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

Name of Center: Mini Masterpieces Preschool Inc **Enrollment:** 23 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 18211

Street: 1205 Cleveland Ave **City:** Dubuque Iowa **Zip** 52003 **County:** Dubuque

Mailing Address: 1205 Cleveland Ave, Dubuque, IA, 52003

Director's Name: Marie Colin **Phone Number:** 563-543-1106

On-Site Supervisor(s): none **E-Mail:** marieandherboys@hotmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 02-07-2024

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: 02-07-2024

Comments :

LICENSE TYPE: **Child Care** X **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: Infants (0-23 mo.) 2 Years X Preschool-Age 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			20		20
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 4

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 05-01-2024 to 05-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Heidi Hungate **Date:** 02-19-2024

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced licensing visit was completed at this preschool on 2/7/24. This is a for-profit preschool owned and directed by Marie Colin. Marie is a qualified director with experience in the field of early childhood development and education and a degree in teaching this population. Marie and her long time volunteer staff were once again present. The program operates a morning preschool Tuesday through Friday for children age three to five. The program runs during the school year and follows the Dubuque School District calendar for dismissals and cancellations. The program does participate in the Iowa Voluntary Preschool Grant program.

The center operates only on the main level of a two story building that also includes a basement. Program space is separate and secure from the other levels of the building. There are four program rooms/areas as well as two restroom areas that are adjacent to two of these rooms/areas. The program space is very well stocked with accessible materials to support program needs. All program areas were observed.

The center does not have a kitchen but has a counter top/cabinet area in the middle/loft room area where a sink and microwave are located. The program serves snack provided by the preschool, however, parents do pay a fee for snack. The program does not participate in the CACFP.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The director/owner's enthusiasm in operating the preschool continues to be obvious. The director and her assistant are excellent with the children and work well together. The staff are very encouraging to the children, and it is obvious the staff know the children very well. Program space is bright and colorfully decorated including with the children's projects and creations. The director's creativity and natural artistic ability show through in the programming offered to the children. The program has an art show for the families to display the children's work at the end of each school year. The director makes a conscious effort to allow the children some self-guidance and direction in their own preschool experience to use their imagination and creativity rather than focusing on teacher directed activities. The director reports having a good relationship with the families the program serves, often having siblings who have attended the program over the years. The center participates in the local AEA program where materials can be borrowed to supplement program activities. Staff and child files and other required licensing documentation continue to be highly organized.

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

109.11(3)d: Record of monthly inspections of outdoor recreation area and equipment shall be kept.
1. Documentation could not be located for 2/2023 through 5/2023 and 8/2023.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. The Purell product the center uses for sanitizing food service tables and surfaces requires a rinse step after the soapy

water wash but before applying the Purell. This was discussed with the center director and will need to be implemented.

The center is reminded to have a closed container that can be properly cleaned and sanitized (or go through the dishwasher itself) to transport clean items and any open food for food service since dishes and food service items are washed off site.

The center is reminded, regarding the use of the loft area, it is highly recommended that whenever a child is on the loft that a staff person is at the ladder.

The preschool will continue with a full license. Please address the item cited and the concern noted above so that corrections are obvious and are maintained. This report will not require a written response. Thank you.

*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.