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

Name of Center: Montessori School Of Iowa City **Enrollment:** 97 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 24263

Street: 374 Holiday Rd **City:** Coralville Iowa **Zip** 52241 **County:** Johnson

Mailing Address: 374 Holiday Rd, Coralville, IA, 52241

Director's Name: Terrah Taggart **Phone Number:** 319-338-9650

On-Site Supervisor(s): Beth Zanzie **E-Mail:** headofschool@iowacity-montessori.org

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

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 11-02-2023

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

Date Inspected: 09-26-2022

Comments : Does Comply.

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.) 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		34	120	47	201
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 01-01-2024 to 01-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Heidi Brown **Date:** 12-18-2023

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Administrative change. The center will be using additional classrooms. There capacity increased from 169 to 201.

This worker arrived at Montessori School of Iowa City on 12/12/2023. The center provides care for two year old children to twelve year old children. The center is open Monday-Friday from 7:30am to 6:00pm. The center has 97 children enrolled. The center is located inside of a commercial building. They utilize eight classrooms, common space, art room, multipurpose room, workroom, staff lounge, kitchen, offices, and storage. The center's fire inspection was completed on 9/26/2022.

The director is Terrah Taggart. Terrah has a Bachelor's Degree in Communication Studies, a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education, a minor in Psychology, and endorsements in Reading, Language Arts, and Speech Communication/Theatre. She started in 8/2019.

The on-site supervisor is Beth Zanzie. Beth holds an American Montessori Society Primary (3-6 years old) credential and a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education specializing in Early Childhood. Beth started in 8/2004.

This worker observed all programming space and reviewed the curriculum.

Nutritional practices were checked. The center provides lunch which is catered by Preferred Food Services. Parents provide snacks on a rotating basis. The kitchen was maintained in a clean/orderly fashion.

Health and safety practices were also reviewed. The center had medications stored appropriately. The center did practice appropriate hand washing procedures at required times.

The center completed radon testing as required. The center completed an annual fuel burning appliance inspection and had a carbon monoxide detector installed as required.

The center's outdoor play area was inspected.

The center does offer field trips for elementary school children. They have gone to museums, trampoline parks, and Fossil Gorge.

The center's policies, licensing notebook, staff files and child files were reviewed. The center also had required postings.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

-The school's mission statement is as follows: To provide authentic Montessori education that serves the child's intrinsic motivation to learn and is inclusive, sustainable, and holistic. The values of the school are: • We value the Montessori educational philosophy which includes • A child's intrinsic motivation to learn • Excellence in teaching the whole child

customized to student's intellectual, social, emotional, physical, and spiritual needs and abilities • We value respect for and appreciation of • Diversity in all its forms • The individual, self, others, and the environment • We value the entire school community, including students, families, faculty, and staff within the larger global community.
-Terrah Taggart (Head of School and Director), Beth Zanzie (Primary Teacher and On-Site Supervisor), and Judy Rouse (Office Manager) work well together to ensure HHS and Montessori compliance.
-The children have access to a wide variety of educational and engaging activities.
-The school has guinea pigs and hermit crabs as classroom pets.
-The schools pre-elementary students initiated a winter clothing drive for the local shelter house.
-The school has a Facebook page to share events, photos of the children learning, information about staff, and fundraising activities.
-The school caters from Preferred Food services to ensure a nutritional meal is provided.

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.
-The center must ensure the furniture that may tip is secured appropriately. https://www.anchorit.gov/

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Based upon this review, it is recommended that this center remain in Full licensing status. It is important to note, all DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

The following agencies are available to provide consultation, support, and educational opportunities:
CACFP: https://educateiowa.gov/pk-12/nutrition-programs/child-and-adult-care-food-program
Child Care Resource and Referral: https://iowaccrr.org/staff/region_5/
Early Childhood Iowa: https://earlychildhood.iowa.gov/
First Children's Finance: https://www.firstchildrensfinance.org/
Healthy Child Care Nurse Consultants: https://hhs.iowa.gov/hcci/consultants
Iowa AEYC: http://www.iowaaeyc.org/
Iowa After School Alliance: https://www.iowaafterschoolalliance.org/
Iowa State University: https://www.extension.iastate.edu/humansciences/early-childhood
4c's of Johnson County: https://www.iowa4cs.com/

*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.