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

Name of Center: Southwest Valley Early Childhood Center-Villisca **Enrollment:** 33 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 51174

Street: 219 Central Ave **City:** Villisca Iowa **Zip** 50864 **County:** Montgomery

Mailing Address: 219 Central Ave, Villisca, IA, 50864

Director's Name: Amber Mullen **Phone Number:** 712-826-5982

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** amullen@southwestvalley.org jlyddon@southwestvalley.org

Date(s) of Visit: 09-17-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 12-21-2023

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: X Infants (0-23 mo.) X 2 Years X 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	4	4	14	13	35
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 1

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 09-01-2024 to 09-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Kathy DeGeorge-Evans **Date:** 09-24-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced licensing visit was made to Southwest Valley Early Childhood Center - Villisca on 9-17-2024. The center is located in the Enarson Elementary School. The center opened on 9-21-2020. Child care services are offered to infant age children to school age children. Monday through Friday 6:00 am to 6:00 pm. Amber Mullen became the director on January 3, 2023. There are 33 children enrolled. I met with Amber Mullen during my visit.

Observation of rooms:
There are two program rooms. One room is for infants to two year olds and the second room is for children two years and older. You had a four year old in your infant room on the day of my licensing visit. I emailed you the ratio and age of separation requirements on 9-24-2024. The infant age children must be free from intrusion of the older children. You will need to look at reconfiguring your two and older room to provide for the required separation. The daily sheet looked good for the child under two years old. The children in the two and older program room were taking a nap and a couple non nappers were playing at the table. You need a diaper changing table for the older children's room. Diaper changing on a mat on the floor isn't recommended.
The rooms have a fun variety of age and developmentally appropriate toys and equipment. Equipment and toys are rotated on a frequently.
The center uses Creative Curriculum and they use the lesson plans/activities that Creative Curriculum provides.
Amber said that the school had a lock down for a period of time and both program rooms were combined for awhile.
The center uses the Playground app.

Nutrition:
The school provides the lunch and the center provides the snacks for the center. The center is on the federal food program. Menus were posted. Appropriate food storage was observed.

Health and safety:
Fire/tornado drills are practiced and documented.
Amber reported that radon testing was completed in 2023 and the test scores are under a 4.0 pCi/L. Since you are in a school the Department of Education is responsible for radon testing and licensing is no longer required to review your radon testing.
if you have fuel burning appliances you need a current fuel burning inspection/boiler inspection. Make sure you have a carbon monoxide detector if you have fuel burning appliances.
Oxivir Tb is used for sanitizing and disinfecting. The center uses the 3 step bottle procedure 1. Soap/water for cleaning, 2. Water for rinsing and 3.
Make sure you have all of your emergency policies and procedures and emergency preparedness plans.

Playground:
The center uses the school playground. Monthly playground safety inspections were completed. (If the playground isn't being used due to weather etc. you can note that on the form).

Transportation:
The center doesn't provide daily transportation services.

Administration:
Child files were read and were in good order.
Three staff files were read and were in good order. Amber is participating in the TEACH program and is taking college classes to get her bachelors degree in early childhood education.
When the director is gone an on-site supervisor or knowledgeable staff person must be in charge.
The center participates in IQ4K and are a level 1.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Amber is very enthusiastic and proud of the program, she is organized and is always very helpful during my licensing visits.
The center is an excellent resource for the Villisca community.
Staff are positive and attentive to the needs of the children.
The center participates in IQ4K level 1.
The center has received donations and grants for flooring, new cubbies, a gate, new toys etc. Do not accept donations of used equipment for the infant room as items may be on the recall list or may have been broken etc.

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

109.8(2): Ratio maintained in center as required by age.
You had a four year old in your infant room on the day of my licensing visit. I emailed you the ratio and age of separation requirements on 9-24-2024. The infant age children must be free from intrusion of the older children. You will need to look at reconfiguring your two and older room to provide for the required separation.

109.12(4): Sufficient toilet articles are provided for handwashing.Sufficient and safe indoor play equipment, materials, and furniture that conforms with CPSC or ASTM.Play equipment, materials, and furniture meet the developmental, activity, and special needs of the children.Room’s arrangement does not obstruct the direct observation of children.Individual covered mats, beds, or cots, and appropriate bedding is provided for all children who nap.Procedures are developed and implemented to maintain equipment and materials in a sanitary manner.Sufficient spacing is maintained between equipment to reduce transmission of disease and allow ease of movement by children and staff to respond to activities and care needs.Sanitary procedures are followed for use and storage of personal hygiene articles.
Additional concerns: You need a diaper changing table for the older children's room. Diaper changing on a mat on the floor isn't recommended for sanitary and health and safety purposes. Please consult your child care nurse consultant to discuss the issue and options.

109.11(7)c All centers: Annual inspection prior to heating season of all fuel-burning appliances to reduce risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and shall install one carbon monoxide detector on each floor that conforms to UL Standard 2034.
if you have fuel burning appliances you need a current fuel burning inspection/boiler inspection. Make sure you have a carbon monoxide detector if you have fuel burning appliances.

Please make the corrections to the noncompliance items listed above immediately.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended for Southwest Valley Early Childhood Center - Villisca for 9-1-2024 to 9-1-2026.

*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.