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

Name of Center: Drake University Head Start-Boone **Enrollment:** 12 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 28425

Street: 1111 S Linn St **City:** Boone Iowa **Zip** 50036 **County:** Boone

Mailing Address: 3800 Merle Hay Rd Suite 323, Des Moines, IA, 50310

Director's Name: Susan Abel **Phone Number:** 515-432-2872

On-Site Supervisor(s): Victoria Smith **E-Mail:** susan.abel@drake.edu

Date(s) of Visit: 11-09-2022

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 06-11-2020

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

Date Inspected: 02-06-2020

Comments : Boone Fire Marshal. Fire Marshal 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 Other X NA

Program Serves: Infants (0-23 mo.) 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*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General			17		17
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 12-01-2020 to 12-01-2022
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 11-10-2022

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 11/9/22, this consultant observed the classroom the program is located in while visiting Child Care Junction, which is located within the same building. The program is still closed for face to face learning and has been for most of 2022 due to staffing shortages. This consultant has been in contact with the director, Sue Abel, several times with the last being 11/10/22. Because the program is still not open for face to face learning, the program will be closed in KT. If/when the center reopens for face to face learning in 2023, the program will be reopened in KT. Below is the report from the last visit to the center on 11/2/21:
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A licensing visit was conducted on 11/2/21. The new on-site supervisor and the classroom teacher were present throughout the visit as was the Head Start's behavioral intervention specialist.

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. However, staff and children files were not reviewed at this year's visit due to the amount of time it took to address one particular child who was acting out in a more severe manner towards mostly staff which resulted in that child being sent home as directed by this consultant. The most recent COVID updates were also reviewed.

Drake University Head Start - Boone is located in the Goldthwaite-Garvey Family Resource Center in Boone, IA. The center, Child Care Junction, is also located in this building. There is a secure entrance into the building. The Head Start program uses one classroom down one of the main hallways. The program is overseen by the Drake University Head Start program. The director and program coordinator of this program is Susan Abel (formerly Miller). Susan has her Master's degree in Special Education and her BA degree in Child Development. Susan has also worked in the child care field for a number of years. The on-site supervisor and lead teacher of Boone Head Start is now Victoria Smith as of 8/2021. Victoria has a BA degree and also has past experience working in child care.

The program serves children ages three to five years in age. Classes are held full days, Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 2:30pm. The program uses the Teaching Strategies Gold Curriculum (part of Creative Learning Curriculum) in their teachings and activities with children.

During the visit, children were observed in free choice play and eating lunch. Staff were highly involved in children's activities. Staff were also observed handling a crisis-like situation in a calm and professional manner.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The program participates in the food program (CACFP).

The program continues to partner with the Boone County School District for meals. The school district continues to provide/cater in lunch for the Head Start program.

The building custodial staff clean the floors and classroom nightly.

The program has their own nurse consultant, family advocate person, behavioral specialist, mental health consultant, and other in-house professionals who work within the Drake Head Start programs.

Parental participation and communication is stressed. There are quarterly home visits and two parent-teacher conferences throughout the school year. In addition to the above, the lead teacher also visits children in their homes two times a school year. (THERE ARE SOME MODIFICATIONS MAY REMAIN THIS YEAR BECAUSE OF COVID - 19).

The program has a website through Drake Head Start where additional information about the program can be obtained.

Staff bios and pictures are posted at the main entrance to the classroom.

The program participates in a program designed to get children more physically active and fit. The name of this program is "I am moving, I am Learning".

The two staff members in the classroom work well together.

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

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. Sufficient space provided for dining. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. sufficient cooling. Sufficient bathroom and diapering facilities. Equipment, including kitchen appliances, are maintained so as not to result in burns, shock, or injury to children. Sanitation and safety procedures for the center are developed and implemented to reduce risk or injury or harm to children and reduce transmission of disease.

109.11(7)c: All centers: Annual inspection prior to heating season of all fuel-burning appliances to reduce risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and shall install one carbon monoxide detector on each floor that conforms to UL Standard 2034.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

On 11/9/22, this consultant observed the classroom the program is located in while visiting Child Care Junction, which is located within the same building. The program is still closed for face to face learning and has been for most of 2022 due to staffing shortages. This consultant has been in contact with the director, Sue Abel, several times with the last being 11/10/22. Because the program is still not open for face to face learning, the program will be closed in KT. If/when the center reopens for face to face learning in 2023, the program will be reopened in KT. Below are the notes/recommedations from the last visit to the center on 11/2/21:
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Radon testing is due every two years and was last tested 9/21/20 - 3/1/21. Radon levels in the classroom came back below the 4.0 cutoff.

The annual boiler inspection was last completed 10/14/20 so it is past due.

As previously noted for transportation/field trips, the program does not go off site but rather bring in different agencies for presentations to children. BECAUSE OF COVID - 19, GUESTS ARE STILL NOT COMING INTO THE PROGRAM THIS YEAR FOR PRESENTATIONS.

A referral was made to CCR&R to provide additional support for the program. This program has several challenging children this school year. One particularly challenging child was observed throughout the visit. This child was physically

acting out towards staff and was sent home on the day of the visit at the direction of this consultant because of his overly aggressive behaviors.

It is recommended that because of having more challenging children, that at least a third staff member also be present on days the program is in session. There might be some financial issue around this, but it is highly recommended at least a third staff be present.

*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.