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

Name of Center: Clover Patch Day Care **Enrollment:** 53 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 45179

Street: 802 Main St **City:** Cedar Falls Iowa **Zip** 50613 **County:** Black Hawk

Mailing Address: 615 Washington St, Cedar Falls, IA, 50613

Director's Name: Jon Wiebers **Phone Number:** 319-277-6781

On-Site Supervisor(s): Cathy Hagarty **E-Mail:** lhackett@cfcatholicschool.org

Date(s) of Visit:

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 11-30-2021

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 X Preschool-Age 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	60	0	60
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 1

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 05-01-2021 to 05-01-2023
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 01-09-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 04/19/22 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to Clover Patch Daycare in Cedar Falls. I met with Cathy Hagarty, the on-site supervisor. She has an AA in an unrelated field. Lynette Hackett is the director and principal at St. Patrick Catholic School. Ms. Hackett started with the program in August 2018. The program employs two primary child care staff members, five college students who are child care staff members and three preschool staff members. This program had been operating under the Department of Education and became licensed under the Department of Human Services in May 2015.

The center is in a free-standing building. The program operates Monday through Friday from 8:00 am until 5:30 pm and serves preschool children. There is a preschool class for three-year-olds and young four-year-olds on Tuesday and Thursday from 8:15-11:00 am. There is a preschool class for three and four-year-olds on Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning from 8:15-11:00 am. There is a program for Pre-K children on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 12:15-3:05 pm. There are currently 53 children enrolled. Children must be enrolled in preschool to attend the daycare program. The program only operates during the school year.

The program primarily operates out of two rooms. One room serves the preschool classes and one room is for child care. They also have a room to use for child care overflow and centers and gross motor activities when they cannot go outside. An inspection of each room was provided. Windows provide natural lighting. The rooms are decorated with the children's art projects, and posters to assist the children with the learning process, such as the alphabet. The children's birthdays were posted. There is an area for circle time in the preschool class.

The centers observed on the day of the licensing visit include library, blocks/Legos, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, art, dramatic play, listening, computers, writing, math, science/discovery, sensory table and music. Centers were arranged in a manner that allowed easy movement between activities, but it also allowed for clear supervision by staff members. Materials were in good condition. The materials are located at child level so they were easily accessible to the children.

Angie Dean is the lead teacher in the preschool room and Carrie Zehentner is the assistant for every class. Kim Herbst is an additional assistant in the preschool room on Tuesday and Thursday morning. Ms. Dean has a BA in elementary education with an early childhood and reading endorsement. Ms. Hagarty and Kristin Olmstead are the primary staff members in the daycare room.

There is one sink in the office area off the preschool room. Handwashing procedures were posted. There are two bathrooms for use by the children on the north side of the program. There is one toilet and one sink in each bathroom and handwashing procedures were posted in each location. There is a bathroom in the daycare room that has one toilet and one sink and procedures were posted. There is also a staff bathroom.

Mats are used to nap.

The child care program provides lunch and a morning and afternoon snack. Lunch is provided by St. Patrick Catholic School, which is part of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). Lunch menus were posted. Snack calendars were available to review. Children have the option of bring cold lunches from home as well. Parents provide snack for the preschool class. Snack calendars are maintained on what is served for snack to the preschool children. There is a refrigerator and a milk cooler and thermometers were present. Food items were stored according to NHSPS guidelines. Dishes are sent back to St. Patrick Catholic School to be put through the dishwasher.

The program is using Clean by Peroxy All Purpose Hydrogen Peroxide Cleaner and Betco Green Earth Peroxide Cleaner in place of soap and water. They are using R-T-U Quaternary FCS Sanitizer on the food tables. They then use disinfecting wipes to sanitize toys and tables in the classrooms. Please note the disinfecting wipes do require a portable water rinse on food tables.

The preschool uses the Creative Curriculum to develop lesson plans and complete the GOLD assessments on the children. Ms. Dean uses Alphatales and Handwriting Without Tears to teach the alphabet. The program is Christian based and Ms. Dean uses Stories of God's Love and Catholic Icing for the religious curriculum. Parent conferences are offered in the spring for the three-year-old children and in the fall and spring for the four and five-year-old children. The daycare does not develop lesson plans because they only care for the children who are in preschool, so the children receive the necessary educational activities during that time. Daycare is primarily free play and crafts. A lesson plan was available for review. The length of the study varies depending on the topic and the children's interest level.

There was a phone with emergency numbers in each room. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by the main program doors and outdoor exits. A daily schedule was posted in both rooms.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections. A radon test was completed in March 2022 and is good for two years. Results were within EPA guidelines. The annual fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted. A carbon monoxide detector is in the daycare room on the cubbies and in the entrance of the preschool room. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 11/30/21.

The parent information is located on a bulletin board inside the entrance of the daycare and inside the entrance near the preschool cubbies. The child care consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The license was conspicuously hung. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

Staff members were observed to have terrific interaction with the children. They were actively playing with the children and interacted with them at their level. They maintained positive conversations and provided praise. In the child care room, each child was given the opportunity to share a story about what they did for Easter. In the preschool room the staff members actively engaged the children in activities during circle time. They marched around the room as a group while balancing a bean bag on their heads and they listened to music and played sticks for musical instruments. Staff members had great teamwork in both rooms. They counted the children as they transitioned to new spaces. The children seemed to enjoy and feel comfortable in the program.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

All the staff members in this program are terrific. They are friendly, enthusiastic and had great interaction with the children. It was obvious they love what they do and they are invested in the program and children.

Ms. Hagerty states they have well established routines and they provide a loving/caring atmosphere for the children.

Ms. Hagerty states they provide free play, social interaction and academics.

Ms. Hagerty states they have a good food program. They receive lunch and snacks from the school.

Ms. Hagerty states the playground is suited for the children. The equipment is at their level.

Ms. Haggerty states the children are happy in their program.

Ms. Hagerty states they program has a Quality Rating System (QRS) level of 1.

Ms. Dean states they work hard and there are several people invested in the program to make it a success.

Ms. Dean states she works hard on the curriculum. She makes it different each year so the children repeating the program are engaged in new activities.

Ms. Hagarty is detailed oriented and makes sure that things get done and that documentation is complete. She is organized and makes sure that licensing standards are met.

The preschool program and the child care program work well together and assist each other as needed.

The program provides vision screenings through the Lion's Club and hearing screenings through AEA. Central Rivers AEA visits the classroom to work with children who have identified needs.

The building they operate out of is self-contained and the children can transition between daycare and preschool. The children can utilize the child care program at St. Patrick Catholic School in the morning and ride to the bus over to child care.

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

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

An administrative change is being made to name Jon Wiebers, the principal of St. Patrick Catholic School, as the director of the program. He became the principal this past fall.

*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.