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

Name of Center: Newton YMCA After School at Thomas Jefferson **Enrollment:** 27 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 51442

Street: 112 Thomas Jefferson Dr **City:** Newton Iowa **Zip** 50208 **County:** Jasper

Mailing Address: 1701 S 8th Ave E, Newton, IA, 50208

Director's Name: Serenity Bookout **Phone Number:** 641-792-7021

On-Site Supervisor(s): Alisha Buchanan **E-Mail:** serenity.bookout@newtonymca.org

Date(s) of Visit: 04-07-2025

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 03-10-2025

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

Date Inspected: 08-27-2024

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 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*
Sunday			
Monday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Tuesday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Wednesday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Thursday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Friday	6:00 AM to 6:00 PM		
Saturday			

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General				42	42
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 06-01-2025 to 06-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant **Date:** 04-10-2025

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Newton YMCA After School at Thomas Jefferson was given permission to open in August 2023. The center provides before and after school child care for children who attend this school. The center operates inside the elementary school and has it's own secured entrance. The center uses the gym, a room by the gym, the cafeteria and playground for programming space. Serenity Bookout is the director of this center. Serenity is the director of the YMCA Early Learning Center. Alisha Buchanan is the on site supervisor. Alisha has a Bachelors in Elementary Education. Alisha has been in this position since January 2025.

An unannounced visit was completed on today's date. All areas subject to HHS licensing rules were reviewed. Mandatory postings are in place by the entrance. A schedule is posted. A lesson plan was available for viewing. The center has age appropriate games, art supplies, toys and learning supplies that are kept in their room by the gym. Children's coats and backpacks are kept in the center's room.

Alisha assisted with today's visit. There were a second staff member working today. There were twenty three children in attendance. Children were observed transitioning from the school to the playground and then during outdoor play. Interactions between the staff and children were observed to be positive. Staff provided age appropriate supervision during the visit.

The center serves snack after school. The menu is prepared by the YMCA Early Learning Center. The center has a snack menu. Children that attend programming before school eat breakfast within the school cafeteria.

The school playground is partially fenced. The playground used today had mulch for surfacing. The center completed monthly playground checks.

The center uses busing for off site field trips during the summer.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This center has spacious programming space. The center is overseen by the YMCA Early Learning Center. The children are offered large motor play activities through the use of the gym and playground.

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

There were no licensing violations cited during today's visit.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center has a full license.

*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.