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

Name of Center: Beyond the Bell-Grant Ragan Elementary **Enrollment:** 86 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 47633

Street: 645 NE Dartmoor DR **City:** Waukee Iowa **Zip** 50263 **County:** Dallas

Mailing Address: 430 Ashworth DR, Waukee, IA, 50263

Director's Name: Andrea Wilmes and Rich Miller **Phone Number:** 515-987-5161

On-Site Supervisor(s): Michelle Macias **E-Mail:** awilmes@waukeeschools.org

Date(s) of Visit: 12-12-2023

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:** 10-31-2022

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

Date Inspected: 08-12-2022

Comments : Waukee Fire Marshal. Fire Marshal inspections are due at least every three years for licensing.

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: Infants (0-23 mo.) 2 Years 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	0	0	0	245	245
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

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

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 12-12-2023

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 12/12/23. The on-site supervisor 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. The most recent COVID updates were also reviewed.

Beyond the Bell - Grant Ragan is a school-age program located within the Grant Ragan Elementary School in Waukee. This program that was given permission to open on 8/23/16. During the school year, children can attend 6:30am-8:40am and/or 3:40pm-6:00pm. During the summer months and No School days, the program is open 6:30am-6:30pm. This is one of several Beyond the Bell programs and they all use a similar learning curriculum based off of other learning curriculums.

All Beyond the Bell programs are overseen by a Board. The directors of this program and the other Beyond the Bell programs are Andrea Wilmes and Rich Miller. Andrea is also the director of the three Wee Care programs in Waukee. Both individuals meet the requirements for director. The on-site supervisor at this program is Michelle Macias. Michelle has many years of experience working in child care and has taken several professional development courses over the years to meet the requirements for on-site supervisor.

The center uses primarily the cafeteria and the gym which are connected to each other. The center also uses the outdoor playground area.

During the visit, children were divided up between the cafeteria and the gym. In the cafeteria, the majority of children were doing art projects related to winter. In the gym, children appeared to be playing a game of kickball. Staff were spaced out in the cafeteria and the gym and interacting with children. There was also a staff member by the main entrance checking children out of the program when children were picked up by their parents.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center has a good system in place for getting and tracking children coming to the program after school is dismissed.

Staff use walkie-talkies to communicate with each other.

All of the Beyond the Bell programs have information about their programs listed through the Waukee School District Website.

Monthly staff meetings are held. In addition, the directors of the Beyond the Bell programs meet at least quarterly with other directors of similar before/after school programs in the western suburbs. Finally, on-site supervisors of the BTB programs have monthly meetings.

There is a good working relationship with other school personnel.

Good staff-child activities were observed.

The on-site supervisor believes staff work well together.

The on-site supervisor is organized and has many years of experience working in child care/school-age programs.

Enrollment has again increased over the past year.

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

109.7(1): All staff(within first 3 months of employment)Two hours of approved training FOR the mandatory reporting of child abuse. At least one hour of training regarding universal precautions and infectious disease control. Certification in American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health institute or MEDIC 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, approved by the Department. If significant changes occur to content, the Department may require the training be renewed.
ONE NEWER STAFF MEMBER IS PAST THE 90 DAYS OF NEEDING TO HAVE CPR/FIRST-AID. THIS IS, HOWEVER, SCHEDULED.

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.
1.THE PLAYGROUND REMAINS AN ISSUE FOR THREE YEARS IN A ROW. BOLTS ALONG THE FENCE CORNERS AND GATE STILL NEED TO BE CUT/CAPPED SO THAT NO MORE THAN TWO THREADS ARE SHOWING.
2. The tarp underneath the wood chips is exposed in many areas which creates hazards.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The program is exempt from environmental testing as they only serve school-age children and are located in a school.

For field trips, the center contracts with the school district and take a school bus.

I-Power was discussed at the visit. It appears all staff have I - Power profiles, but training needs to be uploaded.

It was again noted that the center is on the list for having their playground surfacing replaced in the near future. The center will be moving to poured in place rubber like several other BTB programs.

*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.