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

Name of Center: Southwest Valley Schools Early Childhood Center **Enrollment:** 43 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 50838

Street: 905 Benton Ave **City:** Corning Iowa **Zip** 50841 **County:** Adams

Mailing Address: 904 8th ST, Corning , IA, 50841

Director's Name: Emily Riedel **Phone Number:** 641-322-4601

On-Site Supervisor(s): Mikalah Sonntag **E-Mail:** eriedel@southwestvalley.org jlyddon@southwestva

Date(s) of Visit: 04-30-2024

X **Licensing Visit** X **Unannounced Visit** **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: 07-19-2023

Comments : Plan of correction 8-17-2023.

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	4	17	17	16	54
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 1

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 01-01-2024 to 01-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Kathy DeGeorge-Evans **Date:** 05-30-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced licensing visit was made to Southwest Valley Schools Early Childhood Center on 4-30-2024. This center opened under new ownership on 1-1-2020. The center was previously Hearts & Hugs Daycare and Preschool.
The center provides child care services to infant age children to school age children. There are 43 children enrolled.
Corning Head is located in the building on the main floor.
Emily Riedel is the director, Mikalah Sonntag is the on-site supervisor. Mr. Fenster is the school superintendent .
Staff are employed by the school district.

Observation of rooms:
The rooms have a fun variety of age and developmentally appropriate toys that are rotated frequently.
Infant room - six children and two staff were present. The daily sheets looked good, they are on the Playground child care app. The room had a pack-n-play, this piece of equipment isn't suitable for licensed child care - the center removed it. There were three types of containers i.e. bouncy seat, swing, exersaucer etc., minimal to no use of these pieces of equipment are recommended.
A staff person stepped over a gate - this is a health and safety hazard as the staff person could fall and injure them self or a child. Don't allow staff or parents to step over gates.
Two staff person's purses were accessible to the children - this is a health and safety hazard. The purses were moved to an area that isn't accessible to the children.

Toddler/Preschool room - one side of the room is the Toddler room.
Toddler room - two and three year olds - there were six children and one staff. The room had a fun variety of age and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment. Staff didn't wash a child's hands after diaper changing. Please review the diaper changing and handwashing procedures with all staff.
Lesson plans/activities were needed.
The preschool age room had ten four year old children. The children were having free time playing. Lesson plans are needed.
The first aid kit box was in the bathroom and was accessible to the children.
A mat was on the floor that is used for changing a child's pull-ups - this is unsanitary and difficult for staff to be on the floor changing a pull-up/diaper. Please look at other options.
Diapers are stored in bins the bathroom, please move the diapers as this isn't sanitary. I talked to the Emily and she stated the first aid kit has been moved to an area not accessible to the children, they are now using a diaper changing table for changing pull-ups and they are looking at other areas to store the diapers.

The school age children use the Head Start room in the afternoons, the school age children were at school during my visit.

Staff were positive and attentive to the needs of the children.

Nutrition:
The school prepares breakfast and lunch and the center provides the snack. The kitchen is nice, clean and has plenty of

storage. Menus were posted.

Health and Safety:
Monthly fire and tornado drills are practiced and documented.
Since your program is run by the school the Department of Education is responsible for maintaining radon testing. Test results must be under a 4.0 pCi/L.
Staff reported that the building is all electric.
Oxivir is used for sanitizing and disinfecting, they have the three step bottle procedure for both sanitizing and disinfecting. 1. Soap/water for cleaning, 2. Water for rinsing and 3. Your EPA and child care approved product for sanitizing and disinfecting. (3 separate bottles for sanitizing and disinfecting are needed).

Playground:
The center has a playground with two pieces of equipment, four swings and padded surfacing. A driveway for deliveries was added.
Monthly playground inspections are completed.

Transportation:
The center doesn't provide daily transportation services.

Administrative records:
Child Files were read - two files needed a current physical. Please review all of your child files and make sure they have all of the DHHS requirements.
Staff files were read - I couldn't locate Emily's national record check. One staff file didn't have a date of their staff physical. Review all staff files and make sure they have all of the DHHS requirements.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Emily and Mikalah were very helpful during my visit. Emily was previously working at Head Start part of the day and at the center part of the day, she is now working full time at the center. Since Emily is now working full time at the center she is the director, she is doing a great job learning all of the DHHS rules. Emily has already made the majority of the corrections to the noncompliance areas, and she will be making the rest of the corrections very soon.
Your center is a wonderful resource for the community.
Staff had excellent interactions with the children.

The center is a level 1 on IQ4K .

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

109.9(1)d: All files contain a pre-employment physical exam report completed within six months prior to hire and at least every three years. Physical exams shall be documented on form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report.
One staff file didn't have a date of their staff physical.

109.10(1)a: Preschool (for children five years and younger not enrolled in school): Physical exam report submitted within 30 days of admission, was obtained no more than 12 months prior to admission, is signed by a licensed MD, DO, PA, Chiropractor or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.
two files needed a current physical. Please review all of your child files and make sure they have all of the DHHS requirements.

109.10(8): Children’s hand washing: Center shall ensure staff assist children in personal hygiene. For each infant or child with a disability, a separate cloth for washing and one for rinsing may be used in place of running water. Children’s hands shall be washed:Immediately before eating or participating in food service activity.After using the restroom or being diapered.After handling animals.
Staff didn't wash a child's hands after diaper changing. Please review the diaper changing and handwashing procedures with all staff.

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.
Two staff person's purses were accessible to the children - this is a health and safety hazard. The purses were moved to an area that isn't accessible to the children.

109.12(1): Program structure that uses developmentally appropriate practices and written program of activities planned to the developmental needs of children served.Program complements but does not duplicate school curriculum.Schedule of program is posted in a place visible to parents.
Lesson plans/activities were needed.

I talked to the director, Emily Riedel on the phone on 5-30-2024, we reviewed the noncompliance areas and she reported the following area have been corrected.
The pack -n-play was removed from the center.
Emily has trained staff to not step over gates, diaper changing and hand washing procedures, Emily is preparing the weekly lesson plans/activities.
The first aid kit has been moved to an area not accessible to the children.
Staff are using a diaper changing table for changing pull-ups and they are looking at other areas to store the diapers.
Staff moved their purses to an area that isn't accessible to the children.
Emily will be reviewing all staff and children's files and updating as necessary.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended for 1-1-2024 to 1-1-2026.

*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.