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

Name of Center: YMCA School Age Care at Becker Elem **Enrollment:** 30 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 46523

Street: 1239 Sheldon St **City:** Waterloo Iowa **Zip** 50701 **County:** Black Hawk

Mailing Address: 669 S Hackett Rd, Waterloo, IA, 50701

Director's Name: Brandon Bennett & Bekah Stevens **Phone Number:** 319-233-3531

On-Site Supervisor(s): Caroline Loveless **E-Mail:** bstevens@blackhawkymca.org

Date(s) of Visit: 01-10-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

New Application **Re-Application** X **NA**

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

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

Date Inspected: 08-30-2021

Comments : Compliance on 09/17/21

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

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other X NA

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

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: Year-round X School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	0	0	0	50	50
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 02-01-2022 to 02-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 01-26-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 01/10/23 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to YMCA School Age Care at Aldrich Elementary in Cedar Falls. I met with Caroline Loveless, the on-site supervisor. Ms. Loveless has an AA in an unrelated field. She has been with the YMCA since September 2010. Brandon Bennett and Bekah Stevens are the co-directors. Mr. Bennett is the Director of Youth Development, SAC. Ms. Stevens is the director of the ELC program. Mr. Bennett started with the YMCA on 10/05/22. He has previous experience in childcare, including as an assistant director in Minnesota. He has not completely finished his education yet but has completed four years of classes in early childhood studies and secondary education. Mr. Bennett is primarily in charge of the school age programs and Ms. Stevens primarily oversees the early learning center. Ms. Stevens has been employed with the YMCA since September 2020. She has a BA in Social Work and Spanish. Their offices are in the YMCA facility in Waterloo. There is typically two staff members present during the morning hours and two staff members present during the afternoon hours of operation.

The day of the visit a staff member called in sick. This left one staff member with over fifteen children and the program was out of ratio. Ms. Loveless states the administration office was aware that the staff member called in sick. She states they typically send someone over to help maintain ratio and she did not know why they did not on this date. If the program cannot meet ratios, then children must be turned away. You must always maintain ratios.

The program is in Fred Becker Elementary. They operate out of the cafeteria. They also utilize the gym. The before and after school program operates Monday through Friday from 6:30-8:30 am and 3:30-6:00 pm. The program serves children who are in kindergarten through sixth grade. There are currently 30 children enrolled.

The cafeteria allows for free play at tables and the gym allows for gross motor activities. Windows provide natural lighting in the cafeteria and artificial lighting is used in the gym. The centers observed include arts and crafts, Legos, transportation, library, games, Play-Doh, magnets and puzzles. Centers are stored in a closet in the cafeteria.

I visited the program during the morning session. The number of children at the program at any one time is changing constantly because of children arriving and leaving. As mentioned earlier, the program was out of ratio the day of my visit.

The children primarily use two bathrooms located in the hallway near the cafeteria. The boy's bathroom has two toilets and three urinals. The girl's bathroom has five toilets. There are two birdbath sinks outside of the bathrooms that allow for multiple children to wash their hands at one time. Handwashing procedures were posted.

The program uses a cell phone. Emergency phone numbers with the program's address and phone number must be posted. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams must be posted by both exits out of the cafeteria and near the outdoor exit in the gym. This was cited in last two licensing reports and must be corrected immediately. A daily schedule was posted.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections. Radon testing, a fuel burning inspection and a carbon monoxide detector are not necessary because the program is exempt

from environmental assessments as a before and after school program that serves only school-aged children and located in a public-school building. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 08/30/21, with compliance on 09/17/21.

The YMCA offers an afternoon snack. A snack menu was posted. Disposable products are used so dishwashing is not necessary. The program is not part of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) but is following the guidelines. Snacks are provided by the YMCA/NE Iowa Food Bank Iowa CACFP At-Risk Program and were stored according to the NHSPS guidelines. Five components are served to the children. The program does not serve breakfast, but a table is cleaned and sanitized so children could eat breakfast if they bring it. There is a refrigerator on site in the staff room and a thermometer was present. The children eat breakfast at school once they are released from the program.

The program uses bleach and water or Alpet D2 Surface Sanitizing wipes to sanitize the food tables.

A first aid kit is on site.

The program uses the elementary school's playground. The area is partially fenced in. Rubber tiles are used for surface cushioning. There is a variety of climbing equipment. There are climbing walls, slides, bars, rings, stepping stones and a see saw. There are also grassy areas and a basketball court with hoops. Trees are outside the fence for shade.

The parent information is located on a portable bulletin board. The mandatory reporter, childcare consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The license was conspicuously posted. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

The staff member was observed to have great interaction with the children. She greeted the children and parents as they arrived. Several children hugged her when they arrived. Ms. Loveless provided the children clear directions while they were playing in the cafeteria. They did sharing time in the cafeteria before moving to the gym to play. Ms. Loveless offered the children choices and allowed them to choose which group game they wanted to play in the gym. She spoke with the children about being respectful to others and used positive redirection when necessary. The children appeared to enjoy and feel comfortable in the program.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Ms. Loveless states she has been with the program for ten years which provides consistency to the children and families. She states they have a god group of children.

They do a good job at keeping the children occupied. They offer gym time with games and balls, color sheets, word search worksheets and games.

They have good communication with the YMCA administration and with the parents.

The program meets a need in the community to provide care for children before and after school. They are safe on the school site and do not have to transition to a new location.

The program has a consistent on-site supervisor Monday through Friday in the morning and the afternoon hours.

The program has a great administrative team to overlook the school sites.

The YMCA is here for the community no matter what. They are here to serve the communities with any childcare needs they may have.

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

109.8(2): Ratio maintained in center as required by age.
The day of the visit a staff member called in sick. This left one staff member with over fifteen children and the program was out of ratio. Ms. Loveless states the administration office was aware that the staff member called in sick. She states they typically send someone over to help maintain ratio and she did not know why they did not on this date. If the program cannot meet ratios, then children must be turned away. You must always maintain ratios.

109.10(15)b: Emergency instructions, phone numbers, and diagrams for fire, tornado, and flood shall be visibly posted and documented at least once a month for fire and tornado. Records shall be maintained for current and previous year.
The program uses a cell phone. Emergency phone numbers with the program's address and phone number must be posted.

Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams must be posted by both exits out of the cafeteria and near the outdoor exit in the gym. This was cited in last two licensing reports and must be corrected immediately.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is issued. All DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

An administrative change is being made to name Brandon Bennett as a co-director.

*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.