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

Name of Center: Wee Care at Northwest **Enrollment:** 26 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 51514

Street: 655 NW 10th Street **City:** Waukee Iowa **Zip** 50263 **County:** Dallas

Mailing Address: 560 SE University, Waukee, IA, 50263

Director's Name: Andrea Wiles **Phone Number:** 515-987-5161

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

Date(s) of Visit: 08-28-2024

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:** 08-02-2023

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

Date Inspected: 08-10-2022

Comments : Waukee Fire Marshal. Fire Marshal inspections for licensing purposes 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: X Infants (0-23 mo.) X 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*	*Summary Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	8	8	11	0	27
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 10-01-2023 to 10-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 08-29-2024

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 8/28/24. The on-site supervisor was present throughout 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.

Wee Care at Northwest is a center that was given permission to open on 8/16/21. The center is located within the Waukee Northwest High School and serves children six weeks in age to five years in age using a combination of the Creative Learning Curriculum and their own curriculum. The center is only open during the school year, but the program typically opens a week before school starts. There are three classrooms.

The center is owned by the school and overseen by a Board. Andrea Wilmes is the director of this program as well as the other Wee Care and Beyond the Bell programs within the Waukee School District. Andrea has a BA degree and has been involved in child care since 1989. Jennifer Ledbury is the on-site supervisor. Jennifer has three years of college education, past experience working in child care, and has taken a number of professional development classes.

During the visit, children observed napping in cribs, having a diaper changed, playing outside on the playground, and engaged in free-choice play at the different learning stations made available to them in the classrooms. Staff were actively engaged with children and all of their activities.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This is a center that meets a need in a growing community. Enrollment is steady.

The center was very clean and also smelled clean.

The center uses the Bright Wheel smart phone app for increased communication with parents.

The director and the on-site supervisor have a lot of experience working in child care.

The on-site supervisor again believes she has a good team and they work well with each other.

There are good community partnerships and all of the BTB and Wee Care programs run very similar since under the same management.

The program also has a good working relationship with the school and school personnel.

The Wee Care and Beyond the Bell programs now have behavioral specialists on staff.

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

109.9(1)e: All files contain documentation to indicate that ongoing staff training requirements are met, including current certifications in first aid/CPR and mandatory child abuse training.
Number not in compliance: 1 file did not have professional development training certificates in the hard copy file or I - Power.

109.10(3)c: For ongoing, long term medications, authorization shall be obtained for a period not to exceed the duration of prescription.
There was one expired medication.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing was last completed 9/3/21 - 9/8/21. All classrooms came back with radon levels below the 4.0 cutoff. Because levels were below 4.0, the center can move to testing for radon at least every five years now. So long as radon levels remain below 4.0, they can remain on a five year plan. If at the next testing levels in any classroom come back 4.0 or higher, the center will have to have a mitigation plan, retest, and at least temporarily move back to testing every two years.

The boiler was last inspected in 8/2024 per the building maintenance employee. The center should keep copies of inspections in the office.

The center will contact with the Waukee School District for any transportation needs for field trips. Field trips are not yet being taken, but the program will bring in different agencies/groups for presentations to the children.

I - Power and IQ4K were again discussed at the visit. All staff need to have I - Power profiles and be uploading professional development training certificates.

It is recommended child medications be kept either in classrooms or the office rather than the kitchen area.

*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.