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

Name of Center: Busy Bee Early Learning Center **Enrollment:** 38 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 50440

Street: 2650 10th St **City:** Marion Iowa **Zip** 52302 **County:** Linn

Mailing Address: PO BOX 201, Marion, IA, 52302

Director's Name: Jennifer Johnson (co-owner and director) **Phone Number:** 319-447-1061

On-Site Supervisor(s): Laura Edaburn (co-owner and director) **E-Mail:** jenbusyb@hotmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 10-19-2022

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 06-16-2020

Comments :

LICENSE TYPE: X **Child Care** **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: X Profit Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited NAEYC NSACA Other X NA

Program Serves: X Infants (0-23 mo.) X 2 Years X Preschool-Age 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	14	6	24	5	49
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 11-01-2022 to 10-31-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Amy Lyons **Date:** 11-17-2022

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

Not applicable.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Busy Bee Early Learning Center - DBA (JLJA INC) commenced operations on 1/2/2019. The center was purchased from the previous owner by two employees who had been employed at that program for over 20 years. Busy Bee ELC operates year-round Monday through Friday from 6:30am to 6:00pm. The program serves primarily children age infant though preschool-age. Current enrollment is 38.

Co-owners and co-directors of Busy Bee ELC are Jennifer Johnson and Laura Edaburn. Ms. Johnson has a CDA in early childhood education, has over 20 years of experience working with children, and continues to participate in much child development related training. Ms. Edaburn has a BA degree in early childhood education, has over 20 years of experience working with children, and continues to participate in much child development related training. On-site supervisors are Taylor Williams and Mackenzie Croxell. Each on-site supervisor has at least 5 years of experience working with children and continue to participate in much child development related training.

On 10/19/2022, program space was observed.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Busy Bee ELC offers a variety of early learning programming and childcare to help meet the needs of children and families in the community. Busy Bee ELC is located in a predominantly urban area and accepts a variety of funding sources.

Busy Bee ELC has established a private social media page.

The mission of Busy Bee ELC is to provide a "...safe, nurturing, and developmentally appropriate learning environment for ages 6 weeks to 5 years..."

Ms. Johnson and Ms. Edaburn are local entrepreneurs invested in children and the community. The owners will be celebrating their 3rd year of business in 2023. Congratulations! Co-owners and co-directors are educated and experienced. The management team is organized and has noteworthy systems of organization in place to help ensure administrative items are completed as required and maintained in a secure manner. As a result, the program experiences smooth daily operations. Both are knowledgeable of licensing guidelines as well as their own program's policies and procedures.

Since the last review, Busy Bee has retained many seasoned staff as well as hired a few new ones. Staff reported celebrating 16 years, 10 years, 7 years, and 2 months employment with this program. Management described their team as hard-working, positive, and reliable. Staff team building experiences, appreciation activities, and recognition events continue to be part of the program's successful operations.

Busy Bee ELC has emergency plans, policies, and procedures in place which are annually reviewed and updated as needed. This program successfully navigated through the historic 8/10/2020 Derecho Storm and 2019 pandemic.

Busy Bee ELC continues efforts at optimal communication between the program/staff and families. The program has an organized parent-staff/program information center, offers regular program newsletters, utilizes technological communication resources, and supports family programming activities.

Building and grounds are well-maintained. Classrooms continued to be arranged in a thoughtful manner with learning at the forefront. Children's accomplishments (e.g. artwork) are displayed in clever ways (e.g. Amazing Artists, All About Me, Born to Be Wild, campfire handprints) throughout the center. Curriculum is theme-based encompassing learn through play, teacher-inspired ideas, social skills, and kindergarten readiness. Busy Bee ELC also offers guest speaker events, program-family conferences, fundraising opportunities, and seasonal/holiday celebrations. Ms. Johnson and Ms. Edaburn discussed future goals including carpet replacement.

Busy Bee ELC collaborates well with community agencies including local businesses, various school districts, CCR&R and health professionals.

Each child is engaged in a daily health check upon arrival for early detection of apparent illness, communicable disease, or unusual condition or behavior which may adversely affect the child or the group. Staff were observed encouraging and engaging in hand washing at all levels. Staff encouraged children to "catch coughs" and "catch sneezes" in elbows. The program has policies and procedures in place for cleaning, disinfecting, and sanitizing.

On the day of the monitoring visit, staff were nurturing and attentive to the children's needs. Areas of study for October include shapes, pumpkins, community helpers, fire safety, and Halloween. Children had access to an array of materials (e.g. books, imaginative play options, building materials, crafts) that encouraged innovative play and learning. Classroom activities included book reading, circle discussion, small group work, and center play experiences. Staff provided a companionable presence allowing children to have many choices throughout their day. Routine transitions (e.g. food rituals, clean-up) worked smoothly into the program's welcoming and cooperative play environment. Throughout the classrooms, staff were overheard providing children with many words of encouragement and engaging children in much meaningful discussion. Children responded well to staff and appeared to be truly enjoying their day.

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

109.11(7)c: All centers: Annual inspection prior to heating season of all fuel-burning appliances to reduce risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and shall install one carbon monoxide detector on each floor that conforms to UL Standard 2034.
- An updated fuel burning appliance inspection was not found on the day of the monitoring visit. Please forward inspection report to licensing (via scan/email) upon receipt.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Please ensure each staff has an Iowa/SING record check with results received prior to involved in childcare (required every 2 years thereafter). Please also ensure each staff has a federal/fingerprint record check submitted prior to involvement in childcare (required every 4 years thereafter).

Repair/replace the damaged window well coverings located on the outdoor play area.

Detachable toilet potty-seats were observed on-site These are not designed to be used commercially or by multiple different children. If you continue usage, considerations shall be made for cleaning/disinfecting each potty-seat after each use as well as sanitary storage of each seat when not in use. One solution would be to replace/install an attached toilet seat with already built in potty-training seat.

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A full license is issued. Thank you for the visit.

*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.