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

Name of Center: Warrior Early Learning Center **Enrollment:** 61 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 51072

Street: 80 2nd ST **City:** Calamus Iowa **Zip** 52729 **County:** Clinton

Mailing Address: PO Box 158, Calamus , IA, 52729

Director's Name: Jessica Esbaum **Phone Number:** 563-246-2553

On-Site Supervisor(s): none **E-Mail:** jesbaum@cal-wheat.net

Date(s) of Visit: 06-12-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 09-07-2022

Comments :

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

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	8	18	67	17	110
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 10-01-2024 to 10-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Heidi Hungate **Date:** 06-24-2024

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced licensing visit was completed at this new center on 6/12/24. The center director is Jessica Esbaum. Jessica was present and accompanied the licensing consultant throughout the majority of the visit. Jessica is also the lead teacher for the school's statewide voluntary preschool program. The center is owned and operated by the Calamus Wheatland Elementary School. The licensed center occupies space in the elementary school building, most of which is new space that has been added on to the school specifically for the preschool and child care center. Before and after school/preschool child care is offered to children who attend this school on school days. On non school days the program would be open to other children as well.

The center includes the following licensed space in the new wing of the building: Twos room (18 months through three year old), threes room (three/four year old), preschool room (statewide voluntary prek program and before and after preschool/school child care for four year old through school age children), and infant room (age six weeks through 23 months). Licensed child care rooms in the main school building include: Room 301 (wraparound four/five year old child care for prek children, school day only) and room 407 (school age). All program rooms are spacious, colorful, and bright with windows. Program materials are highly organized and are accessible. Rooms 301 and 407 include an adjacent restroom area with a toilet and sink as well as a hand washing sink within the program room. These children also have access to nearby hallway restroom areas. The twos, threes, and preschool rooms include adjacent restroom areas with one toilet. These rooms have two hand washing sinks within the program room (at least one sink is just outside of the restroom area). The twos room includes a diaper station within the program room near the hand washing sink. The infant room includes a diaper station and hand washing sink within the program room. The room also includes a food/bottle sink. The center includes a room they call the "gym" that is used by multiple groups at various times of the day for indoor large motor activities. This room is not included in the center's license capacity at this time but can have a maximum of 47 children at any given time. The "gym" includes two adjacent restroom areas with one toilet and one sink in each. There are hallway restroom areas available nearby that the program can use as well. All program space was observed.

The center does not participate in the CACFP. The center serves breakfast, morning snack, lunch, and afternoon snack. Meals and snacks are provided by the school cafeteria and brought to the center by cafeteria staff. The school cafeteria is licensed by IDPH. School age children are released from child care prior to breakfast on school days.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The new wing of the building was designed specifically for the child care center. The program rooms provide ample space and are well arranged and well supplied. Materials continue to be accessible to the children, are organized, and are well maintained. The center continues to be well managed, and the staff appear to work well together. The staff were once again observed to be highly engaged in activities with the children. Children's projects and crafts are posted throughout the center. The center director reports that the school and the families who utilize the center are very supportive to the program. Staff and child files and other required licensing documentation continue to be highly organized.

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

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Sanitation and safety procedures for the center are developed and implemented to reduce risk or injury or harm to children and reduce transmission of disease.
1. Ensure clean dishes/cups/water bottles and any other item required to be sanitary are not set next to any hand washing sink. At least 18 inches of space away from the sink is required.
2. Review diaper procedures with staff including for standing diaper changes. Staff shall remove gloves before putting on the clean diaper and redressing the child.
3. Bleach solution is not always being mixed properly according to the manufacturer's instructions. The center is using several different bleach products and will need to know the specific instructions for use for each product being used, bleach and water shall be measured accordingly, and spray bottles labeled accordingly.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center was reminded of allowable age combinations. Two year old children may not be combined with four year old children, and three year old children may not be combined with school age children unless under the very specific rule 109.8(2)h for the very beginning and/or end of the day with only the number of children and staff present at the center as defined by the rule. The center will need to ensure compliance.

1. Remove loose gravel from outdoor area surface to prevent slip hazard.
2. Ensure all children have a valid IPDH signed and dated immunization certificate on file at the center before the child attends the center.

The center will continue with a full license. Please address the violation(s) and/or concern(s) noted in the report so that corrections are obvious and ensure that items remain in compliance. This report does not require a written response. Thank you.

*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.