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

Name of Center: Paton-Churdan Early Learning Center **Enrollment:** 43 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 45818

Street: 606 Adrian ST **City:** Churdan Iowa **Zip** 50050 **County:** Greene

Mailing Address: PO Box 125, Churdan, IA, 50050

Director's Name: Amy McGinn and Whitney Minnehan **Phone Number:** 515-389-3129

On-Site Supervisor(s): Ann Forkner **E-Mail:** pcelc@wccta.net

Date(s) of Visit: 08-06-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 06-07-2023

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

Date Inspected: 02-03-2023

Comments : State Fire Marshal inspections are due 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: 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	18	18	18	70
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 09-01-2023 to 09-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 08-07-2024

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An off-year visit was conducted on 8/6/24. The new, head director was present throughout the visit.

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

Paton-Churdan Early Learning Center is a center that was given permission to open on 8/17/15. The center is located right next door to the Paton-Churdan Elementary School. The center serves children ages six weeks in age to roughly 12 years in age using the Frog Street Curriculum. There are three classrooms. A forth classroom in the building is used strictly by the school.

The center is overseen by a Board. The director of the center is Amy McGinn. Amy has a Master's degree in education and also has past experience working in child care. The co-director of the center is Whitney Minnehan. Whitney was previously the on-site supervisor. Whitney has a BA degree and an AA degree. Ann Forkner is the on-site supervisor. Ann has a BA degree as well as past experience working in child care.

On the day of the visit, only two classrooms were in use. In the younger classroom, children were sitting down at the child-size tables and chairs eating their lunch. One staff member was cleaning and the other staff member was sitting at one of the tables with the children. In the older classroom, some children were finishing up their lunch and other children were engaged in free-choice play at the different learning stations set up in the classroom.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Enrollment has increased over the past year.

The center has good community partnerships which includes but is not limited to the school and town's library. The school provides transportation needs as well as lunches to the center once school starts.

The center again looked clean and rooms are spacious. Carpets are shampooed at least two times a year.

There is wheel chair accessible entrance.

The center participates in the food program (CACFP).

There is a good mix between tenured and new staff. The director believes she has built a good staff who work well with each other.

The new head director has a lot of experience working in child care.

The center works regularly with their Family Resource Center representative as well as CCR&R and their nurse consultant.

The center uses an online app, Playground, for daily sheets. Parents can check in on their child's activities online at any time their child is in the center.

The Board is involved and supportive.

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

109.8(2)c: Children between 18 months and 3 years of age may be combined, if appropriate to the developmental needs of the child. If a child under 2 years is combined, the staff ratio of 1 to 7 shall be maintained, otherwise staff ratio may be determined by the age of majority of the children in the group.
During the visit, there were three children under 18 months in with the 18 month to three year old classroom.

109.9(2): All files are updated at least annually and when a change occurs.
There were a couple of children's files past due for an update. IT WAS NOTED THAT THE PLAN IS TO UPDATE ALL CHILDREN FILES IN AUGUST SO THIS ISSUE SHOULD SOON BE CORRECTED.

109.9(2)b: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center's care.
Number not in compliance for medical: 0
Number not in compliance for dental: 1
Information lacking: All children, regardless of age, need to have listed a doctor and a dentist. The names, addresses, and phone numbers are required.

109.9(2)c: All files contain information regarding the specific health and medical needs of a child including information regarding any prescribed treatment.
For school-age programs in the child's school, all files include a statement signed by the parent that the immunization information is available in the school file.
Number not in compliance: 2 children were missing current physicals in their files.

109.10(15)b: Emergency instructions, phone numbers, and diagrams for fire, tornado, and flood shall be visibly posted and documented at least once a month for fire and tornado. Records shall be maintained for current and previous year.
January 2024 fire and tornado drills were not documented. IT WAS NOTED THIS WAS THE MONTH THE CENTER WAS LOOKING FOR A NEW HEAD DIRECTOR AND THE CURRENT HEAD DIRECTOR DID NOT START UNTIL FEBRUARY 2024. ALL DRILLS FEB TO DATE WERE CURRENT.

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade.
There was a slide on the grass playground that was higher than 18 inches in height at the platform. Grass is not a sufficient surface for climbing structures 18 inches or more in height. THE SLIDE WAS REMOVED DURING THE VISIT AND THIS ISSUE WAS CORRECTED.

109.12(4): Procedures are developed and implemented to maintain equipment and materials in a sanitary manner.
Diaper changing tables shouldn't be used for storing items other than diaper-related items. The issue was the diaper changing table next to the diaper changing table that is used in the infant room.

109.15(1): Center shall serve each child a full, nutritionally balanced meal as defined by CACFP guidelines.
There were three days on the current week's menu where a vegetable was missing. Sun chips and vegetable straws are both grains.

109.15(5)b: Sanitary and safe methods in food preparation, serving, and storage sufficient to prevent transmission of disease, infestation, and spoilage are followed.
There were some issues with dry food storage and cereal not being sufficiently sealed after being opened.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center last tested for radon in classrooms 3/18/21 - 3/26/21. Radon levels at that time were below the 4.0 cutoff. Because levels were below 4.0, the center can move to testing for radon at least every five years now. So long as radon levels remain below 4.0, they can remain on a five year plan. If at the next testing, levels in any classroom come back 4.0 or higher, the center will have to have a mitigation plan, retest, and at least temporarily move back to testing every two years.

The annual furnace inspection was last inspected 11/2/23.

The center will contract with the school district and take a bus for transportation needs that are not within walking distance.

IQ4K and I-Power were again discussed at the visit. Staff will need to upload their training certificates into I - Power.

*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.