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

Name of Center: Beyond the Bell-Walnut Hills Elementary **Enrollment:** 96 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 44017

Street: 4240 NW 156th ST **City:** Urbandale Iowa **Zip** 50323 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 430 Ashworth DR, Waukee, IA, 50263

Director's Name: Andrea Wilmes and Rich Miller **Phone Number:** 515-987-5161

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

Date(s) of Visit: 12-13-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 10-31-2022

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

Date Inspected: 01-20-2021

Comments : State Fire Marshal inspections are due at least every three years. The program will be due for another inspection in 1/2024.

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 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	262	262
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

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

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 12-14-2023

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An off-year visit was conducted on 12/13/23. The on-site supervisor was present for this 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.

Beyond the Bell - Walnut Hills Elementary is a school-age program located within the Walnut Hills Elementary School in Urbandale, IA. The center uses the cafeteria, gym, and outdoor playground area. The program was previously supervised by the Department of Education and was given permission to open under HHH (formerly known as DHS) licensing/supervision on 9/2/14. During the school year, children who attend this school attend this Beyond the Bell program. However, during summer months, there is open enrollment. Hours are 6:30am - 6:00pm during the summer months and no-school days. During the school year, children attend 6:30am - 8:40am and/or 3:40pm - 6:00pm. Every other Wednesday is an early out school day. The program is one of several Beyond the Bell programs and they all use a similar learning curriculum based off of other learning curriculums.

All Beyond the Bell programs are overseen by a Board. The directors of this program and the other Beyond the Bell programs are Andrea Wilmes and Rich Miller. Andrea is also the director of the three Wee Care centers in Waukee. Both individuals meet the requirements for director. The on-site supervisor at this location is Jacob Harder as of 11/2022. Jacob has an AA degree as well as past experience working in child care.

During the visit, all children were initially outside on the playground. Staff were spaced out on the playground within the different groups of children. Later, the children came back inside and went to the gym for a presentation by a company on robotics. Children gave sufficient answers as to when and how often they wash their hands as well as for monthly fire and tornado drills.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Staff use walkie-talkies to communicate with each other throughout the center.

A good system is in place for gathering attendance when school dismisses and children go to the program.

All of the Beyond the Bell programs have information posted online through the Waukee School District Website.

Staff photos are posted by one of the main parent boards.

Monthly staff meetings are held. Directors from this program meet with other western-suburb, school-age programs

quarterly for meetings. On-site supervisors of the all the BTB programs also meet monthly.

Staff from BTB are interchangeable between sites as needed.

The program has a good working relationship with other school personnel.

The on-site supervisor is organized with daily activities, inspections, paperwork, etc.

All of the BTB programs have assistant on-site supervisors in addition to on-site supervisors.

Staff work well together. There is a good mix of tenured and new staff.

Enrollment has increased over the past year.

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

109.7(1): All staff(within first 3 months of employment)Two hours of approved training FOR the mandatory reporting of child abuse. At least one hour of training regarding universal precautions and infectious disease control. Certification in American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health institute or MEDIC First Aid infant, child, and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) OR equivalent certification approved by the department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained. Certification in infant, child, and adult first aid that uses a nationally recognized curriculum or is received from a nationally recognized training organization including the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health Institute or MEDIC First Aid or an equivalent certification approved by the department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained. Minimum health and safety trainings, approved by the Department. If significant changes occur to content, the Department may require the training be renewed.
ONE NEWER STAFF MEMBER IS NOW OUTSIDE THE FIRST 90 DAYS OF EMPLOYMENT FOR GETTING FIRST-AID AND CPR CERTIFICATION.

109.10(11): Smoking and use of tobacco products shall be prohibited in the center and every vehicle used to transport children. Prohibited in outdoor play area during hours of operation. Nonsmoking signs shall be posted at every entrance and in every vehicle used to transport. Signs shall include: Telephone number for reporting complaints. Internet address to DPH.
A No Smoking sign was not posted by the main entrance into the program.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade.
1. The sausage handles on one climber are still cracked and create a hazard. THIS IS A REPEAT ISSUE FROM LAST YEAR.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The program is exempt from environmental testing as they are located in a school building and only serve school-age children.

The center goes on field trips and will contract with the school to take a school bus for transportation. The center will also bring in different agencies for presentations to children.

I - Power was discussed at the visit. It appears all staff have I - Power profiles, but training needs to be uploaded.

It is recommended that parents list at least one emergency contact for their child other than themselves.

The program uses Ridgeworks for permission for such things as field trips, photos, and acknowledgement of children having physicals and immunizations on file with the school.

*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.