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

Name of Center: Postville Childcare Services Inc **Enrollment:** 60 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 18341

Street: 210 S Ogden ST **City:** Postville Iowa **Zip** 52162 **County:** Allamakee

Mailing Address: PO Box 402, Postville, IA, 52162

Director's Name: Kristine "Kristy" Turner **Phone Number:** 563-864-7669

On-Site Supervisor(s): Lori Burns **E-Mail:** postvillechildcare@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 07-24-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 09-27-2021

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: X Infants (0-23 mo.) X 2 Years X 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	22	17	25	16	80
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 08-01-2023 to 08-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 07-30-2024

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 07/24/24 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to Postville Child Care Services Incorporated. I met with Kristine "Kristy" Turner, the director. She started with the center in August of 2021 and became the director in September 2022. Ms. Turner has a BA in organizational communications and a MA in psychology. She has completed the NAC training. Lori Burns is the on-site supervisor. She is the cook at the center and was hired in August 2012. There are 22 staff members currently employed by the center.

The program operates out of a free-standing building. The building is owned by the school. The center operates Monday through Friday from 5:30 am until 6:00 pm. It serves infants through school-aged children. There are currently 60 children enrolled. There are resources for parents inside the entrance. The center partners with Keystone AEA to provide services to children with identified needs. The program routinely works with Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R). They help the center with room arrangements, trainings, and selecting developmentally appropriate materials for the classrooms.

The center operates out of the following rooms: infant room (birth until 18 months), transition room (18 months through 2.5 years old), toddlers (2.5 years old and three-year-old room), Junior Preschool (three and four-year-old room) and school-age room. The room that was previously used for immobile infants can no longer be used because it does not have a direct exit to the outside as required by fire code. However, the center is looking at a renovation in the future to expand this space and add a direct exit. An inspection of each room was completed. Windows provide natural lighting. The rooms are decorated with the children's art projects, and posters to assist the children with the learning process, such as the alphabet, shapes, colors and numbers.

The center is moving into a new transition room on 07/29/24. The room was once used by Head Start. Make sure you post all the necessary postings in the room. Place an evacuation diagram needs to be placed near the door to the outside and you must post the handwashing procedures near the sink in the room and the sink in the bathroom.

The centers observed on the day of the licensing visit include library, blocks, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, Play-Doh, woodworking, listening, computer, art, dramatic play, writing, math, science/discovery, sensory table 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.

The center offers a three-year-old preschool class that operates Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday during the school year from 8:00 am until 12:00 pm.

The center uses the Active Learning Series and a variety of resources to develop lesson plans. I also observed the Tinkering Toddlers curriculum in rooms. Each teacher develops their own lesson plans. Activities are based on weekly themes. Lesson plans were available for review in each room.

There was a phone with emergency numbers and the center's address and phone number in each classroom and in the

kitchen. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by the main program doors and outdoor exits throughout the center. A daily schedule was posted in each room.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections. A radon test was completed in July 2024 and is good for two years. Results were within EPA guidelines. The fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted. A carbon monoxide detector was located on the main level in the hallway across from the infant room. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 09/27/21.

The center participates in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The program provides breakfast, lunch and an afternoon snack. All food is prepared on site. Lori Burns is the cook. She uses a twelve-week rotation of menus. Dishes are returned to the kitchen and put through the industrial dishwasher to be cleaned and sanitized. There are also three sinks available to use the three-step method.

The kitchen was observed to be clean and organized. There is an industrial refrigerator and two upright freezers. Thermometers were present. The storage room was stocked so that food was kept off the floor. Food items were stored according to NHSPS guidelines. Menus and allergies were posted.

Parents provide formula for the infants. The center provides jar food and cereal for the infants. Parents are allowed to bring their own food for the infants if they want a different brand. Bottles are made in the classroom and are returned to the kitchen to be cleaned and sanitized.

A refrigerator is in each of the classrooms and thermometers were present.

The center uses Sani-T-10-Plus to sanitize the food tables. Oxivir Tb is used to disinfect the changing tables. I observed or discussed diaper changes with the staff members and proper procedures are followed.

The center uses cribs, cots and mats to nap.

The parent information is located on a bulletin board inside 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.

The playground is divided into four areas by fences. The infant room is right outside their door. There is currently no equipment or fall surfacing. The staff members put down mats for the infants to crawl on.

There are two areas for children two through five-years-old. One area was newly constructed and paid for by the school system. Poured-in-place rubber is used for fall surfacing. There is a piece of climbing equipment shaped like a pirate ship with slides, a rope climbing wall, fireman pole and other activities. There are also swings. This area could benefit from more shade. The second area for this age group is a naturalistic area. There is a large naturalistic sandbox that has tree stumps and larger rocks to play on. They have two slides built into a large hill. Woodchips are at the bottom of the slides. There is a playhouse. Trees are used for shade. There is a pergola shade structure in the area that covers a picnic table and a concrete path.

The fourth area is a large grassy area. There is no equipment. There is a tree for shade.

There are several containers of other toys and activities for the children outside to use on the playgrounds.

Staff members have fun and creative activities for the children to help teach them learn. Staff members provide clear and easy to understand directions to the children. Staff members are enthusiastic and provide the children with praise. Staff members provided great reminders for the children to wash their hands. Staff members sang with the children while they washed their hands. They had conversations with the children about sharing. Staff members provide the children with choices and were actively engaged in activities with the children. Staff members used play to teach the children about colors and counting. Positive redirection was used when necessary. The children enjoyed their time at the center.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Ms. Turner states they have strong community support.

Ms. Turner is an amazing and dedicated director who has worked hard to keep the doors of the center open. It is a valuable resource to the community.

Ms. Turner states they are participating in the wage enhancement program and have been able to recruit and retain quality

teachers because they are able to offer a higher wage.

Ms. Turner states they have bilingual staff and an inclusive program with a diverse population.

Ms. Turner states they are resilient and consistently overcome adversity.

Ms. Turner states they have positive, strong relationships with their parents and students.

Ms. Turner states they have a clean facility and they purchase new age appropriate and developmentally appropriate materials and toys for children.

Ms. Turner states they have a strong partnership with the school district and are working towards center wide PBIS.

Ms. Turner states they consistently communicate with CCR&R and they help the center with room arrangements, trainings, and selecting developmentally appropriate materials for the classrooms.

Several classrooms have posters with information about their meals/milk, sleep patterns, bathroom information and behaviors.

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

N/A

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.