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

Name of Center: GMG Elementary School **Enrollment:** 91 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 45881

Street: 1710 Wallace Ave **City:** Green Mountain Iowa **Zip** 50632 **County:** Tama

Mailing Address: 1710 Wallace Ave, Green Mountain, IA, 50632

Director's Name: Stacey Busch **Phone Number:** 641-474-2251

On-Site Supervisor(s): NA **E-Mail:** sbusch@gmgschools.org

Date(s) of Visit: 11-01-2023

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: 03-15-2023

Comments : Fire 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 X 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			20	30	50
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 10-01-2023 to 10-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Maggie Gibson, SWIV **Date:** 01-11-2024

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced full licensing visit was completed 11-1-23. The Director was present throughout the visit.

GMG (Green Mountain Garwin) Elementary school is located in Green Mountain. They offer a before and after school care program, a Universal Pre-K program, and an Extended Learning Program for preschool age children. These are school year only programs. Stacey Busch is the director of this program, starting in this role in August of 2022. Stacey is also the Principal of the school. Stacey has a Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood/Elementary Education and has been a teacher at the school for the past 15 years.

Morning hours are 7:00-8:00 AM and after school hours are 3:50-5:30 PM, Monday through Friday.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

The before and after school age program meet in the cafeteria. The cafeteria has a capacity for 30 children with a square footage of 1082. The program will add the additional 10 to the capped 20 for school age children on the report, brining the total capacity to 50. Although the program currently has 71 children enrolled in the school age program, they only average around 25 children at a time. The Extended learning program is held in a separate building that is just steps away from the main elementary building. There are two rooms in this building, one classroom is for the Universal Pre-K program and the other classroom is used for the Extended Learning Program.

In this preschool building, each classroom has enough square footage for 28 children, however they choose to limit the class size to 20 children; 10 children in the AM and 10 children in the PM. The Extended Learning program is offered opposite times of the preschool program. It is available for families who need childcare for the time frame when their child is not in preschool. Care is offered from 8:45am to 11:30 am and 12:30 pm to 3:00 pm. The Gold Assessment/Haggerty Curriculum is used for the preschool children. There is no preschool on Fridays, however extended learning is offered on Fridays, for all day care.

The rooms were observed to have available a good variety of age/developmentally appropriate activities/toys. There are restrooms avail that were clean, had posted handwashing signs and supplies. The rooms were arranged nicely and staff were attentive to the children. There are first aid kits available. Emergency plans were posted and drills documented has having been conducted as required. The playground was in good condition (newer facility), had play and shade structures available and safety surfacing that was "pour in place". Playground checks were completed.

Information for mandatory reporting, handbook accessibility, consultant contact, license, fire/tornado exit plans and non-smoking signs were posted conspicuously as required. There were three children files and two employee files reviewed. Sing checks were repeated and all required information was located in the child files (some is kept by school nurse). The director has been in contact with CCR&R to assist with administrative documentation etc.

This report had been delayed as the fire inspection could not be located; was located with the state fire marshall and added to the file as having been completed 3-15-23.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The Universal Pre-K program works very closely with the preschool Extended Learning Program. This partnership allows children to attend preschool for a half day, and also attend childcare for the opposite time frame. There is also a before and after school program available for the school age children to attend. Many of the children attend this school district through open enrollment, so the child care piece is vital to the parents who may have a distance to travel to drop off and pick up their children. These programs help with open enrollment. The preschool and extended learning program follow similar curriculum and use the Gold Standard.

The staff are very professional and are dedicated to the teaching and care of these children.

The staff work well together.

The program takes every step to provide quality care to the children, as well as quality education. The children who attend the preschool program are ready for kindergarten.

The staff who provide care in the before and after school program are staff already employed with the school during the school day, which provides for consistency and a seamless transition for the children.

This program offers a safe environment for the children and allows the children to be there for a full day, which is a benefit to families.

The program has good enrollment.

The new director is very organized and invested in the program. She has been with the school for 15 years and knows the children, staff and families well.

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

Number not in compliance: 3

109.9(2): All files are updated at least annually and when a change occurs.
Files are required to updated at least annually or when changes occur.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing is required every two years. Radon testing was conducted in August of 2022 and radon levels were below the 4.0 cutoff.

The furnace has been inspected by the school district and is done yearly.

The director has started conducting background checks through the DHS SING account and the DHS fingerprinting account for the licensed program. The director was in contact with CCR&R for assistance in completing this also.

The director will ensure the evacuation/emergency plans are posted in the gym/cafeteria in a conspicuous manner.

*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.