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

Name of Center: YMCA School Age Care at Poyner Elem **Enrollment:** 39 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 46285

Street: 1138 Central Ave **City:** Evansdale Iowa **Zip** 50707 **County:** Black Hawk

Mailing Address: 669 S Hackett Rd, Waterloo, IA, 50701

Director's Name: Brandon Bennett & Bekah Stevens **Phone Number:** 319-233-3531

On-Site Supervisor(s): Joseph Espinosa **E-Mail:** bstevens@blackhawkymca.org

Date(s) of Visit: 12-12-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 02-01-2024

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

Date Inspected: 02-12-2024

Comments : Compliance on 04/29/24

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 Preschool-Age X 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	0	50	50
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 01-01-2024 to 01-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 05-03-2024

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 12/12/23 I made an unannounced licensing visit to YMCA School Age Care at Poyner Elementary in Evansdale. I met with Joseph Espinosa, the on-site supervisor. Mr. Espinosa is also the Youth and Community Engagement Coordinator at the Family YMCA of Black Hawk County. Brandon Bennett and Bekah Stevens are the co-directors. Mr. Bennett is the Director of Youth Development, SAC. Ms. Stevens is the director of the ELC program. Mr. Bennett started with the YMCA on 10/05/22. He has previous experience in childcare, including as an assistant director, in Minnesota. He has not finished his education yet but has completed four years of classes in early childhood studies and secondary education. Mr. Bennett is primarily in charge of the school age programs and Ms. Stevens primarily oversees the early learning center. Ms. Stevens has been employed with the YMCA since September 2020. She has a BA in Social Work and Spanish. Their offices are in the YMCA facility in Waterloo. There are two staff members with the children in the morning and two staff members in the afternoon.

The program is in Poyner Elementary. They primarily operate out of the cafeteria area, but also utilize the school gym. The before and after school program operates Monday through Friday from 6:30-8:30 am and 3:45-6:00 pm. The program serves children who are in kindergarten through sixth grade. There are currently 39 children enrolled.

The cafeteria and gym are open spaces that allow for free play and organized activities. Natural lighting is available in the cafeteria and artificial lighting is used in the gym. The centers observed include art/crafts, library, blocks/Legos, games, table toys, and magnets. Centers are stored in a closet located in the cafeteria.

I visited the program during the morning session. The program was in ratio. The number of children at the program at any one time is changing constantly because of children arriving and leaving.

The children primarily use two bathrooms located outside the cafeteria. The girl's bathroom has four toilets. The boy's bathroom has two toilets and two urinals. There is a birdbath sink located outside of the bathrooms. Handwashing procedures were posted.

Staff members have a cell phone. Emergency numbers are in the first-aid backpack. The backpack is always with staff members. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by some of the main program doors and outdoor exits in the cafeteria. The evacuation diagram must be posted in the cafeteria near the double doors that lead to the school. This was cited in the last two years' reports. The evacuation diagrams must be placed near all three exits out of the gym. They were only posted by one. A daily schedule was posted.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills for the last two years. I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections for the last two years.

Radon testing, a fuel burning inspection and a carbon monoxide detector are not necessary because the program is exempt from environmental assessments as a before and after school program that serves only school-aged children and located in a public-school building. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 02/12/24, with compliance on

The YMCA offers an afternoon snack. A snack menu was posted. Disposable products are used so dishwashing is not necessary. The program is not part of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) but is following the guidelines. Snacks are provided by the YMCA/NE Iowa Food Bank. They are delivered to the program and were stored according to the NHSPS guidelines. The program does not serve breakfast, but a table is cleaned and sanitized so children could eat breakfast if they bring it. There is a refrigerator on site and a thermometer was present. The children eat breakfast at school once they are released from the program.

The program uses Alpet D2 Surface Sanitizing Wipes to sanitize the food tables prior to snack. This product has a ten second dwell time. They use the Purell Food Service Surface Sanitizer after snack.

The parent information is located on a bulletin board inside the entrance the cafeteria. The mandatory reporter, childcare consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The license was conspicuously posted. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

The program uses the elementary school's playground. There are three areas. Woodchips are used for surface cushioning under the climbing equipment for two areas and rubber mulch is used for the third area. There are climbing walls, slides, bars, rings, rocking toys, steppingstones, spinning toys, a balance beam, merry-go-rounds, tunnels and a see saw. There are also grassy areas and a basketball court with hoops. Benches are available for the children to rest. Shade is available.

There is a gym available when the children cannot go outside.

Children files were reviewed at the time of the licensing visit. I reviewed six children files. Files must contain emergency contact information for the doctor and dentist of each child. The doctor and dentist's name, phone number and complete street address must be provided. Six records did not have any medical or dental emergency contact information. Five records did not have information with next of kin with emergency phone numbers. Three records did not have a health statement on site with a statement that indicates immunization records are with the school. Two records did not provide who has permission to pick the child up.

I reviewed one staff file at the YMCA on 11/28/23. The staff member did not have a current Iowa background check (SING) in his file.

Staff members were observed to have amazing interaction with the children. Child friendly music was playing, including several Christmas songs. Staff members greeted the parents as they arrived to pick up the children and told the children to have a great night as they left. Staff members were actively engaged in activities with the children. The children especially enjoy arts and crafts and they were making pictures to hang on the walls. Staff members encouraged the children to use their imaginations and be creative. Staff members maintained positive conversation with the children and provided them with praise. The children appeared to enjoy their time at the program.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Mr. Espinosa states the provide the children with consistency.

Mr. Espinosa states the children love doing crafts and he gets the supplies they need to make it happen. He states they come u with creative ideas on their own.

Mr. Espinosa states the school built a new playground area for preschool children and the children in the program love it.

Mr. Espinosa states the school staff members are always great. If they see them having any issues they will come and help. He states the principal is great.

Mr. Espinosa states all the assistants that work with him are great.

The program is here for the community no matter what. They are here to serve the communities with any childcare needs they may have.

The program meets a need in the community to provide care for children before and after school. They are safe on the school site and do not have to transition to a new location.

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

109.6(6)c: Center repeats Iowa record checks at a minimum of every two years or when aware of additional child abuse or criminal history that occurs.
One staff member has an outdated SING background check.

109.9(2)a: All files contain sufficient information to allow the center to contact the parent or emergency contact at any time child is in center's care.
Number not in compliance: 5
Information lacking: Five records did not have information with next of kin with emergency phone numbers. Parents must provide an emergency contact other than themselves.

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.
Number not in compliance for medical: 6
Number not in compliance for dental: 6
Information lacking: Files must contain emergency contact information for the doctor and dentist of each child. The doctor and dentist's name, phone number and complete street address must be provided. Six records did not have any medical or dental emergency contact information.

109.9(2)c: All files contain information regarding the specific health and medical needs of a child including information regarding any prescribed treatment.
For school-age programs in the child's school, all files include a statement signed by the parent that the immunization information is available in the school file.
Number not in compliance: 3
Three records did not have a health statement on site with a statement that indicates immunization records are with the school.

109.9(2)d: All files contain parent authorization of the persons to whom the child may be released.
Number not in compliance: 2
Two records did not provide who has permission to pick the child up.

109.10(15)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.
Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by some of the main program doors and outdoor exits in the cafeteria. The evacuation diagram must be posted in the cafeteria near the double doors that lead to the school. This was cited in the last two years' reports. The evacuation diagrams must be placed near all three exits out of the gym. They were only posted by one.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is issued. All DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

An administrative change is being made to name Joseph Espinosa as the on-site supervisor.

I met with Brandon Bennett and Joseph Espinosa at the YMCA on 11/28/23. We discussed the concerns I had with my visit. Mr. Bennett and Mr. Espinosa informed me they are already making corrections to the sites following my email to them with my concerns. If the same violations occur next year the program will be placed on a provisional license.

There was a delay in completing the report because I was waiting on the fire marshal inspection and compliance report.

*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.