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

Name of Center: Beyond the Bell-Loess Hills Elementary **Enrollment:** 68 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 43963

Street: 1717 Casselman ST **City:** Sioux City Iowa **Zip** 51103 **County:** Woodbury

Mailing Address: 2500 Glenn Ave Ste 78, Sioux City, IA, 51106

Director's Name: Jenna Andrews **Phone Number:** 712-277-3600

On-Site Supervisor(s): Roxanna Dearcos **E-Mail:** jandrews@siouxlandship.org

Date(s) of Visit: 09-04-2024

X **Licensing Visit** **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:** 04-04-2024

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

Date Inspected: 06-18-2024

Comments :

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: Year-round X School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General				249	249
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 06-01-2024 to 06-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jana Drew **Date:** 09-06-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A visit was made to Beyond the Bell - Loess Hills Elementary on 09-04-24. Beyond the Bell Loess Hills provides a before and after school child care program. The program is located in Loess Hills elementary school. The program utilizes the lunch/commons room and gym. The program is operated by the Beyond the Bell organization Monday thru Thursday 6:30am to 8:30am then 3:30pm to 6:00pm. On Friday's 6:30am to 8:30am & 1:30pm to 6:00pm(The school changed their earlier out day from Monday to Friday with the start of the 2024/2025 school year). The program serves pre K to fifth grade. There is a buzzer outside the building to get into the school and the Beyond the Bell program. Staff meet parents at the door to gain access to the program.

Roxanna Dearcos is the onsite supervisor. She has an Associates Degree in Early Childhood and is attending college for her Bachelors. She has several years of experience working with children. At the time of the visit Ms Dearcos was not present and spoke with Jennifer Foster. Roxanna Dearcos also oversees Morningside and Liberty BTB programs.

There are 68 children enrolled in the program, although only 44 children were present at the time of the visit. All areas of the program were observed. The areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. The center continues to clean toys that children use. The after school program provides various group activities as well as individual self-directed activities for the children. If this site does the summer they have academics (math, reading, history, geography) for the children in the morning and do field trips in the afternoon.

The program divides the children up into two groups; K to 2nd grade and 3rd to 5th grade and rotate them through the gym and commons room throughout the day. The program has centers stored in totes in their storage area and set up different ones each day at tables throughout the lunchroom. The program has following activities/centers that they children can utilize: art, books, games, crafts, toys, cars, puzzles and legos. They also set up a homework table for children that have homework to complete. During this visit observed the children participating in the following activities: playing in the gym or doing centers. Group activities as well as individual self-directed activities are available to the children. Children have access to bathrooms. Daily schedule of activities was posted. Sufficient amount of equipment and toys for the children. The children will have access to enrichment classes whereby they spend time with school teachers to improve academic skills and then return to the after school program. Observed the staff conversing with the children, explaining rules to the children, getting children involved in activities and assisting children with activities. The program uses the Playground Childcare App.

The program is considered a Grant School, so children can attend the program for free.

Staff files will be reviewed at a later date as they are at the main office.

Snacks are prepared by the Sioux City School District who follows the CACFP guidelines for nutrition. Medication is stored in a lock box or out of reach of the children. However at this time the program does not give any medication to the children.

Center Transportation Arrangements/Field Trips
They utilize the school buses and Sioux City School System drivers. Staff accompany the children on all the field trips. However, they have not doing any field trips at this time.

Goals that Ms Foster has a new group of kids, so learning their names, schedules and getting to know their families. Staff learning any triggers of childrne's behaviors and try and nip it right away.

Strengths of the program is they have a good dependable staff and good group of kids in the program who interact with the children. They have outside groups like 4-H and girl scouts come to the program 1x per week which a lot of the children participate in.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

A bi-monthly newsletter is emailed to the families that keeps parents aware of what is going on in the program or program use the remind app
.
The program has increased the activity centers for the children and the program is well organized.

The program provides tutoring to kindergarten and first grade children.

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

109.11(7)b: Centers at ground level that use basement area as program space, or have a basement beneath program space: Testing and plan for remedy of radon is conducted.

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.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Please provide a written response by 10-01-24 that items that are below standards have been completed.

A full license is recommended at this time at this time. .

At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year

*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.