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

Name of Center: Hope Ankeny Preschool **Enrollment:** 129 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 51165

Street: 520 NW 36th St **City:** Ankeny Iowa **Zip** 50023 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 520 NW 36th St, Ankeny , IA, 50023

Director's Name: Ariel Patton **Phone Number:** 515-964-5586

On-Site Supervisor(s): N/A **E-Mail:** jody.hufford@hopewdm.org, ariel.patton@hopeankeny.org

Date(s) of Visit: 01-10-2024

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:** 01-10-2023

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

Date Inspected: 01-25-2023

Comments : Ankeny Fire Marshal. Fire Marshal inspections are due at least every three years for licensing requirements. Ankeny typically does annual inspections.

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.) X 2 Years X Preschool-Age 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	12	66	0	78
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 02-01-2023 to 02-02-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 01-10-2024

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 1/10/24. The director of the program, Ariel Patton, was present throughout this 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.

Hope Ankeny Preschool is a program located within the Hope Ankeny Church. The center was given permission to open on 9/8/20. The center serves children ages two through five years in age using their own learning curriculum that incorporates several other learning curriculums. There are a total of six classrooms and all classrooms have a capacity of 12 children with the exception of the full-day classroom which is capped at a capacity of 18 children . Preschool hours are Monday through Thursday. There are AM classes and PM classes available (9:00am - 11:30am and 12:30pm - 3:00pm) and one full-day class available for transitional kindergarten. The center is only open during the school year.

All of the Hope programs are overseen by a Board. All of these programs also have a Hope Preschool Head Director, Jody Hufford, who oversees the daily operations of all of the Hope preschool programs. The director of this specific program is Ariel Patton. Ariel has a Master's degree in a child related field and also has past experience working in child care.

During the visit, the PM children were just starting to arrive at the program. All required postings were present in all five of these classrooms. In the full-day transitional kindergarten classroom, some children were finishing up their lunch and the other children were doing puzzles and playing with other manipulative toys. Staff were engaged with the children in this classroom.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This is a newer center that meets a need in the community. Enrollment has again greatly increased over the past year.

The center has as lot of support from the church.

All Hope programs share the same handbooks, same curriculums, trainings, etc.

There are monthly staff meetings held between all of the directors of the different Hope programs.

The director is organized and has past experience working in child care.

The center again looked and smelled clean.

The director believes she has a good staff who all work well with each other. There are many tenured staff who work at this program.

The director believes the center has a good working relationship with the parents/children they serve.

The center is using the Brightwheel app .

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

109.11(7)c: All centers: Annual inspection prior to heating season of all fuel-burning appliances to reduce risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and shall install one carbon monoxide detector on each floor that conforms to UL Standard 2034.
The fuel burning stove is past due for an annual inspection. The last inspection was from 12/2022.

109.15(4)a: Written policies developed for food brought from home for children under five years of age not enrolled in school and is provided to parent at admission. Food brought from home for children under five years of age not enrolled in school is monitored and supplemented if necessary to ensure CACFP guidelines maintained.
Parents are responsible for bringing in snacks for the entire class and also responsible for their child's individual lunches. Several lunches observed again did not meet CACFP requirements. If parents do not bring in all five food groups for lunches (protein, grain, fruit, vegetable, milk) the center has to supplement and at least offer whatever is missing to children. THIS IS A REPEAT ISSUE FROM LAST YEAR.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center does not go on field trips and they do not transport. The program does bring in different agencies for presentations to children.

Radon testing was last tested 8/22/22 - 8/25/22. All classrooms came back with radon levels below the 4.0 cutoff. Because levels were below 4.0, the center can move to testing for radon at least every five years now. So long as radon levels remain below 4.0, they can remain on a five year plan. If at the next testing, levels in any classroom come back 4.0 or higher, the center will have to have a mitigation plan, retest, and at least temporarily move back to testing every two years.

The center is all electric and geo-thermal with the exception of one fuel burning appliance (stove). The annual fuel burning appliance inspection was last completed on 12/13/22 so it is past due.

I-Power and IQ4K were discussed at the visit. Some staff need to upload trainings to I - Power.

This consultant also again discussed the CACFP smart phone application. The director should again share this application with parents.

Several tricycle handles need to have rubber grips on them.

It is recommended all lower level doors be locked to the general public rather than just some doors. If guests arrive that aren't in connection with the preschool, it is recommended they enter from an upstairs entrance and be checked into the building by staff.

*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.