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

Name of Center: St Athanasius School **Enrollment:** 19 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 42005

Street: 641 Stevens St **City:** Jesup Iowa **Zip** 50648 **County:** Buchanan

Mailing Address: PO Box 288, Jesup, IA, 50648

Director's Name: Jennifer Sornson **Phone Number:** 319-827-1314

On-Site Supervisor(s): Jennifer Sornson **E-Mail:** jsornson@saintaschool.com

Date(s) of Visit: 11-21-2022

Licensing Visit X **Unannounced Visit** X **Off Year Visit** **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: 02-03-2020

Comments : Compliance on 02/28/20

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 X Preschool-Age X School-Age

Get-Well Evening Care Special Needs

SCHEDULE: Year-round X School-Year Summer Only

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

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General			10	6	16
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 12-01-2021 to 12-01-2023
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 11-22-2022

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 11/21/22 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to St. Athanasius School in Jesup. I met with Jennifer Sornson, the director and principal of St. Athanasius School. I also met with Kayla Maynard, the lead teacher in the classroom. Ms. Maynard has a BA in early childhood education, and she has been with the program since October 2021. Diane Youngblut and Donna Gebel are the assistants in the classroom. Ms. Youngblut has been with the preschool program since August 2013. Ms. Gebel started in the preschool room in August 2022 and works at the before and after school program.

The program operates out of a classroom in St. Athanasius Catholic School. The preschool program started in August 2013. It serves children who are three and four-year-old. The program operates Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:00-11:00 am. The program added a before and after childcare program in August 2022 that serves preschool and school age children. There are currently nineteen children enrolled between both programs.

The program partners with Central Rivers AEA to assist children with identified needs. All children receive vision screenings through Lion's Club and hearing screenings through Central Rivers AEA.

The preschool operates out of one large room. Windows provide natural lighting. The room is decorated with the children's art projects, and posters to assist the children with the learning process, such as the alphabet, numbers, colors and numbers. There is an area for circle time.

The centers observed on the day of the licensing visit include library, Lego/blocks, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, art, Ipads, dramatic play, writing, math, science/discovery, sensory, and music. Centers were arranged in a manner that allowed easy movement between activities, but it also 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 located in the room with one toilet and one sink and there is a sink in the room as well. Handwashing procedures were posted in both locations.

The preschool uses a variety of resources to develop lesson plans. Lessons are typically based on weekly themes. The program incorporates prayer and religious education into the program using the "I am Special" curriculum. There is a smart board projector in the classroom. A lesson plan was available for review. Ms. Maynard provides a weekly newsletter to parents to tell them the planned activities and lessons. It also provides questions parents can ask their children about their week.

Fontana Nature Center/Park visits the program to do a special activity occasionally. The children are making monthly crafts and they send them to Windsor Creek, an assisted living facility across the street from them, to decorate the resident's rooms and the facility.

There was a phone in the classroom and emergency numbers were posted. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and an evacuation diagram were posted by the main program door. A daily schedule was posted for the preschool program. You

need to post a daily schedule for the childcare program.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. There were multiple missing fire and tornado drills. During the 2021-2022 school year the only tornado drill documented was in September 2021. There were no fire drills documented for January through May 2022. So far during the 2022-2023 school year the program has only documented a fire drill in September 2022 and there were no tornado drills documented. This is a serious offense and health and safety concerns. You must practice a fire and tornado drill each month on separate dates and document the drills for review during licensing visits and fire marshal inspections. Failure to do so will result in a provisional license next year.

The program is currently not using the playground because it is near a road and not fenced in. They use the school gym for gross motor activities.

A radon test was completed in September 2020 and is only good for two years. The results were within EPA guidelines at that time. You must conduct another radon test as soon as possible.

The fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted. A carbon monoxide detector was on site and is located near the counter on the north side of the classroom. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 02/03/20, with compliance on 02/28/20.

The program does not participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) but does follow the food program guidelines. The preschool program assigns a week to a child and the parents provide the snack for that week. Snacks are documented on a calendar. There is a small refrigerator located in the room and a thermometer was present. Snacks were stored according to NHSPS guidelines.

Parents also provide the afternoon childcare snack. You must document the snack that is served and have it available for review during licensing visits. The children eat lunch in a classroom next to the preschool room. Parents can purchase a lunch ticket through the school or parents have the option of providing a cold lunch for their children. Preschool children are required to have a lunch that meets the CACFP guidelines. If parents are packing their child's lunch the program is responsible for checking their lunch to make sure five components are served. If there are not five components the school must supplement the child's lunch to meet the CACFP guidelines. You must also have a lunch menu available for review.

The center was using Seventh Generation Disinfecting Multi-Surface Cleaner to sanitize the food tables. This product has a ten-minute dwell time. The program had Clorox Disinfecting All Purpose Cleaner in the room also and will begin using this product to sanitize the food tables. This product has a thirty second dwell time. Currently, the tables are not being washed with soap and water prior to the sanitizing agent. Tables must be cleaned with soap and water and sanitized both prior to snack and after snack. This was noted in last year's report as well and must be corrected.

There is a complete first-aid kit in the classroom. There are healing ointments and medications such as non-aspirin, Benadryl and ibuprofen in the kits. These items must be removed as they cannot be used on children without a parental signed medication authorization form.

Vinyl mats and Nap Mats, similar to sleeping bags, are used to nap for the childcare children. These items cannot be stored touching one another unless they are sanitized and washed daily, which is not currently occurring. You must come up with a method to store these items so that they are separated. Additionally, these items are very thin. It is recommended that mats be at least two inches thick for the comfort of the children.

The parent information is located on a wall inside the classroom and 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.

Staff members were observed to have terrific interaction with the children. Staff members greeted the children and parents as they arrived. Staff members were on the floor engaged in activities with the children. Staff members maintained positive conversations with the children and provided them with praise. Positive redirection was used when necessary. Staff members encouraged the children to use their imaginations. They were nurturing with a child who did not feel well. Staff members moved around the room to interact with all the children. They removed toys when children put them in their mouths so they could be sanitized. The children seemed to enjoy and feel comfortable in the program.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The program added childcare for preschool and school-aged children that runs before and after school. Ms. Maynard feels this will help grow the program.

Ms. Maynard states she has great help in the classroom, and they are lucky to have three teachers in the preschool room.

Ms. Maynard states being in the school allows them access several things, such as Ipads and several toys for their centers. They also have use of the gym.

The program has a small teacher to student ratio with three teachers in the classroom. This allows the teachers to spend more one-on-one time with the children.

The students are Pre-K ready when they leave the preschool.

The preschool partners with the FIRE foundation to provide children with special needs the opportunity for an inclusive Catholic education in their home parish schools.

The private preschool provides a Christian background to the children.

The children participate in STEM activities.

The preschool has "Buddy Activities" with 5th graders.

The children make crafts monthly for the assisted living residents at Windsor Creek.

The school has a website for families and the community to learn more about their program.

The program is in a secure building.

All children receive vision screenings through Lion's Club and hearing screenings through Central Rivers AEA.

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

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.
There were multiple missing fire and tornado drills. During the 2021-2022 school year the only tornado drill documented was in September 2021. There were no fire drills documented for January through May 2022. So far during the 2022-2023 school year the program has only documented a fire drill in September 2022 and there were no tornado drills documented. This is a serious offense and health and safety concerns. You must practice a fire and tornado drill each month on separate dates and document the drills for review during licensing visits and fire marshal inspections. Failure to do so will result in a provisional license next year.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade. Sufficient space provided for dining. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. sufficient cooling. Sufficient bathroom and diapering facilities. Equipment, including kitchen appliances, are maintained so as not to result in burns, shock, or injury to children. 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.
Currently, the tables are not being washed with soap and water prior to the sanitizing agent. Tables must be cleaned with soap and water and sanitized both prior to snack and after snack. This was noted in last year's report as well and must be corrected. Vinyl mats and Nap Mats, similar to sleeping bags, are used to nap for the childcare children. These items cannot be stored touching one another unless they are sanitized and washed daily, which is not currently occurring. You must come up with a method to store these items so that they are separated. Additionally, these items are very thin. It is recommended that mats be at least two inches thick for the comfort of the children.

109.11(7)b: Centers at ground level that use basement area as program space, or have a basement beneath program space: Testing and plan for remedy of radon is conducted.

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.

*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.