

Iowa Department of Human Services
CHILD CARE CENTER EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE

Name of Center: NICA Head Start-Hoover **Enrollment:** 45 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 33744

Street: 1123 8th St NW **City:** Mason City **Iowa Zip** 50401 **County:** Cerro Gordo

Mailing Address: PO Box 1627, Mason City, IA, 50402

Director's Name: Melissa Nelson **Phone Number:** 641-421-4408

On-Site Supervisor(s): Keisha Boboltz (lead teacher) Trena Cox (area mgr) **E-Mail:** mnelson@nicao-online.org

Date(s) of Visit: 11-27-2018

X **Licensing Visit** X **Unannounced Visit** **Off Year Visit** **Administrative Change**

LICENSING VISITS

New Application X **Re-Application** NA

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 09-07-2018

FIRE INSPECTION **State** X **Local** NA **Is Fire Inspection Approved?** X **Yes** **No** **NA**

Date Inspected: 07-30-2018

Comments :

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: Profit X **Non-Profit** NA

Accreditation: Accredited X **NAEYC** **NSACA** **Other** NA

Program Serves: Infants (0-23 mo.) 2 Years X **Preschool-Age** **School-Age**

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: Year-round X **School-Year** **Summer Only**

HOURS:	<u>Year-round</u>	<u>School-Year</u>	<u>Summer Only</u>
---------------	-------------------	--------------------	--------------------

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General			75		75
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	FULL license from 12-01-2018 to 12-01-2020
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Raymond Salsbury

Date: 11-28-2018

I. IF CURRENT LICENSE IS PROVISIONAL, IDENTIFY THE CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

NA

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced licensing visit was made to the Hoover Early Learning Center on 11-27-18 where I met with lead teacher Keisha Boboltz. This program is located in the Hoover Elementary school in Mason City. The program does partner with the school and includes children enrolled in the school district early education intervention program. The center provides preschool programming only to children ages 3-4 years old. There are currently 45 children in the program served by 6 teachers and aides. All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed during the visit.

The program operates out of three classrooms which remain largely as they have in prior visits. Each room was observed to be clean, nicely decorated, and free of any noted safety concerns due to construction or design. Each room has toilet facilities and sinks accessible from the classroom. Each room has windows along the exterior walls, and a secondary emergency exit providing direct access to the outdoors. It was noted that the emergency exit door in room 150 was not operating properly and would not open due to sticking at the bottom. Emergency exits must remain clear of obstructions and be able to open without manipulating a secondary device or requiring excessive force to operate.

Each room had a good variety of activity centers and each center was well stocked with age appropriate items that were in good repair. The program uses the Creative Curriculum and Keisha stated that they have been attending training and implementing new aspects of that curriculum. A copy of the daily schedule, planned curriculum, and a parental newsletter were posted and readily available to parents. Good interactions were observed with all of the teachers being actively engaged with the children presenting the planned curriculum and attending to their needs. It was noted that one of the themes being presented was the same in each classroom and focused on peer interactions and unintentional accidents. During the time of my visit it was noted that the teachers do an excellent job of implementing a positive behavior support system in the classrooms.

Meals are prepared by the school and served in a separate lunch room from the regular school children. I was not able to observe a meal service during the visit but good practices have been observed in all prior visits.

The center makes use of a school playground which uses pea gravel for fall surfacing which was noted to have developed a hard pan layer in heavy traffic areas that will need to be aerated in the spring. It was noted that the school has done major renovations to the playground with removing climbing structures that were not age appropriate, installing fencing, and building a storage shed where materials can be kept so that they are more readily available to the children when playing on the playground.

In reviewing administrative records all required notices were posted in an area that was readily visible and accessible to parents and visitors. A brief review of child files found each reviewed file to contain all required documentation and authorizations. Staff files are maintained at the central administrative offices for the program and will be reviewed at a later date and any concerns that are identified will be addressed with the program at that time.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The program seeks to implement best practice and is also accredited by NAEYC, and participates in the QRS program.

As noted the teachers do an excellent job of implementing positive behavior supports in the classrooms. This included the teachers seeking out examples of appropriate behavior to recognize with the children. In one classroom the children were distracted by peers that were leaving and rather than a punitive redirection the teacher acknowledged the distraction and stopped the lesson to have the children that were remaining say goodbye to their friends.

IV. IDENTIFY THE ASPECTS OF OPERATION THAT FALL BELOW THE STANDARDS REVIEWED:

109.10(15)d: Daily checks to ensure all exits are unobstructed.
-- The emergency exit in room 150 was stuck and would not open.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended at this time. Please notify the licensing consultant identifying a plan to correct and maintain those issues cited as not meeting licensing standards and an anticipated dated of completion. At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact your DHS Licensing Consultant to discuss the issue. The child care director may also send a response which will be placed in the licensing file.

*Note: If you are a member of the general public, there may be additional information contained in the public file. You may contact the DHS Licensing Consultant to inquire.