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

Name of Center: Central Preschool **Enrollment:** 36 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 22860

Street: 601 Milwaukee ST STE 1 **City:** Charles City Iowa **Zip** 50616 **County:** Floyd

Mailing Address: 601 Milwaukee ST STE 1, Charles City, IA, 50616

Director's Name: Sheri Voortmann **Phone Number:** 641-228-6803

On-Site Supervisor(s): Dusty Schmitt **E-Mail:** centralpreschool1@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 11-01-2022

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

LICENSING VISITS

New Application X **Re-Application** **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: 08-23-2021

Comments :

LICENSE TYPE: **Child Care** X **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	36	0	36
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 4

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 11-01-2022 to 11-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Raymond Salsbury **Date:** 11-18-2022

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced annual visit was made to Central Preschool in Charles City on 11-01-22 where I met with Carrie Jones, and Dusty Schmitt, the -co-directors of the program. Carrie is the lead teacher for the 4 year old class, and Dusty is the lead teacher for the 3 year old class. Both are well qualified for the positions they hold based on their experience, education, and on-going training. Carrie started with the program in July 2021 and is well qualified for the position with a BA in early childhood education, and extensive experience working in various positions in education since 1989. Dusty Schmitt is the assistant who works full time and is present for all classes and started with the program in August 2018. The preschool is located in Trinity United Methodist Church. The program offers a three and four-year-old preschool program and partners with the Charles City School System for the statewide voluntary four-year-old preschool program. There are 36 children enrolled in the program between the two classes but another child is expected to join the three year old class in November. All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed during the visit.

The general layout of the building and classrooms remains the same as in prior visits. The preschool operates out of two rooms that are connected by a short pass-through where a toilet and sink are located. This pass through also serves as the secondary egress for each room. Additional sinks are available in each room to further facilitate hand washing. Windows along the exterior walls provide natural lighting, a view of the outdoors, and ventilation. Both rooms were observed to be clean with no concerns related to maintenance. The primary classroom is arranged with tables and activity centers that allow for small group, and individual play activities. The other room is more open and allows for more active teacher lead group activities such as music and movement. The arrangement of activity centers through the placement of furniture and play structures is such that it does not create any blind areas. Each center had a good supply of materials that were observed to be in good condition and appropriate to the ages of the children present.

The preschool utilizes Creative Curriculum to develop lesson plans and utilizes the GOLD assessment tool. The preschool is part of the Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards (QPPS). A copy of the daily schedule and planned curriculum were posted. Good interactions were observed with both teachers being actively engaged with the children implementing the planned curriculum. The center uses positive behavior management techniques that include redirection, reminders of expected behavior and rules, and recognition of positive behaviors. During the visit one child was observed to have some behavioral issues when not wanting to follow classroom rules regarding the use of one activity center and dumped materials in another activity center of small manipulatives. The teacher in the classroom did not respond to the behavior but reiterated the expectations and choices while she continued to interact with the other children. This approach prevented the situation from escalating and allowed the child to regain control and later the teacher and other children assisted the child in picking up the spilled materials.

Due to the limited hours of operation meals are not served but snacks are provided. Snacks are furnished by parents based on a list of snacks that meet the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) guidelines. A record of snacks is maintained on a calendar as they are furnished. The preschool provides the snack for the four-year-old preschool program. There is a refrigerator in the classroom for items that need to be kept cold and a thermometer was present. Good food storage and handling practices were observed with all food items being properly stored.

Good health and safety practices were observed on the day of my visit. Good hand washing practices were observed with the teachers ensuring the children washed their hands before and after engaging in sand/water play, after using the restroom, and at other times as needed. First aid kits are maintained and contain materials necessary to address most common first aid needs. Chemical cleaners and other items that could pose a risk to children were stored in areas where they were not readily accessible to the children.

The center does have a playground area available which is fully enclosed by fencing which was observed to be in good repair. The playground is an open grassy area with no climbing structures. There are variety of dramatic play structures, balls, and other equipment for the children to play with. Several mature trees around the exterior of the space provide shade. All equipment was observed to be in good repair though some items were nearing the end of their useful life.

In reviewing administrative records all required notices were posted in an area readily available to parents. All child and staff files were reviewed and 4 child files needed an updated physical. The staff files contained all required documentation. All inspection logs and certificates were available and current.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Carrie and Dusty continue to provide a program that has a very strong focus on helping children develop school readiness skills both academically and socially.

The center is participating in the Quality Rating Scale program which seeks to implement best practice recommendations and is currently rated a 4 STAR program out of a possible 5 STAR scale.

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

109.10(1)a: Preschool (for children five years and younger not enrolled in school): Physical exam report submitted within 30 days of admission, was obtained no more than 12 months prior to admission, is signed by a licensed MD, DO, PA, or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.
-- Number not in compliance: 4

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended at this time. Please provide a written response to the licensing consultant identifying a plan of action to correct and maintain those aspects cited as not meeting licensing standards and identifying an anticipated date of compliance. At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

*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.