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

Name of Center: KID STATION AT HERITAGE **Enrollment:** 105 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 49085

Street: 500 NE Beaverbrooke Blvd **City:** Grimes Iowa **Zip** 50111 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: PO Box 425, Dallas Center, IA, 50063

Director's Name: Kathi Fox **Phone Number:** 515-778-6118

On-Site Supervisor(s): Justine Johnson **E-Mail:** kidstationatheritage@yahoo.com

Date(s) of Visit: 12-14-2023

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:** 11-15-2023

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

Date Inspected: 07-20-2023

Comments : Grimes/Johnston Fire Marshal. Per licensing, 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	120	120
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: Nate Knepper **Date:** 12-15-2023

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 12/14/23. The director 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.

Kid Station at Heritage is a center located in the Heritage Elementary School in Grimes, IA. The center was given permission to open under HHS (formerly known as DHS) supervision on 8/23/17. The center serves school-age children who attend this elementary school and the other two elementary schools in Grimes. There is a before school component that runs 6:30am - 7:45am and an after school component that runs 3:15pm - 6:00pm. Every other Wednesday is an early out and programming on those days starts at 1:00pm. During the summer and no school days, the center is open 6:30am - 6:00pm. The center primarily uses the cafeteria and outdoor playground area, but they also have access to the gym on certain days.

The center is overseen by a Board. The center director as of 6/2023 is Kathi Fox. Kathi has worked in the school system and child care system for a number of years. Kathi was also previously the on-site supervisor at this location. Justine Johnson is the on-site supervisor as of 5/2019. Justine has a BA degree in Elementary Education and also has past experience working in child care. The business manager of the center is Jill Bejarno.

During the visit, children were divided up in the cafeteria and in the gym. Later, the cafeteria group went outside and the outside playground group came back inside. Children were engaged in large motor activities on the playground. Staff were spaced out among the different groups of children. Inside, children were observed playing at different learning stations made available to them. Staff were again spaced out and engaged with children.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The director is organized.

The center has a business manager.

Monthly staff meetings are held. Management buys food for staff to eat during these meetings. A staff recognition program is utilized for recognizing good work done by staff. Management also puts on employee gatherings for staff a couple of times throughout the year

Monthly Board meetings are held.

Good staff and child interactions and redirection were observed and overheard.

The director stated staff work well together. Staff enjoy their job duties and enjoy working with children.

Parents are actively kept informed of programming/communication. "Remind App" is used for communication with parents.

The center has a good working relationship with other school personnel.

Enrollment has again increased over the past year.

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

109.9(2): All files are updated at least annually and when a change occurs.
One child was past due for an annual update. THIS IS A REPEAT ISSUE FROM LAST YEAR.

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: 0
Number not in compliance for dental: 1
Information lacking: Every child enrolled in the program needs to have a doctor and a dentist listed. The information required is the name, address, and phone number of both doctor and dentist. THIS HAS BEEN A REPEAT ISSUE FOR THREE YEARS IN A ROW WITH SOME FILES.

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: 1 child did not have an updated annual health statement. THIS IS A REPEAT ISSUE FROM LAST YEAR.

109.10(3)a: All medications shall be stored in original containers with physician or pharmacist directions. Labels should be intact and stored so they are inaccessible to children and public. Nonprescription medications shall be labeled with the child's name.
One medication in the medication box was not labeled.

109.10(9): First aid kit: The center shall ensure that a clearly labeled first aid kit that is sufficient to address minor injury or trauma is available and accessible to staff at all times when children are: In the center. In the outdoor play area. On field trips.
Staff did not take a first-aid backpack with them to the playground (first group of children).

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.
Fire and tornado drills were not documented for July and August of 2022.

109.15(1): Center shall serve each child a full, nutritionally balanced meal as defined by CACFP guidelines. Staff shall provide supervision at table during snacks and meals. Children at center two hours or longer shall be offered food of not less than two hours and no more than three hours apart unless child is asleep.
The timeframe between lunch and the PM on no school days needs to be altered some.

109.15(5)b: Sanitary and safe methods in food preparation, serving, and storage sufficient to prevent transmission of disease, infestation, and spoilage are followed.
There was an issue with dry food storage not being properly sealed in storage.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Because the center is located in a school building and only serves school-age children, they are exempt from environmental testing.

The center generally contracts with the school district to take a school bus on field trips. Field trips are only taken during the summer months.

I - Power was discussed at the visit. It appears all or the majority of staff have I - Power profiles, but some training needs to

be uploaded.

An annual child update form was emailed to the director after the visit concluded. It is recommended a statement of health be added to the form that states children's physicals and immunizations are on file with the the school.

The center has had some communication for the electronic app, Playground. The center was encouraged to again reach out to Playground.

All substitutes also need to have all training that regular staff have. Directors and on-site supervisors need a minimum of eight professional development hours annually. All other regular staff need at least six hours.

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.