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

Name of Center: NEICAC-New Hampton Head Start **Enrollment:** 15 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 22862

Street: 206 W Main St **City:** New Hampton Iowa **Zip** 50659 **County:** Chickasaw

Mailing Address: PO Box 487, Decorah, IA, 52101

Director's Name: Sharon Burke **Phone Number:** 641-394-4512

On-Site Supervisor(s): Cortney Steine **E-Mail:** sburke@neicac.org

Date(s) of Visit: 04-14-2023

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:** 03-06-2023

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

Date Inspected: 04-25-2022

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	0	0	17	0	17
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 4

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 05-01-2023 to 05-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 04-24-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 04/14/23 I made an unannounced licensing visit to NEICAC-New Hampton Head Start. I met with Cortney Steine, the on-site supervisor and lead teacher in the room. Ms. Steine has a BA in early childhood and elementary education. Ms. Steine has been with the program since August 2017. Shiomara Maldonado is a co-teacher in the room. She has been with the program since January 2016. Tabitha Mettner is also a co-teacher in the room. Ms. Mettner has been with the program since August 2018. Ms. Maldonado and Ms. Mettner both have their CDA's. Lisa Milder is the program manager. Sharon Burke is the director of the early childhood programs for NEICAC-Head Start. Her office is in the administration office in Decorah. Tina Lehs is the family worker for the program.

The program operates out of one classroom in New Hampton Community School. They have been in this space since August 2019. The program can operate from 6:00 am until 6:00 pm. The core preschool hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 am until 3:00 pm. There are currently 15 children enrolled.

An inspection of the room was completed. Artificial lighting is used. The room is 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 children's birthdays were posted. There is an area for circle time.

The centers observed on the day of the licensing visit include library, Lego/blocks, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, Ipads, art, dramatic play, writing, play dough, math, science/discovery, woodworking, 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 children use bathrooms located in the hallway outside of the classroom. They typically use the girl's bathroom, which has four toilets and two sinks. Handwashing procedures were posted. The boy's bathroom has two toilets and two urinals and two sinks. Handwashing procedures were posted. There is a sink in the room and handwashing procedures were posted. The children use cots to nap.

The program uses the Creative Curriculum, Handwriting Without Tears, Heggerty Phonemic Awareness, Second Step, and Jolly Phonics to prepare lesson plans. GOLD assessments are completed on each child. They complete ASQ assessments on all children and the Brigance Screening tool is used. Activities are based on studies. The length of the study depends on the topic and the children's interest level. There is also a weekly nutrition activity for the children. The program uses Healthy Kids and participates in the Farm to Early Care and Education program (F2ECE). Monthly newsletters are provided to parents to inform them of studies, activities and special dates. There is an Epson projector in the room.

Head Start uses the Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) program in their classroom. They implement a new PBIS topic each month in the classroom and information is sent home to parents so they can utilize the tools at home as well. The program is also using solution kits in the classroom. This provides children with choices to try and solve problems. The program partners with Keystone AEA to provide services to children with identified needs. The children

receive hearing, vision, speech and dental screenings.

The program participates in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The program provides breakfast, lunch and a morning and afternoon snack. Snacks are provided by Head Start. Breakfast and lunch are prepared by New Hampton Community School. The children eat snacks in their classrooms using family style and breakfast and lunch in the cafeteria. The children go through the line cafeteria style. Staff members sit with the children to model appropriate behavior and assist the children as necessary. Menus were posted. Allergies were confidentially posted.

Food items were stored according to NHSPS guidelines. There is a dishwasher and refrigerator in the room. A thermometer was present. There is also a refrigerator in the office and thermometers were present. All dishes are washed on site in the dishwasher.

The program is using Oxivir Tb to sanitize toys and classroom materials and SaniDate Hard Surface Sanitizer to sanitize the food tables. Each product has a one-minute dwell time.

There was a phone with emergency numbers in the classroom and in the office. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by both program doors in the classroom. A daily schedule was posted. A lesson plan was available for review.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections. A radon test was completed in August 2021 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 on site and is in the hallway outside of the classroom. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 04/25/22.

The parent information is located on a bulletin board outside of the classroom. 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 program uses the school playground. It is a fenced-in area. Woodchips are used for surface cushioning. There is a large piece of climbing equipment with slides and other activities. There are swings for the children as well. There is a concrete area for the children to use and a large grassy area. There have been two trees planted to provide shade.

Staff and children files were reviewed at the time of the licensing visit. I reviewed six children files. Files must contain emergency contact information for the doctor and dentist of each child. The doctor and dentist's name, phone number and complete street address must be provided. One file did not provide adequate dental emergency contact information. There was not a pattern of disregard so this will not be cited.

On 04/18/23 I reviewed one staff file at the NEICAC administrative office in Decorah. It was in great condition.

Emergency Preparedness Plans have been completed.

Staff members were observed to have great interaction with the children. They provide clear and easy to understand directions. They provided reminders of body basics on the rug. The children were allowed to ask questions while Ms. Steine read a book to include the children in the story. They provided good handwashing reminders. Ms. Steine was expressive while reading and made the story fun for the children. They were flexible with their schedule to meet the needs of the children. I observed staff members use PBIS cues to redirect the children's behaviors in a positive manner. Staff members were enthusiastic. The children appeared to enjoy their time in the classroom.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The program has an IQ4K level 4 rating that expires on 10/31/24.

The program is in a secure building and there is a camera in the room.

Ms. Steine states the program helps lower social economic children learn more world skills and gives them the extra skills to be successful once they enter kindergarten.

Ms. Steine states they serve the children healthy foods and introduce them to new foods they may otherwise never be able to try.

Ms. Steine states being located at the school allows the children to have more involvement with other preschool classrooms while they are out on the playground.

Ms. Steine states they will likely offer care over the summer.

The children who are four years old and the children on an IEP can ride the bus to and from school.

The program provides wrap around care for the children before and after the core hours of preschool.

Head Start uses the Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) program in their classroom. This allows teachers to involve the parents in the program. I observed staff members use PBIS cues in the classroom to both provide the children with positive feedback and to redirect behaviors.

The program has a great working relationship with the school.

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

N/A

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is issued. 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.