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

Name of Center: Pleasant Hill KinderCare **Enrollment:** 155 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 27466

Street: 1425 Copper Creek DR **City:** Pleasant Hill Iowa **Zip** 50327 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 1425 Copper Creek DR, Pleasant Hill, IA, 50327

Director's Name: Jessica Gathercole **Phone Number:** 515-262-3838

On-Site Supervisor(s): Ashley Fees **E-Mail:** 301829@klcorp.com

Date(s) of Visit: 03-27-2023

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:** 01-07-2022

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

Date Inspected: 01-27-2021

Comments : date of compliance - 2/10/21

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: X Profit Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited X NAEYC NSACA Other 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	43	24	75	16	158
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 4

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 03-01-2022 to 03-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant **Date:** 04-20-2023

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Pleasant Hill KinderCare opened in March 2005. The daycare is one of the many daycares owned and operated by the nationwide corporation KinderCare Education. The center provides child care services for children ages infancy through school age. The center has several classrooms in addition to a small indoor gym. This center provides childcare services to children ranging from infancy to school age. Jessica Gathercole is the director. She started as director in July 2021. Jessica was a registered in home provider for eighteen years prior to coming to KinderCare. Ashley Fees is the on site supervisor.

An unannounced visit was completed on today's date. All areas subject to HHS licensing rules were reviewed. Mandatory postings are in place at the center's entrance. Classroom schedules, lesson plans and menus are posted by room doorways. Classrooms are supplied with age appropriate furnishings and toys. Interest centers are in children's classrooms ages two and up.

Ashley was present and assisted with today's visit. Jessica came to the center during the visit and she also assisted. There are two infant classrooms, two toddler classrooms, two 2's classrooms, one 2/3's classroom, one preschool classroom, one PreK classroom and one TK classroom. The school age classroom is held in the gym. There were no school age children present during the time of the visit. All classrooms were at or above ratio requirements. Children were observed in their classrooms and some classrooms were observed outdoors. Children were observed during child directed play activities. Some children were observed during lunch.

The center provides morning snack, lunch and afternoon snack. Menus are on a four week rotation. Menus reviewed showed compliance with CACFP requirements.

The playgrounds have fencing. There is poured rubber for required surfacing material. The center completes monthly playground checklists.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This center has NAEYC accreditation. The center also participates in QRS and has a four star rating. KinderCare Corporation provides a lot of support to their centers by providing menus, lesson plans and curriculums for all classrooms. The classrooms are well furnished with age appropriate learning and play materials.

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

109.9(1)b: All files contain:A signed copy of DHS criminal history record check or any other permission form approved by the Department of public Safety for conducting an Iowa or national criminal history check. A copy of Request for Child Abuse Information.Copies of the results of Iowa records checks conducted.Copies of national criminal history check results.Any Department-issued documents sent to the center related to records check.

Several staff members did not have federal background checks in their files.
Since the visit, the director said staff have had their federal background checks sent in.

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 didn't have a physical completed in the required timeframe.

109.9(2)b: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center's care.
Two children's files were missing dental information.

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.
One child's file didn't have physical turned in within 30 days.

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 an infant's hands after a diaper change.

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.
Several toddlers were awake during the allotted naptime for their classroom while some toddlers were still sleeping. The toddlers were awake for twenty minutes and staff had given them each one toy to play with. The toddlers were trying to get up and play and staff were making them stay on their cots for another fifteen minutes. Staff said the toddlers were going to stay on the cots for another fifteen minutes, until snack time.
This worker advised the staff to allow the toddlers to go to a table to do a quiet activity, that this directive was not developmentally appropriate and was restrictive and the practice needed to stop.
This worker brought this practice to the director's attention.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center has a full license.

An infant classroom had an adult music radio station playing. A song that had explicit language was playing during the visit. It is recommended that children not be exposed to inappropriate language during programming and all music should be appropriate for young children.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (phone 515-362-7823; email mlarson@dhs.state.ia.us) so that we may discuss the issue. If necessary, I can make a notation in your record. You may also send a letter that will be included in your licensing file noting any disagreement you may have with this report. If you have the need for any additional information discussed during my visit, please contact me and I will forward the information to you. Thank you.

*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.

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