Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: YMCA School Age Care at Dike Elem

Provider No.: 46284

Address: 330 Main St, Dike, IA, 50624

County: Grundy

Director's Name: Brandon Bennet

On-Site Supervisor: Jordan Belille

Phone Number: 3198256210

E-Mail: BBennett@blackhawkymca.org

HHS Visit Date: 10/02/2026

Licensing Period: 11/01/2025 to 11/01/2027

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 01/16/2026

Comments: It was noted that the program was making use of a different room than what was identified on the fire inspection certificate of occupancy. It is noted that the program was making use of the school library conference room which had been inspected and approved for use in the past. Notice was provided to the fire inspector of the change.

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

- [ ] Year-Round
- [X] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday		7:00 AM to 5:30 PM	
Tuesday		7:00 AM to 5:30 PM	
Wednesday		7:00 AM to 5:30 PM	
Thursday		7:00 AM to 5:30 PM	
Friday		7:00 AM to 5:30 PM	
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

- [ ] Infant(0-<24 Months)
- [ ] Toddler
- [X] PreSchool
- [X] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General	0	0	0	18	18
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced annual visit was made to the YMCA School Age Care at Dike Elementary in Dike on 10-02-26. Brandon Bennet is the program director, Jordan Belille is the On Site Supervisor,. The program is located in Dike Elementary and while it does have a very strong collaborative relationship with the school the program is overseen by the Blackhawk County YMCA board. The program provides before and after school care to school age children only at this time. The program operates during the school year only with programming in the morning 7-8:15 AM, and the afternoon 3:15-5:30 PM. There are currently 27 children enrolled in the program though the program is open to all children who attend the school. All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed.

The program moved to using a new space this year. While prior notification of the change was not provided it is a space the program has used in the past. The space is a conference room at the back of the school library. Prior floor plans show that the space has room to accommodate 18 children at any given time. The room is an open space with several small work tables present, and a storage room. Windows along the exterior wall provide natural light, and a view of the outdoors. Restrooms are located off the main access corridors of the school and children are escorted to the restrooms as needed.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Programming & Interaction:
While the daily schedule and lesson plan were not posted it was clear that the program does follow a routine schedule. This included greeting the children at arrive, discussion of a change in routine where the children went outside rather than having snack due to waiting for Jordan to return from the store, and later engaging in reading time. The center did not appear to have any established lesson plan or focus theme.

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Due to the multiple use nature of the space activity centers could not be created and left in place. The program does have equipment, toys, and materials in storage that can be brought out for use but none were made available to children on the day of the visit.
The staff were engaged with the children and knew them by sight. Both teachers appeared to have positive relationships with the children.
The program uses a positive behavior support approach of reminders, redirection, and recognition to encourage positive behavior choices. During the visit the staff did maintain a focus on safety when addressing child behaviors.
Ratio was maintained as required with two staff present on site, children being escorted to the restroom as needed, and children being escorted out to parents when they arrived for pick-up.

Health & Safety:
General cleaning is performed by the school custodial department but the center does maintain cleaning products to clean and sanitize equipment and toys as needed. This included tables which were sanitized after snack service.
While Chemical cleaners were stored inaccessible a staff purse, and hand sanitizer were left where they were readily accessible to the children. This did result in one child playing with and using the hand sanitizer in an inappropriate manner.
Staff did direct children to wash their hands prior to snack service, but then directed children to stand or sit on the floor of the hallway while waiting for peers. For those that chose to sit on the floor this did negate the benefits of hand washing as each touched the floor and should have re-washed their hands.
A first aid kit was present and contained materials to address most common first aid needs but did need to have some supplies replenished.

Playground:
The program makes use of the school playground which has several climbing structures, swings, and areas where the children can play. In addition the program also has access the gymnasium for when weather conditions do not allow for outdoor play. While the school is responsible to maintain the equipment staff do still need to assess the area and equipment for damage and restrict children from using those elements as needed.

Nutrition:
Due to the limited hours of operation meals are not served but an afternoon snack is provided. There were no snack options being stored at the center on the day of the visit but Jordan did deliver snacks which consisted of fruit gummies, and a potato starch based chip neither of which would be considered credible.
A copy of a planned menu, or list of items actually served was not present on the day of my visit. If the center/staff do not know what will be provided in advance then a calendar of items that were provided needs to be maintained.
The staff did not eat with the children but did provide supervision.

Administration:
The required postings for No Smoking, Consultant Contact, and a copy of the License Certificate were present in a note book but the Mandatory Child Abuse Reporting notice was missing. In addition due to not being able to be posted where they would be visible to parents and visitors the center maintains documents in a notebook which needs to be brought out daily and placed near the entry where it would be accessible to any parent or visitor to review.
Additional postings for Emergency Evacuation that include both written and diagram instructions, Emergency Contacts, and planned curriculum were missing.
Child files were reviewed and found to contain all required documentation.
Staff files were reviewed as part of the review for the main Grundy Center satellite location where they are maintained for all Grundy county locations and issues that were identified were addressed in that location report.
Emergency Drill logs were not completed as required and this was cited in the prior visit.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

109.4(2): Postings are required for:The certificate of license.Notice of exposure to communicable disease.Notice of decision to deny, suspend, or revoke center license or reduce to provisional status.Mandatory reporting requirements.Notice of availability of the handbook.Name and contact information of the HHS licensing consultant.Program activities and menus.All postings shall be conspicuously placed at the main entrance of the center.
-- Due to the multiple use nature of the space the center uses a notebook to maintain required notices and postings. The notebook was not brought out to be present for any parents/visitors that may arrive. The notebook did not have copies of the required Mandatory Child Abuse Reporting posting, and did not have copies of evacuation maps though written directions

were present at exits.

109.10(13)b: Emergency instructions, phone numbers, and diagrams for fire, tornado, and flood shall be visibly posted and documented at least once a month for fire and tornado. Records shall be maintained for current and previous year.
-- Documentation of prior monthly drill practice for both fire and tornado evacuations of the previous year could not be found. Current year records showed that no emergency drills were practiced for the month of September. The center will need to ensure that both drills are conducted and documented monthly. -- NOTE 2ND YEAR CITED

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that:Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free.Sufficient lighting shall be provided.Sufficient ventilation.Sufficient heating.Sufficient cooling.Equipment placed in the program area is maintained so as not to result in injury to the children.
-- A staff purse was left out where it was readily accessible to the children. Hand sanitizer was also left out where it was readily accessible to children resulting in one child squeezing excessive amounts and using it in an inappropriate fashion.

109.13(1 and 2): Center shall serve each child a full, nutritionally balanced meal as defined by CACFP guidelines.Staff shall provide supervision at table during snacks and meals.Children at center two hours or longer shall be offered food of not less than two hours and no more than three hours apart unless child is asleep.Menus shall be made available to parents and kept on file with substitutions noted.Avoid foods with high incident rate of causing choking.
-- The snack served on the day of the visit did not include credible food options. A calendar of planned, or actually served items was not maintained as required.

4. Any corrective action plans, provisional license, and safety plans-steps to get into compliance

Options to address issues of handwashing, storage of personal items, and having notices available were reviewed with the staff at the time of the visit.

A request for a corrective action plan identifying prepared calendars, and designated individuals that would be responsible to maintain documentation was sent to Brandon and Jordan to be submitted by 10-09-26.

5. Special Notes/Recommendations

A full license is recommended at this time this time. Please provide a written response to the licensing consultant identifying a plan of action to correct and maintain those aspects cited as not meeting licensing standards and identifying an anticipated date of compliance. At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

Date: 10/06/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Ray Salsbury

Non-compliance with any of the mandated regulatory requirements listed above may lead to the cancellation or revocation of your Child Care License. Please take steps necessary to completely address each of the violations noted above.

Child Care Resource and Referral is an excellent resource for providers to access training options and support in your area. You can reach Child Care Resource and Referral at **https://iowaccrr.org**.