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

Name of Center: Beyond the Bell-Maple Grove Elementary **Enrollment:** 43 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 44015

Street: 1455 98th ST **City:** West Des Moines Iowa **Zip** 50266 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 430 Ashworth DR, Waukee, IA, 50263

Director's Name: Andrea Wilmes and Rich Miller **Phone Number:** 515-987-5161

On-Site Supervisor(s): Victoria Montz **E-Mail:** awilmes@waukeeschools.org

Date(s) of Visit: 11-28-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 10-31-2022

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

Date Inspected: 10-18-2023

Comments : West Des Moines Fire Marshal. Fire Marshal inspections are due at least every three years.

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: X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	0	0	0	245	245
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 01-01-2023 to 01-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 11-29-2023

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An off-year visit was conducted on 11/28/23. The on-site supervisor was present throughout the visit.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. The most recent COVID updates were also reviewed.

Beyond the Bell - Maple Grove Elementary is a school-age program located within the Maple Grove Elementary School in West Des Moines, IA. The program was previously supervised by the Department of Education and was given permission to open under HHS (formerly known as DHS) licensing on 9/2/14. During the school year, children who attend this school attend this Beyond the Bell program. However, during summer months, there is open enrollment. Hours are 6:30am - 6:00pm during the summer months and no-school days. During the school year, children attend 6:30am - 8:40am and/or 3:40pm - 6:00pm. The program is one of seven Beyond the Bell programs and they all use a similar learning curriculum based off of other learning curriculums. The center uses the cafeteria and the gym as well as the outdoor playground.

All Beyond the Bell programs are overseen by a Board. The directors of this program and the other Beyond the Bell programs are Andrea Wilmes and Rich Miller. Andrea is also the director at the three Wee Care programs located in Waukee. Both individuals meet the requirements for director. The on-site supervisor at this location is Victoria Montz as of 8/2019. Victoria has a BA degree and also has past experience working with school-age children to meet the requirements for on-site supervisor.

During the visit, all of the children and staff were in the cafeteria. Children were spaced out in smaller groups and sitting at the tables. Some children were observed playing with blocks. Other children were observed doing art projects. Staff were spaced out among the different groups of children.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Staff use walkie-talkies to communicate with each other throughout the center.

A good system is in place for gathering attendance of children who attend the program after school is dismissed as well as for any field trips.

All of the Beyond the Bell programs have information posted online through the Waukee School District Website.

Monthly staff meetings are held. In addition, directors from this program meet with other western-suburb, school-age programs quarterly for meetings. Team leads (on-site supervisors) of the Beyond the Bell programs also have weekly meetings with each other.

Staff from BTB are interchangeable between sites as needed.

The gym and the cafeteria are connected to each other and a portable wall is opened up during hours of operation. The flow of activities and children in the gym and cafeteria is better because of this set up.

Good staff – child interactions were observed throughout the visit.

The center has a good working relationship with other school personnel.

Staff reportedly work well with each other.

The on-site supervisor continues to believe that a strength of the program is the constant communication with parents, children, each other, and other school personnel.

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

109.9(1)e: All files contain documentation to indicate that ongoing staff training requirements are met, including current certifications in first aid/CPR and mandatory child abuse training.
1. One staff member had an expired certificate for first-aid/CPR.
2. This same staff person did not have professional development training certificates in their file nor in I - Power.

109.10(16)a: The center and supervisor shall ensure that staff knows names and number of children assigned. Staff shall provide careful supervision.
There were a couple of times children walked out of the cafeteria and into the hallway and did not have staff supervision while doing so.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center is exempt from environmental testing as they are located within a school and only serve school-age children.

For field trips, the center contact with the school and takes a school bus and driver.

I- Power was discussed at the visit. All staff need to have I - Power profiles and trainings uploaded into I - Power.

The first-aid backpack in the storage room should be re-labeled so it is more easily identifiable.

*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.