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

Name of Center: Wee Care at Northwest **Enrollment:** 26 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 51514

Street: 655 NW 10th Street **City:** Waukee Iowa **Zip** 50263 **County:** Dallas

Mailing Address: 560 SE University, Waukee, IA, 50263

Director's Name: Andrea Wiles **Phone Number:** 515-987-5161

On-Site Supervisor(s): Jennifer Ledbury **E-Mail:** awilmes@waukeeschools.org

Date(s) of Visit: 08-21-2023

X **Licensing Visit** **Unannounced Visit** **Off Year Visit** **Administrative Change**

LICENSING VISITS

New Application X **Re-Application** **NA**

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 08-02-2023

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

Date Inspected: 08-10-2022

Comments : Waukee Fire Marshal. Fire Marshal inspections for licensing purposes 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: X 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*	*Summary Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	8	8	11	0	27
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 10-01-2023 to 10-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 08-22-2023

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A licensing visit was conducted on 8/21/23. 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.

Wee Care at Northview is a center that was given permission to open on 8/16/21. The center is located within the Waukee Northwest High School and serves children six weeks in age to five years in age using a combination of the Creative Learning Curriculum and their own curriculum. The center is only open during the school year, but the program typically opens a week before school starts. There are three classrooms.

The center is owned by the school and overseen by a Board. Andrea Wilmes is the director of this program as well as the other Wee Care and Beyond the Bell programs within the Waukee School District. Andrea has a BA degree and has been involved in child care since 1989. Jennifer Ledbury is the on-site supervisor. Jennifer has three years of college education, past experience working in child care, and has taken a number of professional development classes.

During the visit, children observed napping in cribs and engaged in free-choice play at the different learning stations in classrooms. Later, children were observed washing their hands and then sitting down to eat lunch. After lunch, children again washed their hands and cots were being placed on the floor for nap time after tables and floors were cleaned after lunch.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This is a newer center that meets a growing need in the community. Enrollment is steady.

The center was very clean and also smelled clean.

The center uses the Bright Wheels smart phone app for increased communication with parents.

The director and the on-site supervisor have a lot of experience working in child care.

The on-site supervisor again believes she has a good team and they work well with each other.

There are good community partnerships and all of the BTB and Wee Care programs run very similar since under the same management.

The program also has a good working relationship with the school and school personnel.

This year, there is going to be a focus on feelings and friendships with children as they integrate into the new school year.

Good staff redirection and dialogue was overheard several times throughout the visit for new children struggling some to adapt to the center.

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

109.8(2)b: Combinations of age groupings for children between 3 and 5 years of age may be allowed with a staff of 1 to every 12 children.
Two year old children can't be mixed with three and older children unless it's the beginning and/or end of the day and a certain number of children are present. It was noted this consultant spoke with the director after the visit concluded and the director has a plan to correct this issue.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free.
Cords to fans should be more securely fastened to walls and tucked behind other shelving/equipment so they are not freely dangling.

109.12(5)b: Infants diapered in a sanitary manner as needed in central diapering area. One changing table for every 15 infants/toddlers needing diaper changes. Diapering, sanitation, and handwashing procedures posted and implemented in central diapering area.
Diapering procedures should be posted in the three-five year old classroom since there are some children in diapers per staff.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing was last completed 9/3/21 - 9/8/21. 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 boiler and furnace inspection was last completed in 1/2023 per the on-site supervisor who just recently spoke to the school custodian/maintenance. The center should have a copy of these inspections at all times on site.

The center will contact with the Waukee School District for any transportation needs for field trips. Field trips are not yet being taken, but the program will bring in different agencies/groups for presentations to the children.

The center should look for a different disinfectant to use on the diapering tables. The product does have an EPA registration number and is the same product the school uses. But, the center has infants where as the school does not serve infants. Nurse consultants were previously consulted on a substitute to what the center is currently using.

I - Power and IQ4K were again discussed at the visit.

It was noted that some child immunization records need to be transferred to a State of Iowa approved form. Children have 30 days from enrollment to have physicals and immunizations on file.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended.

*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.