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

Name of Center: Beyond the Bell-Woodland Hills Elementary **Enrollment:** 69 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 44018

Street: 1120 S 95th 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): Kaelynne Nevins **E-Mail:** awilmes@waukeeschools.org

Date(s) of Visit: 12-06-2023

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: 10-17-2023

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:** 12-07-2023

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced visit was conducted on 12/6/23. 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 - Woodland Elementary is a school-age program located within the Woodland 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/supervision 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 several Beyond the Bell programs and they all use a similar learning curriculum based off of other learning curriculums. This center uses the cafeteria, gym, and outdoor playground area.

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 centers in Waukee. Both individuals meet the requirements for director. Kaelynn Nevins is on-site supervisor at this location as of 1/1/23. Kaelynn has a BA degree as well as past experience working in child care.

During the visit, all children were outside on the playground. Children were observed playing kick ball, swinging, playing on the climbing structures, and other large motor activities. Staff were sufficiently spaced out on the playground among the children and also observed walking children to the door when their parents arrived to pick them up for the day.

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 when school dismisses for children who go to this program.

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

Staff photos are posted by one of the main parent boards.

Monthly staff meetings are held. In addition, directors from this program meet with other western-suburb, school-age programs quarterly for meetings and there are monthy on-site supervisor meetings for the BTB programs. Communication is stressed per the on-site supervisor.

Staff from BTB are interchangeable between sites as needed.

There is a good relationship between center staff and other school personnel per the on-site supervisor.

The on-site supervisor believes staff work well together, are flexible with their hours, and have good relationships with the families they serve.

There is a front desk person by the main entrance greeting parents and checking children into and out of the center during the day.

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

109.10(11): Smoking and use of tobacco products shall be prohibited in the center and every vehicle used to transport children. Prohibited in outdoor play area during hours of operation. Nonsmoking signs shall be posted at every entrance and in every vehicle used to transport. Signs shall include: Telephone number for reporting complaints. Internet address to DPH. This posting was missing at the entrance.

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.
While some bolts along the fence (cement) were cut, there are a couple other bolts that did not get cut. Bolts where the fence comes together at the corners as well as the gate also still have bolts that need to be cut/capped so that no more than two threads are showing. THIS IS A REPEAT ISSUE FROM LAST YEAR.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

For transportation for field trips, the center contracts with the school district and they take a school bus.

I - Power was again discussed at the visit. Several staff still need to upload training into their profile.

The one handwashing posting above one of the sinks should be replaced. Another handwashing posting is needed for the other sink. These are the main sinks used by the center.

It was noted that the center is transitioning to a different child enrollment form. The new form will have to have a section that states children's physicals and immunizations are on file with the school.

It was noted that one tenured staff is again due for fingerprinting this month.

*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.