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

Name of Center: Beyond the Bell-Walnut Hills Elementary **Enrollment:** 81 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 44017

Street: 4240 NW 156th ST **City:** Urbandale Iowa **Zip** 50323 **County:** Polk

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): Jacob Harder **E-Mail:** awilmes@waukeeschools.org

Date(s) of Visit: 11-16-2022

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 10-31-2022

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

Date Inspected: 01-20-2021

Comments : State Fire Marshal inspections are due at least 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: 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	262	262
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:** 11-17-2022

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A licensing visit was conducted on 11/16/22. The new on-site supervisor was present for the entire visit and director, Rich Miller, for a portion of this 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 - Walnut Hills Elementary is a school-age program located within the Walnut Hills Elementary School in Urbandale, IA. The center uses the cafeteria, gym, and outdoor playground area. The program was previously supervised by the Department of Education and was given permission to open under HHH (formerly known as DHS) licensing/supervision on 9/2/14. During the school year, children who attend this school attend this Beyond the Bell program. However, during summer months, there is open enrollment. Hours are 6:30am - 6:00pm during the summer months and no-school days. During the school year, children attend 6:30am - 8:40am and/or 3:40pm - 6:00pm. Every other Wednesday is an early out school day. The program is one of seven Beyond the Bell programs and they all use a similar learning curriculum based off of other learning curriculums.

All seven 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 centers in Waukee. Both individuals meet the requirements for director. The on-site supervisor at this location is Jacob Harder as of 11/2022. Jacob has an AA degree as well as past experience working in child care.

During the visit, the children were divided up with staff in the cafeteria and in the gym. Later, a large group of children put on their hats, coats, boots, and gloves and headed outside to play on the playground. Staff were observed spaced out and interacting with the different groups of children.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Staff use walkie-talkies to communicate with each other throughout the center.

A good system is in place for gathering attendance when school dismisses and children go to the program.

All of the Beyond the Bell programs have information posted online through the Waukee School District Website.

Staff photos are posted by one of the main parent boards.

Monthly staff meetings are held. Directors from this program meet with other western-suburb, school-age programs

quarterly for meetings. On-site supervisors of the all the BTB programs also meet monthly.

Staff from BTB are interchangeable between sites as needed.

The program has a good working relationship with other school personnel.

The new on-site supervisor appears organized with daily activities, inspections, paperwork, etc.

All of the BTB programs have assistant on-site supervisors in addition to on-site supervisors.

Staff work well together. There is a good mix of tenured and new staff.

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

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. One slide on a main climbing structure is still cracked and needs to be replaced. THIS IS A REPEAT ISSUE FROM LAST YEAR.
2. Several "sausage" handles on another climber are also cracked which creates a hazard. These should be repaired and/or replaced.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

The center goes on field trips and will contract with the school to take a school bus for transportation.

I - Power was discussed at the visit.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended. The application and payment was sent in 10/31/22 per the director.

*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.