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

Name of Center: Little Huskies North Preschool **Enrollment:** 19 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 39619

Street: 1726 N John Wayne Dr **City:** Winterset Iowa **Zip** 50273 **County:** Madison

Mailing Address: 1726 N John Wayne Dr, Winterset, IA, 50273

Director's Name: Julie Lang **Phone Number:** 515-462-1208

On-Site Supervisor(s): Daina McKeever **E-Mail:** jlang@maturaia.org

Date(s) of Visit: 09-14-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 08-02-2023

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

Date Inspected: 10-16-2020

Comments : State inspections are due every three years. The center is again coming due for another inspection in 10/2023.

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: 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	0	0	45	0	45
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:** 09-15-2023

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A licensing visit was conducted on 9/14/23. 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. The most recent COVID updates were also reviewed.

Little Huskies North Preschool used to be called Winterset Head Start and also Pretend Kindergarten. The two programs combined and changed their name in the late Summer/early Fall of 2012. The program in non-profit and owned by Matura Action Corporation. Children served are three to five years of age. Classes are held Monday - Thursday during the school year. Children attend 7:45am - 3:15pm. Three year old children typically leave at 11:30am although some three year old children remain for full day programming. The program utilizes the Creative Learning Curriculum in their teachings. The Gold Assessment is also used.

Julie Lang is the director of the program and she is based out of Creston, IA. Julie has her AA degree in Child Development as well as a BA degree in Psychology and Human Services. Julie has many years of experience working in child care. The on-site supervisor is Daina McKeever. Daina has her CDA and has been with the program for several years.

The program uses a main preschool classroom. There is a second classroom that is used sparingly, but mostly just the main classroom is used.

During the visit, children were observed in free-choice play at the different learning stations set up in the classroom. Later, children were observed lining up to go outside and play on the playground. Hand washing was also observed during the visit.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The program participates in the food program (CACFP).

A dietitian also reviews all menus/meals.

Staff meetings are held weekly.

Parents receive a monthly newsletter. There are two parent-teacher conferences a year and two school visits. Parents also

received weekly sheets for their child's daily activities. Parents are also encouraged to visit the program and participate in their children's activities. The program tries yearly to implement a parent committee.
Communication with parents is stressed.

The program has their own website (Matura Action Corporation).

There is a secure entrance into the preschool area of the building. The center has security cameras with video surveillance of the classroom and surrounding building.

The program uses a computer tracking system for child and staff files (Child Plus).

The program utilizes CCR&R, AEA, and other community resources on a regular/as needed basis. The center has established good relationships with other community businesses, including the local library who comes to the center weekly to read to children. A conservation person also visits the center monthly.

The center is in the process of applying for IQ4K which is a voluntary program based on best practice.

The on-site supervisor is very organized.

The program provides free dental and vision screening for children.

Staff get more than the minimum required annual professional development training.

Enrollment has increased over the past year.

The program has implemented a "taste experience" where children get to try different type of food throughout the school year.

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

109.15(5)b: Sanitary and safe methods in food preparation, serving, and storage sufficient to prevent transmission of disease, infestation, and spoilage are followed.
There were some dry food storage issues in the kitchen area. THIS IS A REPEAT FROM LAST YEAR.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing was last completed on 1/26/23. The center had some issues with getting below the 4.0 cutoff so because of this, they will stay on an every two year radon testing plan for now.

The furnace was last inspected last week (week of 9/3/23 per the on-site supervisor) but they are still waiting for the invoice from the company that did the inspection.

It was previously noted that the center usually only takes one field trip a school year and that is in October. Parents are responsible for getting their own child to the field trip destination.

I - Power was again discussed at the visit.

There was one child immunization that will need to be transferred over to a State of Iowa approved form. One child did not have a current physical, but the school year just started and parents have 30 days from the day of enrollment to get an updated and current physical to the program.

The State Fire Marshal inspection is again coming due in 10/2023.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended.

*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.