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

Name of Center: St Mary's Little Hawks Preschool **Enrollment:** 19 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 45840

Street: 321 Fulton ST **City:** Remsen Iowa **Zip** 51050 **County:** Plymouth

Mailing Address: PO Box 509, Remsen, IA, 51050

Director's Name: Dannielle Book **Phone Number:** 712-786-1160

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** bookd@rsmschools.org

Date(s) of Visit: 10-09-2023

X **Licensing Visit** **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:** 11-03-2021

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

Date Inspected: 10-09-2021

Comments :

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			33		33
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 3

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 11-01-2023 to 11-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jana Drew **Date:** 10-09-2023

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Visited center on 10-09-23 and spoke with new director Dannielle Book director . Ms Book is in her last year of school for her Elementary Degree and has worked several years in a school setting as a para and in home childcare. Ms Book will do her student teaching in the spring at the school, which would require a sub for the 3 year olds. St Mary's Little Hawks Preschool is housed at St. Mary's School in Remsen. They utilize two rooms on the first floor a 4 year old preschool classroom and a 3 year old preschool classroom. Lunch is provided by the school. The children walk to the high school approximately 3 blocks away for lunch. During inclement weather lunch is brought to them at the elementary school from the high school. They provide programs for 3 and 4 year olds Monday through Thursday 8:00am to 3:30pm during the school year. Twice a month the program gets out early at 1:00pm on Wednesdays for professional development.

There are 19 children enrolled in the program(12-4 year olds and 7 in the 3 year old preschool room). At the time of the visit there were 17 children present. All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. The center continues in following all guidelines put forth by DHS regarding the corona-virus and doing everything they can to support their staff and families. The center has been cleaning toys that children use. Sufficient amount of toys and equipment for the number of children. Daily schedule of activities was posted. Displayed throughout the room were colors, shapes, five senses, globe of the world, picture schedule for the children, job chart, children's artwork and the alphabet. Observed staff assisting children with a variety of activities, talking to the children throughout the visit. Staff had good interaction with the children. The center utilizes parts of Creative Curriculum as well as themed based. The center needs to make sure cleaning products are out of reach of children for safety.

Lunch is provided at the high school. The children walk through a lunch line and their trays are filled similar to any school setting. The center provides morning and afternoon snacks to make sure the children are receiving healthy snacks. The center stores drinks in their refrigerator. Meals and snacks are nutritious and meet the CACFP guidelines. Menus were posted. Menus are also listed on the school website.

They currently do not administer medications. Annual heating inspection was completed. Center has completed a radon test and within normal range. The center has good hand washing procedures for staff and children. First aid kit is being updated for minor injuries. Center has a working carbon monoxide detector. Center follows good sanitizing procedures. Fire/tornado drills are documented monthly.

A playground area is located next to the school that has climbing equipment and slides. . The playground has rubber mulch for surfacing around the equipment. St Mary's Elementary school maintains the playground. Shade is available on the playground. The center does monthly playground inspections. The center goes on a variety of field trips throughout the year. However, if they go on one parents help to transport. Record checks are completed on drivers.

Goals of the program are for children who are ready for kindergarten; Get on the IQ4K level 4; and more resources for the classrooms.

Strengths of the program are that staff work well together as a team. Good relationship with the school and community. Staff meet the needs of the children and families that they serve.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center has is on the IQ4K level 3 out of 5.

Toys and equipment are at the children's level and accessible.

Center has child size furniture.

Center sends home a newsletter each weekly as well as facebook page to keep parents aware of what is going on in the program.

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.
Number not in compliance: 2

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.
Cleaning products need to be out of reach of children.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The program needs to email consultant by 11-30-23 confirming that the aspects which fall below standards have been corrected.

A full license is recommended at this time.

At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

*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.