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

Name of Center: Sumner Daycare and Learning Center, Inc **Enrollment:** 52 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 51936

Street: 601 W 5th ST **City:** Sumner Iowa **Zip** 50674 **County:** Bremer

Mailing Address: PO Box 301, Sumner, IA, 50674

Director's Name: Maranda Reuter **Phone Number:** 563-578-5222

On-Site Supervisor(s): Sara Dana **E-Mail:** sumnerdaycare.director@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 08-22-2023

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

Date Inspected: 08-11-2022

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	21	23	24	57	125
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 09-06-2022 to 09-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 08-28-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 08/22/23 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to Sumner Daycare and Learning Center in Sumner. I met with Maranda Reuter, the director. Ms. Reuter started with the program on 12/12/22. She has a BA in management, an AA in Accounting and she is a semester shy of having a BA in elementary education. She has previous experience as a director of a childcare center. Sara Dana is the on-site supervisor. She started with the program in June 2023. Ms. Dana has an AA in education and previous experience as a childcare worker, on-site supervisor and co-director. The center employs twelve staff members.

The program operates out of Durant Elementary. The daycare is a separate entity from the school and will operate year around. It is a non-profit. The center was given permission to open without a license on 09/06/22. The program operates 5:30 am until 6:00 pm Monday through Friday and serves infants through school-age children. There are currently 52 children enrolled.

The program operates out of three rooms: an infant room, a toddler room (18 months through two-years-old) and a preschool/school-age room. The program has use of the cafeteria for the school-age children, if necessary, but they are currently not using this space. An inspection of each room was completed. Windows provide natural lighting. The rooms are decorated with the children's art projects, and posters to assist the children with the learning process, such as the alphabet and numbers. There is an area for circle time. The rooms were within ratio during my visit.

The centers observed on the day of the licensing visit include library, Lego/blocks, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, art, science/discovery, puppets, dramatic play, writing, math, playdough and music. Centers were arranged in a manner that allowed easy movement between activities and allowed for clear supervision by staff members. Materials were in good condition. The materials are located at child level, so they were easily accessible to the children.

There is a bathroom in the toddler room that has one sink and one toilet. Handwashing procedures were posted. The other bathrooms are in the hallway across from the rooms. The boy's bathroom has three toilets, three urinals and two sinks and the girl's bathroom has five toilets and two sinks. Handwashing procedures were posted in both locations. There are sinks in each of the three rooms and procedures were posted. There is a diaper changing table in the infant and toddler rooms and diaper changing procedures were posted.

The center uses a variety of resources to develop lesson plans, but it is based on the Creative Curriculum. Activities are based on themes. Lesson plans were available for review in the infant and preschool room. The toddler room did not have a lesson plan. Lesson plans must be developed and available for review. The children have walked to the public library for a field trip. The public library also provides books to the center to use in the classroom.

The program uses the Brightwheel app to communicate with parents and to complete the daily sheets for the children under the age of two. This app does not have a disposition category, which is a mandated topic to be documented every day. I recommend putting this under "Notes". The app is also used for the parents to check the children in and out of the program. Staff members send pictures of the children to parents through the app during the day.

There was a phone with emergency numbers in the classrooms. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by all the main program doors and outdoor exits in the center. A daily schedule was posted in each room.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections. A radon test was completed in January 2023 and must be repeated in two years. Results were within EPA guidelines. The annual fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted. A carbon monoxide detector was on site in the toddler room on the shelf. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 08/11/22.

The program is in the process of getting on the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). They are completing the paperwork. The program contracts the morning snack, breakfast and lunch through the Sumner-Fredericksburg School District. The center provides the afternoon snack. The school is on the food program so CACFP guidelines are being followed. The school provides the program a menu for breakfast, lunch and morning snack a month at a time. The center is completing afternoon snack menus. The children eat everything in the classroom during the school year and the older children eat lunch in the cafeteria during the summer months. The school delivers the food to the classroom and teachers dish out the food for the children. Dishes are returned to the school kitchen to be washed through an industrial dishwasher. Disposable products are used for the afternoon snack. There is a refrigerator in the office and in the infant room. Thermometers were present. Items were not stored according to NHSPS guidelines in the infant room. Once a food item is opened it must be stored in a sealed plastic, metal or glass container and be dated.

In the infant room the center provides one brand of formula, baby food and cereal. If the parents want a different brand, they must provide it. Feeding schedules were posted.

The program use bleach and water to sanitize the food tables and disinfect the changing tables. I discussed diaper changes with the infant and toddler staff members and proper procedures are being followed. However, there was no bleach near the changing table in the infant room or toddler room. There was only soap and water. Make sure supplies are available for when diaper changes occur. You should label the bottles as a sanitizer or disinfectant. Ms. Reuter states they mix all the bleach as a disinfectant.

Medication boxes are in the classrooms. The center is getting doctor notes for the dosages of over the counter medications when it is necessary.

Cribs and cots are used in the infant room and cots are used to nap in the other rooms.

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

The center uses the school preschool playground and the school-age playground. The preschool has a fenced in playground area. Rubber mulch is used for surface cushioning. The playground has climbing equipment with slides, a playhouse, a stationary tractor and a merry-go-round. Children take toys outside as well. Shade is provided by tress.

The school-age playground also uses rubber mulch for fall surfacing. They have a large piece of climbing equipment with rings, monkey bars, slides, a fireman pole and a climbing chain wall. They have a large grassy available to play on and a large concrete area with basketball hoops. Trees are available for shade. There are benches to rest. They do not use the merry-go-round in this area because there is no fall surfacing.

Staff members in the preschool and infant room had terrific interaction with the children. Child friendly music was playing and staff members were nurturing. Ms. Dana was reading the children a book and she was expressive and asking them questions to include them in the story. Ms. Dana works closely with the four-year-old preschool teacher in the school so they are on the same page and she can prepare her children to move up. Staff members in these two classrooms were flexible and offered choices. In the toddler room the staff members were not as positive as I expect staff members to be. I heard them tell a child they were being naughty and they were not being nice. They also told a child they are going to make their mom sad. Staff members need to learn a more positive approach to redirection. I would recommend PBIS training. These staff members did not have a great routine and expected the children to sit still longer than their attention spend allows children this age. They need to be more flexible with their schedule and find ways to keep them occupied.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Ms. Reuter states they have great staff members, a great Board and great community.

Ms. Reuter states the center has a good relationship with the school and they appreciate the school allowing them to use the space until they build a new center. The school cooks for them, the janitor cleans the hallways and bathrooms, and they can use the playground.

Ms. Reuter states they have one staff member in the TEACH program.

Ms. Reuter states they currently have a capital campaign to raise funds to build the new center.

Ms. Reuter states they are working to apply for an IQ4K level 1. They are trying to get the staff members trained.

There are pictures of the teachers in the entrance and the hallway is decorated with the children's art projects.

Ms. Reuter states the daycare board has passion and are committed to the daycare. They want it to thrive and strive.

The center currently provides a location for childcare for school-aged children so that parents do not need to worry about transportation.

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

109.9(4): Daily written records are maintained for each child under two years of age and include time periods slept, amount of/time food consumed, time/irregularities of elimination patterns, general disposition, and general summary of activities.
The program uses the Brightwheel app to complete the daily sheets for the children under the age of two. This app does not have a disposition category, which is a mandated topic to be documented every day. I recommend putting this under "Notes".

109.12(1): Program structure that uses developmentally appropriate practices and written program of activities planned to the developmental needs of children served.Program complements but does not duplicate school curriculum.Schedule of program is posted in a place visible to parents.
The toddler room did not have a lesson plan. Lesson plans must be developed and available for review.

109.15(5): Food preparation and storage procedures are consistent with NHSPS.
Items were not stored according to NHSPS guidelines in the infant room. Once a food item is opened it must be stored in a sealed plastic, metal or glass container and be dated.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

An administrative change is being made to name Sara Dana as the on-site supervisor.

*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.