

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

**Name of Center:** Kessel Kids Child Care & Learning Center      **Enrollment:** 175      **License ID No. (Reapplications):** 19073

**Street:** 1135 Canterbury St      **City:** Cresco      Iowa      **Zip:** 52136      **County:** Howard

**Mailing Address:** 1135 Canterbury St, Cresco, IA, 52136

**Director's Name:** Melissa Vobr      **Phone Number:** 563-547-3006

**On-Site Supervisor(s):** Melissa Vobr      **E-Mail:** kesselkids@iowatelecom.net

**Date(s) of Visit:** 02-08-2018

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

**LICENSING VISITS**

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

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

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

**Date Inspected:** 01-07-2016

**Comments :**

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

**Financial Type:**      Profit      X      Non-Profit      NA

**Accreditation:**      Accredited      NAEYC      NSACA      Other      X      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

<b>HOURS:</b>	<u>Year-round</u>	<u>School-Year</u>	<u>Summer Only</u>
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LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	28	15	51	43	137
Summer					0

**QRS Rating:**   N/A

<b>RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:</b>	
X	<b>FULL</b> license from 03-01-2017 to 03-01-2019
	<b>PROVISIONAL</b> license from
	<b>DENIAL</b> of initial application
	<b>SUSPENSION</b> of license
	<b>REVOCACTION</b> of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost

Date: 02-26-2018

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

N/A

**II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:**

On 02/08/18 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to Kessel Kids Child Care and Learning Center in Cresco. I met with Melissa Vobr, the director. Ms. Vobr has been the director since 2008. She has a BA in psychology and business administration. She was an assistant director for two years at the center prior to becoming the director. Ms. Vobr has received her National Administrator Credential (NAC). She is also a NAEYC member. Brenda Pecinovsky is in charge when Ms. Vobr is away from the center. Ms. Pecinovsky is the assistant director and she has been with the program since December 2012. There is 32 staff members employed at the center.

Kessel Kids Child Care and Learning Center operates out of a free standing building. The program operates Monday through Friday from 5:00 am until 6:00 pm. They care for infants through school-aged children. The program started in 1993 and they moved to their current location on 06/02/08. The building was a partnership between the Howard-Winneshiek School District, Head Start, HAWC and Keystone AEA. There are currently 175 children enrolled.

The center operates out of the following rooms: two infant rooms (one for mobile and non-mobile children), a room for one-year-old children, A room for younger two-year-old children, a room for older two-year-old room, three-year-year-old room, four and five-year-old room, and one school-aged room. An inspection of each room was completed. Windows provide natural lighting. The rooms are decorated with multiple pictures of the children, the children's art projects, and posters to assist the children with the learning process, such as the alphabet, shapes, colors and numbers. The children's birthdays were posted. There are areas for circle time.

The centers observed on the day of the licensing visit include library, Lego/blocks, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, puppets, art, dramatic play, Play Doh, Ipads, writing, math, science/discovery, woodworking, sensory table and music. Centers were arranged in a manner that allowed easy movement between activities, but it also allowed for clear supervision by staff members. Materials were in good condition. The materials are located at child level so they were easily accessible to the children.

The program uses the Creative Curriculum and a variety of other resources to create lesson plans. Activities are based on themes. The length of the theme depends on the topic. Each teacher prepares their own lesson plans and turns copies of them in to Ms. Vobr. Newsletters are prepared monthly by each room and provided to the parents.

There was a phone with emergency numbers in each of the classrooms. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and diagrams were posted by the main program and outdoor exits. A daily schedule was posted and lesson plans were available for review.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. Monthly playground inspections are maintained. A radon test was completed in January 2016 and is good for two years. Results were within EPA guidelines. The fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted. A carbon monoxide detector was on site and is located in the hallway. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 01/07/16.

There were loose fitting sheets on some of the mattresses in the cribs on the immobile side of the infant room. Sheets must be tight fitting. I observed children washing their hands for snack in the younger two-year-old room. They would put soap on their hands and then wash it off under water. Staff members should be teaching the children proper handwashing procedures and how they should be rubbing their hands together. There was some expired over the counter Tylenol in this room I asked staff members to remove.

### **III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:**

Ms. Vobr states the center has a great group of people working for them. The core group pulls together when necessary. They are open-minded to change and to improving. They had a good attitude about taking the Essentials training. Staff members work well together and have good working relationships.

The program has a Quality Rating System (QRS) level of 4.

Ms. Vobr and Ms. Pecinovsky have a terrific working relationship. They both are committed to the program and take on a lot of responsibility to make sure things are getting done and that they are done correctly. They both visit rooms to assist as necessary. They both put in several hours each week to make sure the children are cared for and staff members are trained and feel comfortable and supported in their rooms.

There are pictures of staff members in the entrance.

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

109.12(5)e: The provider shall follow safe sleep practices recommended by AAP for infants under one year of age: Infants shall always be placed on their back for sleep. Infants shall be placed on a firm mattress with a tight fitted sheet that meets Consumer Product Safety Commission federal standards. Infants shall not be allowed to sleep on a bed, sofa, air mattress or other soft surface. No child will be allowed to sleep in any items not designed for sleeping but not limited to, an infant seat, car seat, swing, bouncy seat. No toys, soft objects, stuffed animals, pillows, bumper pads, blankets, or loose bedding shall be allowed in the sleeping area with the infant. No co-sleeping shall be allowed. Sleeping infants shall be actively observed by sight and sound. If an alternate sleeping position is needed, a signed physician authorization with statement of medical reason is required.

Sheets in all cribs must be tight fitting.

### **V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:**

A full license is issued for the remainder of the licensing period. All DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period. Please review the report carefully and correct the concerns identified during this visit as well as concerns from the previous licensing visit.

\*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (phone 319-292-2429; email rfrost@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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