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

Name of Center: Calamus Wheatland Elementary School **Enrollment:** 50 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 51072

Street: 80 2nd ST **City:** Calamus Iowa **Zip** 52729 **County:** Clinton

Mailing Address: PO Box 158, Calamus , IA, 52729

Director's Name: Jessica Esbaum **Phone Number:** 563-246-2222

On-Site Supervisor(s): none **E-Mail:** jesbaum@cal-wheat.net

Date(s) of Visit: 06-23-2023

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: 09-07-2022

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: Infants (0-23 mo.) 2 Years X Preschool-Age 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	8	18	67	17	110
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 10-01-2022 to 10-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Heidi Hungate **Date:** 06-29-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced off year visit was completed at this new center on 6/23/23. The center director is Jessica Esbaum. She was present and accompanied the licensing consultant throughout the majority of the visit. Jessica is also the lead teacher for the school's statewide voluntary preschool program. The center is owned and operated by the Calamus Wheatland Elementary School. The licensed center occupies space in the elementary school building, most of which is new space that has been added on to the school specifically for the preschool and child care center. Before and after school/preschool child care is offered to children who attend this school on school days. On non school days the program would be open to other children as well.

The center includes the following licensed space in the new wing of the building: Twos room, threes room, preschool room (morning statewide voluntary prek program and before and after preschool/school child care for four year old through school age children), and infant room (age six weeks up to second birthday). The center previously used room 407 in the main school building for their transitional kindergarten program (five year old children who are not yet enrolled in kindergarten), but this will move to room 301 starting the coming school year. Room 407 will be used for school age child care. The transitional kindergarten program operates from 11:25am to 3pm daily and is offered by the school and taught by a licensed teacher. Parents do not pay for this portion of the program. Child care is offered in this room for these children before 11:25am which parents do pay for. If these children need to stay for after care, they would combine with the other child care kids in the new wing of the building. All program rooms are spacious, colorful, and bright with windows. Program materials are highly organized and are accessible. Rooms 301 and 407 include an adjacent restroom area with a toilet and sink as well as a hand washing sink within the program room. These children also have access to nearby hallway restroom areas. The twos, threes, and preschool rooms include adjacent restroom areas with one toilet. These rooms have two hand washing sinks within the program room (at least one sink is just outside of the restroom area). The twos room includes a diaper station within the program room near the hand washing sink. The infant room includes a diaper station and hand washing sink within the program room. The room also includes a food/bottle sink. The center includes a room they call the "gym" that is used by multiple groups at various times of the day for indoor large motor activities. This room is not included in the center's license capacity at this time but can have a maximum of 47 children at any given time. The "gym" includes two adjacent restroom areas with one toilet and one sink in each. There are hallway restroom areas available nearby that the program can use as well. All program space was observed.

The center serves breakfast, morning snack, lunch, and afternoon snack. Meals and snacks are provided by the school cafeteria and brought to the center by cafeteria staff on school days. On non school days the school cafeteria provides breakfast and lunch and snacks are prepared by center staff. The school cafeteria is licensed by IDPH. School age children are released from child care prior to breakfast.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The new wing of the building was designed specifically for the child care center. The program rooms provides ample space and are well arranged and well supplied. Materials continue to be accessible to the children, are organized, and are well maintained. The center continues to be well managed, and the staff appear to work well together. The staff were once again

observed to be highly engaged in activities with the children. Children's projects and crafts are posted throughout the center. Staff and child files and other required licensing documentation continue to be highly organized.

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

CHILD FILES:
109.9(2)b: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center's care.
1. Child files do not contain emergency consent for the center. This was cited previously.

109.9(3): Signed and dated Iowa immunization certificates are on file for each child enrolled.
1. _1_ certificate reviewed is not valid.
2. _3_ certificates are missing.
Valid certificate is required before the child can attend the center (IDPH form signed and dated by the medical personnel).

109.10(3): Medications.
1. Medication present without authorization completed by the parent.
2. Medication authorization missing specific beginning and ending dates for the period of authorization, is missing entries for whether the medication was given or not, and is missing the reason for the medication.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. 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.
1. Bleach solution is not always being mixed properly according to the manufacturer's instructions.

109.15(1): Center shall serve each child a full, nutritionally balanced meal as defined by CACFP guidelines. Staff shall provide supervision at table during snacks and meals. Children at center two hours or longer shall be offered food of not less than two hours and no more than three hours apart unless child is asleep.
1. Timeframe between the start times of meals and snacks is not in compliance. There shall be no less than two hours and no more than three hours between the start times of meals and snacks. Be careful to consider this for the children who come from/go to the preschool wraparound care. This was cited previously.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Documentation for the fuel burning appliances inspections received 8/23/23. Report can be completed.

The administrative change aspect of this report is completed to reflect the additional new space that has been added to the center. The individual room capacities for the licensed space are as follows:

Preschool room = 22 children
Threes room = 21 children
Twos room = 18 children
Infant room = 8 children
School age room (room 407, formerly TK room) = 17 children
Wraparound room (room 301) = 24 children

Gym = 47 children (currently not included in license capacity because it is used by various groups throughout the day)

1. Diaper station in the two year old room needs a separate soapy water spray bottle labeled for use in this location only.
2. Ensure all dishes including water bottles go through the proper dish washing machine/dish washing process.
3. Ensure clean dishes/cups/water bottles and any other item required to be sanitary are not set next to any hand washing sink. At least 18 inches of space away from the sink is required.
4. Ensure children's personal items are in their cubbies and not on the floor.
5. Posted schedules need to be updated for accuracy and posted for school age care (school and non school day).
6. Refrigerator in the preschool room needs a visible working thermometer (refrigerator shall maintain temperature of 40F or below).
7. Various emergency plan postings throughout the center are missing components. All should have diagrams and written instructions for fire and tornado as well as center name/address/phone number and phone numbers for police/fire/poison control. These postings are also needed at the main hallway exit door and the outside exit door from the preschool and three year old rooms.

The center will continue with a full license. The center is directed to correct the items cited and the items noted above in

this section of the report and to submit a written summary to the licensing consultant as to how and when those corrections are/will be completed. The written summary shall be submitted within 30 days of receipt of this evaluation. Thank you.

*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.