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

Name of Center: YSS Boone Kids Club **Enrollment:** 48 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 16993

Street: 1805 Hancock Dr **City:** Boone Iowa **Zip** 50036 **County:** Boone

Mailing Address: 420 Kellogg AVE, Ames, IA, 50010

Director's Name: Katie Highland **Phone Number:** 515-451-4335

On-Site Supervisor(s): Tory McKay and Hannah Wallace **E-Mail:** NSchroer@yss.org

Date(s) of Visit: 03-12-2025

X **Licensing Visit** X **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:** 02-10-2025

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

Date Inspected: 08-14-2023

Comments : Boone Fire Marshal. For licensing, 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 X Other 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	77	77
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 04-01-2025 to 04-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 03-13-2025

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 3/12/25. The new on-site supervisor, Hannah Wallace, was present throughout the visit, and the other on-site supervisor, Tory McKay, arrived towards the end of 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.

YSS Kids Club - Boone is located in the new Ledges Elementary school building in Boone, IA. The center primarily uses the second cafeteria, but they also have access to the outdoor playground area. The center serves children in K - 6th grade who attend this school, other elementary schools, or the middle school. Children can attend in the mornings from 6:30am - 8:00am and/or the afternoons from 3:15pm - 6:00pm. During the summer months and no school days, the program is in operation from 6:30am -6:00pm. The center uses their own learning curriculum with children as well as the Positive Actions Prevention Curriculum.

The center is overseen by a Board. The director of this program and the other YSS programs as of 11/2024 is Katie Highland. Katie has a Bachelor's degree and has past experience working in child care and YSS programs. The on-site supervisors are Hannah Wallace and Tory McKay. Tory also covers as the on-site supervisor at a few other YSS programs.

During the visit, all of the children were in the cafeteria. Some children who were arriving were observed washing their hands before being served the afternoon snack. Some children were already sitting down for snack. These children stated they washed their hands before eating. Later in the visit, children were observed in free-choice play at the different learning stations made available to them. Some children were doing art projects. Some children were observed playing with blocks and manipulative toys. Other children were observed just visiting with each other. Staff were observed walking around and interacting among the different groups of children.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This center and other YSS before and after school programs are accredited by CARF.

The center is located in a brand new school building.

School custodial staff clean the center space on a daily basis. The center has a good working relationship with the school.

All directors and on-site supervisors of the YSS programs meet weekly for staff meetings. On-site supervisors also have monthly staff meetings with their employees

All YSS programs essentially operate the same way (same handbooks, policies, etc.) The director at this center is also the director at the YSS program in Ogden, Madrid, and Boone United that are licensed by this consultant as well as other YSS programs that this consultant does not license.

All YSS programs have a Kids Club Coordinator and an Education Coordinator.

The center offers a sliding fee scale to families.

The center has good community partnerships with other businesses.

The program space was clean and has good lighting throughout.

The director and on-site supervisors believe the YSS centers have really good relationships with the children and parents they serve. Communication is stressed. The director believes her staff are also well equipped in addressing behavioral management.

The center continues to have more access to professionals for extra professional development training.

Enrollment remains steady.

Good redirection was observed by staff towards a child who was having some behavioral issues during the visit.

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

No below standards were observed at this year's visit. This makes the second year in a row that no below standards were discovered.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center only serves school-age children in a school so they are exempt from environmental testing.

For transportation/field trips, the center contracts with the school district for bus transportation for any field trip that is not within walking distance. The center will also bring in presenters from time to time. Currently, field trips are only being taken during the summer months.

I-Power and IQ4K were discussed at the visit. Again, as like last year, it appears staff have I - Power profiles and uploading some of their trainings, although all training needs uploaded. Any staff members no longer employed with YSS Kids Club programs should be unlinked to the programs in I - Power.

This consultant's most current posting was emailed to the center after the visit concluded. This should take the place of the previous posting.

A hand washing sign should be posted in the main restroom used by the program.

It is recommended that the director have access to staff record checks and physicals as they are ultimately responsible for programs and all things licensing.

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.