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

Name of Center: Beyond the Bell - Radiant Elementary **Enrollment:** 90 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 50735

Street: 5050 170th ST **City:** Urbandale Iowa **Zip** 50323 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 430 Ashworth DR, Waukee, IA, 50263

Director's Name: Andrea Wilmes and Rich Miller **Phone Number:** 515-987-5161

On-Site Supervisor(s): Kaitlyn LePera **E-Mail:** awilmes@waukeeschools.org

Date(s) of Visit: 11-02-2023

X **Licensing Visit** X **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:** 10-05-2023

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

Date Inspected: 11-30-2022

Comments : State Fire Marshal. For licensing requirements, these inspections are due at least every three years.

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*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General	0	0	0	276	276
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 12-01-2023 to 12-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 11-02-2023

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A licensing visit was conducted on 11/2/23. The on-site supervisor was present throughout the visit.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. The most recent COVID updates were also reviewed.

Waukee Beyond the Bell - Radiant Elementary, located in Urbandale, IA, is a school-age program that was given permission to open under HHS (formerly known as DHS) supervision on 8/23/19. The program serves school-age children who attend Radiant Elementary. The program is in operation year-round and they use their own learning curriculum with children. Doing the school year and school days, the program operates 6:30am - 8:35am and again 3:40pm - 6:00pm. During the summer months and no school days, hours are 6:30am - 6:00pm. The program uses the gym, cafeteria, and outdoor playground area.

The program is owned by the Waukee School District. The directors of this program are Andrea Wilmes and Rich Miller. Andrea and Rich are also the directors of all of the other Waukee Beyond the Bell programs as well as the three Wee Care programs. Andrea and Rich both have college degrees and many years of experience working in child care. The on-site supervisor of this program as of 8/2022 is Kaitlyn LePera. Kaitlyn has past experience working in child care, including other Beyond the Bell programs.

During the visit, children were observed lining up in the cafeteria to go outside on the playground. Children were later observed playing on climbing structures and swings. Staff were sufficiently spaced out on the playground and interacting with children.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This is one of several Waukee Beyond the Bell programs. They all operate in similar fashion, can use staff from the different programs, etc. There is continuity.

The directors have many years of experience working in child care. The on-site supervisor has several years' worth of experience as well. The on-site supervisor also attended Beyond the Bell when she was a school-age child.

The center has their own website.

Enrollment remains steady.

Staff use a walkie talkie system to communicate between the different areas used.

Informal daily meetings are held between staff. Monthly formal staff meetings are held. The directors meet quarterly with

other directors of school-age programs in the western Des Moines suburbs. On-site supervisors of all BTB programs have monthly staff meetings together.

Good child/staff interactions were again observed.

The on-site supervisor believes the program has a good working relationship with other school personnel.

The on-site supervisor also believes she has a good staff who all work well with each other.

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

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.
1. There are several bolts on fence gate and then in the corner of the fenced in area that need to be cut/capped so that no more than two threads are showing.
2. One of the climbing step pieces is fairly loose on one structure as shown to the on-site supervisor.

109.15(1): Center shall serve each child a full, nutritionally balanced meal as defined by CACFP guidelines.
Two credible food items need to be served for snack, but they can't be of the same food group (juice and fruit).

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

There are seven Waukee Beyond the Bell programs. They have the same directors, handbooks, interchangeable staff if need be, etc.

The center is exempt from environmental testing as they only serve school-age children in an actual school building.

It was previously noted that the center contracts with the school district to take a bus on field trips.

It is recommended parents list at least one emergency contact person other than themselves on child forms.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended.

*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.