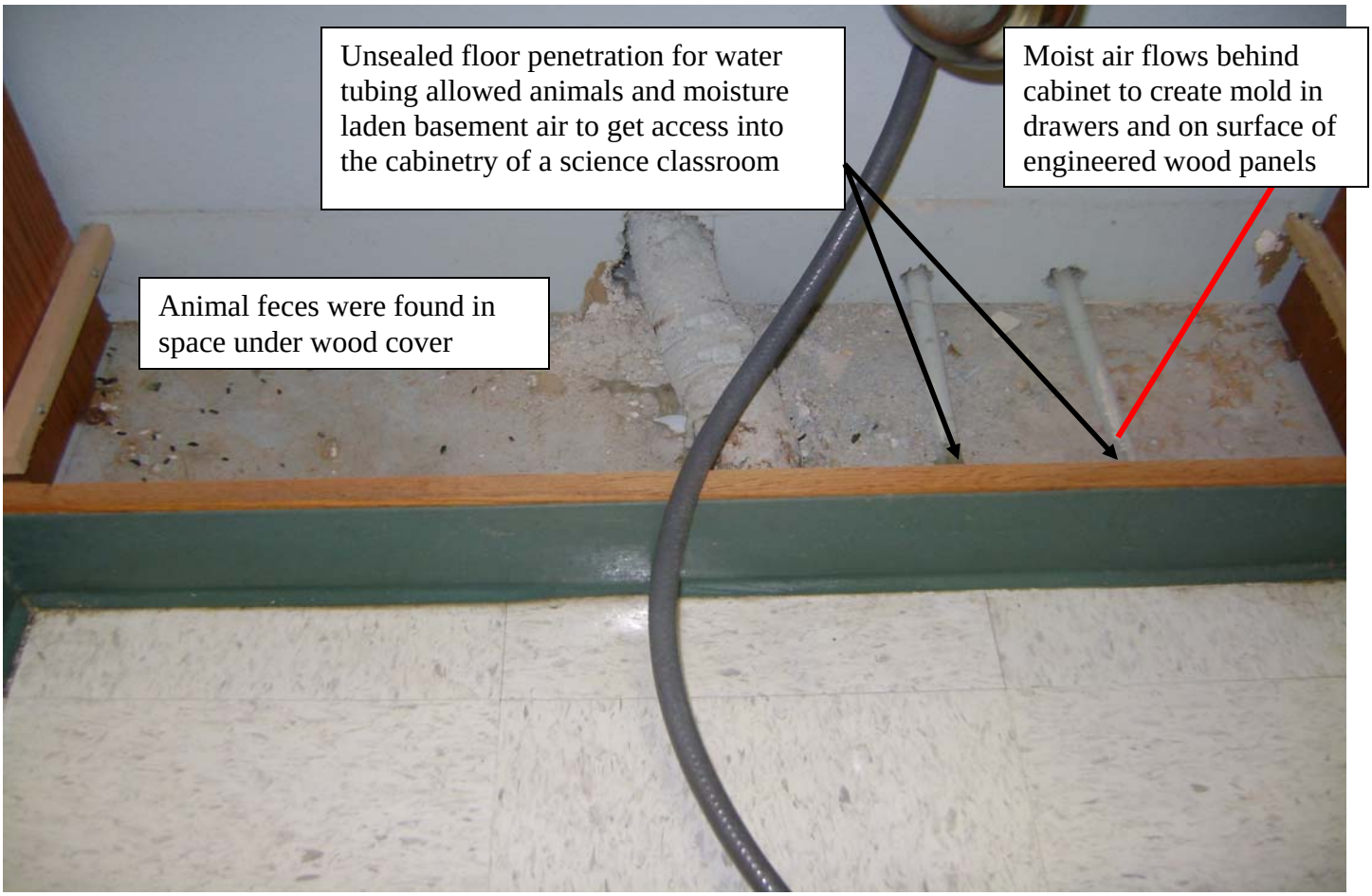
Unsealed pipe, conduit and duct penetrations in walls and floors allow animals and contaminated air to adversely affect indoor air quality (IAQ) in schools



Unsealed tube penetrations were left in a floor that allowed contaminated air to be suctioned from the basement into the dead air space behind a sink and cabinet. Also, small animals were coming into the space.

. Tubing came through unsealed floor penetrations from the sub-floor space. Holes were large enough to allow animals and moisture laden air to get behind cabinetry to leave feces droppings and create mold development.

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Drain piping and supply tubing for the sinks were sealed through the engineered wood panels that formed the back of the science classroom cabinets; however the panels were separated from the wall by a two inch gap.

The two inch gap between the back of the cabinet panels and the sheetrock wall allowed air to flow through the unsealed pipe penetrations in the sheetrock. Moisture laden air was getting into the back of the cabinets and fostering mold development in the drawers and on the surfaces of the engineered wood panels.

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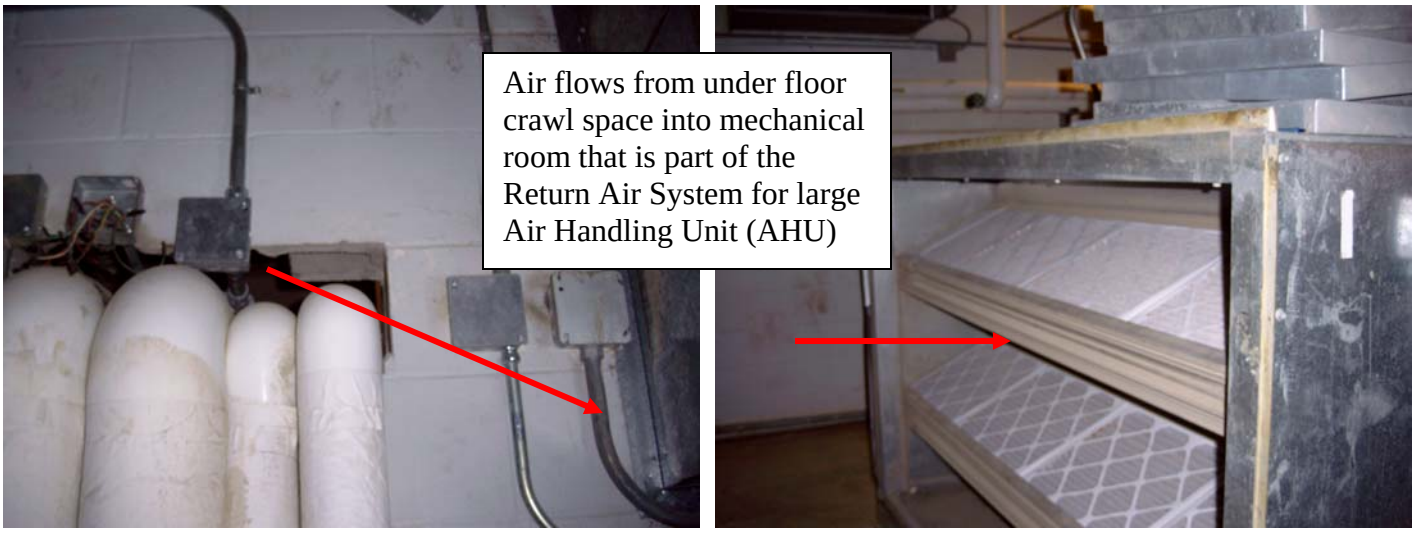

Unsealed piping penetrations through an under ground exterior wall allowed contaminated air to be suctioned into the Return Air Stream of a multi-zone air handling unit that supplied air to an entire wing of a school.

Unsealed or improperly sealed wall and floor penetrations allow contaminated air and animals to get into buildings and adversely affect the Indoor Door Air Quality (IAQ) and the health of building occupants.