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

Name of Center: Mighty Trojan Child Care Center **Enrollment:** 28 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 46100

Street: 606 Illinois St **City:** Blairsburg Iowa **Zip** 50034 **County:** Hamilton

Mailing Address: PO BOX 10, Webster City, IA, 50595

Director's Name: Brittney Gibson **Phone Number:** 515-325-6234

On-Site Supervisor(s): **E-Mail:** jhector@webster-city.k12.ia.us

Date(s) of Visit: 10-18-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 08-19-2021

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: 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			16	20	36
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 11-01-2023 to 11-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Raymond Salsbury **Date:** 10-24-2023

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

NA

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced annual visit was made to the Mighty Trojan Daycare Center on 10-18-23 where I met with lead teacher Britney Gibson. Brittney started with the center at the beginning of September 2022 as a lead teacher and working toward becoming the director with the start of the 2023-24 school year. The program is located in the Blairsburg elementary school and operates throughout the year providing full range care to infants through school age children. There are currently 28children enrolled in the program served by 3 staff. All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed.

The general layout of the school and classrooms remains the same as in prior visits. The center originally made use of 4 classrooms however, only 2 are currently being used. The two rooms that are currently being used were those that were previously identified as being for infants, and 2 year old children. The center is looking to resume use of a third classroom for the school age children. The classrooms are connected by an intervening door. Each space has direct secondary egress to the outside and all exits were clear of obstruction and opened freely. Both rooms were observed to be clean with no concerns due to maintenance or design. The primary programming room, previously identified as the toddler room, has restroom facilities just off the programming space so that children do not need to leave the room. Additional restrooms are located off the main corridors of the school. The room used for infant care does have a changing station present. Each room has sinks that allow for hand washing located in the rooms. Each room has windows along the exterior walls that provide natural light and a view of the outdoors. Classrooms are divided into activity centers through the placement of furnishings and play structures which are arranged so as not to create any blind area.

Activity centers include options such as dramatic play, large and small manipulatives, group learning, art/crafts, media, table games/puzzles, and reading. The toys and materials in the classrooms were observed to be in good repair and appropriate to the ages of the children present. A copy of the daily schedule and curriculum were posed. The curriculum identified themes for the month and included Fire Safety, Halloween, Scarecrows, Pumpkins, and specific learning concepts of letters B,C,D,E, the numbers 4,5,6, the Square shape, and color Black. Good interactions were observed on the day of my visit with the teachers being engaged with the children providing assistance and implementing the planned schedule. The teachers were attentive to the children's needs helping them with eating lunch, soothing them as they lay down to nap, and reassuring them throughout the time of the visit. The center uses positive behavior supports with the use of routines and reminders of expected behavior, recognition of positive behavior, and redirection as needed.

The center does need to review some health and safety practices. During the visit I was able to observe diaper changes and the teacher did not deglove between handling soiled and clean items, used a diaper wipe on the child hands before the diaper change but did not wash the infants hands following the diaper change, and did not allow the disinfectant product to remain on the surface for the required time to be effective. The center did have a copy of the diapering procedures posting and the steps were reviewed, including a review that baby wipes are not an acceptable alternative for hand washing when access to soap and running water is available. With older children the teachers did remind the children to wash their hands following restroom use and watched to ensure that they did so in an effective manner. Chemical cleaners and other items that could pose a safety risk to children were stored in areas where they were not readily accessible, and were not used when children were in the immediate area. It was reviewed that when using the chemical cleaning products the staff do need to read and

follow the manufacturer label directions to ensure that they products are used in a safe and effective manner for their intended purpose. First aid kits are maintained in classrooms and the program also has access to the school nurse/office where more extensive supplies are maintained. There were no children taking any prescription medications on the day of my visit and over the counter (OTC) medications were labeled with the name of the individual to whom it belonged. Good safe sleep practices were observed for children under 12 months of age.

The center does have access to school facilities such as the gym, and playgrounds. The school age playground has several areas with climbing structures and activity centers intended for various ages including a preschool age structure. Foam tiles are used for fall surfacing. Shade is provided by the equipment, mature trees, and a covered shelter. The playground also has a paved walking track, basketball court, and large open grassy areas.

Meals are prepared by the school cafeteria and a copy of the planned menu was posted. The children now eat in the classroom and lunch was being served when I arrived.. Whie the staff did not eat with the children they do provide supervision at the tables when children are eating. The program does maintain a limited supply of snack items and good food storage practices were observed on the day of my visit. Thermometers were present in refrigeration and freezer units.

A review of administrative records found all required notices and postings were present in an area that was readily accessible to parents and visitors. All inspection logs and certificates were available and current. Child files were reviewed and contained all required information. In reviewing staff files the Iowa SING and FBI background checks are maintained at the school district central office and prior communication with that office regarding other programs that the district is partnered with it was confirmed that all licensed program staff files had been audited and updated record checks completed. For information maintained at the center 1 employee needed a current physical. The center handbook has been previously reviewed and found to contain all required written policies.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The program has seen growth over the past year with doubling the number of enrolled children, resuming care for infants, and re-opening a classroom for school age children.

Brittany has also worked to complete a plan to become fully qualified as the center director.

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

109.9(1)d: All files contain a pre-employment physical exam report completed within six months prior to hire and at least every three years. Physical exams shall be documented on form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report.
-- Number not in compliance: 1

109.12(5)b: Infants diapered in a sanitary manner as needed in central diapering area.One changing table for every 15 infants/toddlers needing diaper changes.Diapering, sanitation, and handwashing procedures posted and implemented in central diapering area.
-- Staff did not deglove between handling soiled and clean diapers. Children's hands were not washed following diaper changes. When using chemical cleaners to disinfect the changing station staff need to read and follow the label directions.

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.