Health and Human Services

Iowa Department of Health And Human Services

CHILD CARE CENTER ANNUAL EVALUATION

Name of Center: St Thomas Aquinas PS & BLAST After School Prog

Provider No.: 18095

Address: 624 Dubuque St, Webster City, IA, 50595

County: Hamilton

Director's Name: Julie Graber

On-Site Supervisor: Lana Crawford

Phone Number: 5158321346

E-Mail: jgarber@stswc.com

HHS Visit Date: 09/09/2026

Licensing Period: 09/01/2026 to 09/01/2028

Fire Inspection:

Date Inspected: 01/27/2023

Comments: The fire inspection inspection is expired and a request for verification of a renewed and valid fire inspection was made to the Webster City Fire Marshal on 09-10-26.

Report Visit Type:

- [ ] PTO
- [X] Licensing Visit
- [ ] Drop In
- [ ] Administrative Change

License Type:

- [X] Full
- [ ] Provisional

Quality initiative:

- [ ] Accrediation

Program Duration:

- [X] Year-Round
- [ ] School Year
- [ ] Summer Only

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HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*
Sunday			
Monday	8:30 AM to 11:30 AM		
Tuesday	8:30 AM to 3:30 PM		
Wednesday	8:30 AM to 11:30 AM		
Thursday	8:30 AM to 3:30 PM		
Friday	8:30 AM to 3:30 PM		
Saturday			

Program Population Served:

- [ ] Infant(0-<24 Months)
- [ ] Toddler
- [X] PreSchool
- [X] School Age
- [ ] All Ages

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Aged	Capacity
General			24		24
Summer					0

1. Basic Overview

An unannounced annual visit was made to the St. Thomas Aquinas program on 09-09-26 where I met with the school principal, Julie Graber, and the lead teacher Lana Crawford. Julie took over the school principal, and program director role with the start of the 26-27 school year. Both are well qualified for the positions they hold based on their experience, education, and on-going professional development. Lana started with the program at the start of the 2023 school year, but has worked as a program director and preschool teacher with another program prior to that. The center offers preschool programming to 4 year old children T, Th,F, 8:30 am to 12:00 pm as part of the Statewide 4 Year Old Preschool Grant program which has a teacher from the school district, where Lana is the classroom assistant. The center then offers afternoon "wrap around" daycare programming for children that remain until the end of the school day at 3:30 where Lana is the lead teacher. The program also offers a formal 3 year preschool M,W 8:30 am to 11:30 am with Lana as the lead teacher for that program. Brittany Mass started with the program for the 25-26 school year and is the assistant teacher for the 3 year old class. The preschool is operated in one classroom located in the St. Thomas Aquinas church and school. There are currently 15 children enrolled in the 3 year old preschool class, and 13 of the children enrolled in the 4 year old class remain at the end of the day for the wrap around daycare programming. All aspects subject to Licensing Standards were reviewed during the visit.

The general layout of the building and classroom remain the same as in prior reports. The physical facilities were observed to be in good repair and clean. The preschool classroom is an interior space that does not have any windows and so also serves as a designated storm shelter. There are two sinks in the classroom that allows for one to be used for hand washing, and the other to be used for food preparation or drinking water if needed. Restrooms are located off the main hallway outside the classroom and the children are escorted when needed given the multiple use nature of the facilities. The classroom and facilities were observed to be clean with no maintenance concerns noted. The room is divided into activity

centers through the placement of low shelves and furnishings which are arranged to provide the children with room to play and not create any blind areas. The toys and materials were observed to be in good repair, appropriate to the ages of the children present, and supportive of the planned curriculum.

2. Identify Observed Strengths of the program

Programming & Interactions:
A copy of the daily scheduled was posted but a copy of the planned curriculum was not. Despite not being posted Lana did have a prepared lesson plan and was observed to present those lessons and activities. Good interactions were observed during the time of my visit with each of the teachers being actively engaged with the children either interacting with them in their play, presenting the planned curriculum, or attending to their direct care needs. The teachers made excellent use of positive behavior management techniques during the visit. This included use of routines, reminders, praise, and redirection. The teachers also engaged in guided problem solving focusing on peer interactions. One example was Lana working with two children where one attempted to give a peer a hug that was forceful and around the neck to help reduce the risk of injury and conflict. Each of the teachers used calm and positive tones when speaking to the children. Ratio was maintained with 3 teachers present in the classroom.

Health & Safety
Good health and safety practices were observed during the visit. Children were escorted to the restroom as needed which allowed teachers to provide supervision, and ensure that children washed their hands in an effective manner. All children were escorted to the restroom to wash their hands immediately before snack service. Tables were sanitized using approved cleaning products before and after snack service. First aid kits are maintained in the classroom, and the program also has access to additional supplies maintained in the school office. Chemical cleaners, personal belongings, and other items that could pose a safety risk to children are stored in areas where they are not accessible. Table were sanitized both before and following snack service.

Playground
The school has a large playground space that includes a climbing structure, swings, paved area, and a green space. Pea gravel is used for fall surfacing beneath the structures. Shade is available from large mature trees along the edges of the playground, the building, and the climbing structure. A storage shed is present where additional toys and materials are stored. While the school is responsible to maintain the playground the teachers for the preschool and wrap around program do conduct assessments of the equipment and restrict children from those elements that require maintenance.

Nutrition:
Snacks for the 3 year old preschool program are provided by parents who rotate responsibility each day. A list of suggested items is provided to parents that includes credible snack options. A limited supply of snack items is kept in the classroom to supplement as needed. Good food storage and handling practices were observed on the day of my visit with teachers washing their hands and using food service gloves for serving snack. Snacks were single serving prepacked crackers, and milk. For those children who remain in the wrap around program lunch is prepared by the school. Lunch is served in the school cafeteria but the children do sit at a separate table and the teachers sit at the table to provide supervision. A menu of served items is maintained for the snacks, and the school lunch menu is posted. The teachers did not eat with the children but did provide supervision and assistance at the tables.

Administration:
In reviewing administrative records all required notices for No Smoking, Consultant Contact, Mandatory Abuse Reporting, and the License Certificate were present and located in an area readily accessible to parents and visitors. Other required notices for emergency evacuation, emergency numbers, handwashing procedures, and schedule were also present. The program is within the first 30 days of operation and still gathering child physicals but most were complete. All staff files were reviewed and contained most required information but some elements could not be found on the day of the visit. All inspection certificates and logs were current and available. The school uses the Preschool Parent Handbook that has been prepared by the school district for all of the preschool programs in the city which has been previously reviewed. The program also has a supplemental enrollment form for the 3 year old preschool class.

3. Identify the aspects that fall below the standard

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109.7(1): All staff (within first three months of employment):Iowa's training for the mandatory reporting of child abuse.At least one hour of training regarding universal precautions.Certification in First Aid infant, child, and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) or equivalent certification approved by the Department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Certification in infant, child, and adult first aid that uses a nationally recognized curriculum or is received from a nationally recognized training organization including the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health Institute, or MEDIC First Aid or an equivalent certification approved by the Department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Minimum health and safety trainings, (Essentials) approved by the Department. If significant changes occur to content, the Department may require the training be renewed.
-- Documentation of the training required within the first 90 days could not be found for Brittany on the day of the visit.

109.9(1)a: All files contain:Copy of a department criminal history record check form or any other permission form approved by Department of Public Safety for conducting an Iowa or national criminal history record check Copy of a request for child abuse information form, when applicable.Copies of results of Iowa record checks conducted through the SING for review by the department upon request.Copies of national criminal history check results.Any department issued documents sent to the center related to a record check, regardless of findings.
-- Documentation of the FBI background check results for Lana could not be found on the day of the visit. It is possible that those records were maintained in a separate file and may be present but unavailable at the time of the review. If documentation cannot be found, or is expired the background check will need to be reviewed.

109.9(1)b: 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.
-- A copy of a current physical on the required form could not be found for Brittany.

4. Any corrective action plans, provisional license, and safety plans-steps to get into compliance

A request for verification of completion of the missing background check, training, and physical were to obtained or arrangements scheduled by 10-30-26.

5. 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.

6. ADDENDUMS:

- Addendum1: Confirmation documentation was received on 09-10-26 that the missing FBI check had been completed as required.

This Addendum is approved by supervisor on 9/10/2026 4:24:05 PM

Date: 09/10/2026

HHS Licensing Consultant: Ray Salsbury

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Non-compliance with any of the mandated regulatory requirements listed above may lead to the cancellation or revocation of your Child Care License. Please take steps necessary to completely address each of the violations noted above.

Child Care Resource and Referral is an excellent resource for providers to access training options and support in your area. You can reach Child Care Resource and Referral at **https://iowaccrr.org**.