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

Name of Center: Little Island Child Care-Latchkey **Enrollment:** 27 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 18181

Street: 311 5th St N **City:** Fairbank Iowa **Zip** 50629 **County:** Buchanan

Mailing Address: PO Box 38, Fairbank, IA, 50629

Director's Name: Janece Silva **Phone Number:** 319-635-2391

On-Site Supervisor(s): Janece Silva **E-Mail:** littleisland9@gmail.com

Date(s) of Visit: 02-19-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 02-01-2024

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

Date Inspected: 11-16-2023

Comments : Compliance on 12/11/23

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 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*	*Summary Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General			10	30	40
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 03-01-2024 to 03-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 02-26-2024

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 02/19/24 I made an unannounced licensing visit to Little Island Child Care-Latchkey program in Fairbank. I met with Janece Silva, the director. Ms. Silva has worked with the program for thirteen years and has been the director since July 2015. She has a history of being a member of NAEYC. The program has two staff members present during the morning hours of operation and two or three staff members present during the afternoon hours of operation.

Little Island Child Care-Latchkey is a non-profit program which operates under a board of directors and is owned by the Fairbank community. The Fairbank community owns and operates two separate licensed programs. In addition to this program, they also own Little Island Child Care Center in Fairbank. At times the two programs interact together.

Little Island Child Care-Latchkey is in Wapsie Valley Elementary School in Fairbank. The program operates all year-round from 6:00 am until 6:00 pm. During the school year the children are present 6:00-8:00 am in the morning and 3:15-6:00 pm during the afternoon hours of operation. The program also operates all day during no-school days, weather closures and the summer. They will walk over to the childcare center when they are down to two children. The program serves preschool through school-aged children. There are currently 27 children enrolled.

The program primarily operates out of the school gym/cafeteria. This is an open space that allows for free play and organized activities. Artificial lighting is used. They also use the outside playground area. The centers observed include arts and crafts, library, blocks/Legos, games, table toys, puzzles, math, Play-Doh, dramatic play, transportation and magnets. Centers are stored in a closet inside of the gym/cafeteria.

I visited the program during the morning session. The number of children at the program at any one time is changing constantly because of children arriving and leaving. They were in ratio during my visit.

The children use two bathrooms outside the gym/cafeteria. The girl's bathroom has four toilets and the boy's bathroom has two toilets and two urinals. There are two birdbath sinks outside of the bathrooms. Handwashing procedures were posted. There are additional bathrooms located in the school.

There is a child on a prescription medication. For prescription medications, licensing standards mandate that if a parent signs a medication authorization form, the center must document not only when the medication is given, but also when the medication is not given, a reason must be cited. Staff members who administer the medication should place their initials on the form.

The program has use of staff cell phones and emergency numbers were posted. Add the program's address and phone number to the posting. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and an evacuation diagram were posted by the main program door and outside exit in the gym/cafeteria. A daily schedule was posted but was hidden behind the sunscreen holder. Post the daily schedule where it is visible.

During the summer months of operation, the program runs a curriculum with themes and activities. During the school year

the children arrive and eat snack. They then have time for homework or reading for twenty minutes and then they engage in free play.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections. A radon test was completed in January 2024 and must be repeated in two years. Results were within EPA guidelines. The school is completely geothermal so a fuel burning inspection and carbon monoxide detector are not necessary. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 11/16/23, with a compliance date of 12/11/23.

The program is on the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The children are offered breakfast through the school, but parents can send breakfast items with their children to the program. The program does offer breakfast if there is a two-hour delay for the school. Little Island Child Care-Latchkey offers an afternoon snack during the school year. During the summer and on "no school" days the program provides breakfast, lunch and a morning and afternoon snack. The childcare center provides all the food and food items are delivered to the program. The program has a three-week rotation of menus. For lunch the children eat off plates that are returned to the center to be put through the dishwasher. Otherwise, they use disposable products. There is a refrigerator on site and thermometers were present. Allergies were posted. Not all food items on hand were stored according to NHSPS guidelines. There were cereals and crackers that were not properly stored. Once a food item is opened in must be stored in a sealed plastic, metal or glass container and be dated.

The program uses Sani Date Hard Surface Sanitizer to sanitize the food tables. The product has a one-minute dwell time.

The parent information is located on the entrance door and the storage closet door inside the gym/cafeteria. The mandatory reporter, childcare consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The license was conspicuously posted. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

Staff and children files were reviewed at the time of the licensing visit. I reviewed five children files. There were two outdated school-age health statements.

I reviewed one staff file. It was in great condition.

I reviewed policy and procedures, staff and parent handbooks. The necessary written emergency procedures and policies were present. However, the professional development policy needs to be updated and be more specific as to what is expected from new hires and on-going workers. A sample has been provided. Emergency Preparedness Plans have been completed.

Staff members were observed sitting at the tables and centers were put out on the gym floor. I would like to see staff members move around the space and interact with the children more. They greeted children and parents as they arrived for the day and the children appeared to enjoy their time in the program.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Ms. Silva states they have longevity with several staff members. They are loyal and have stuck with the program Covid, new construction and other changes. They have had to endure lots of moving and changes.

Ms. Silva states the center receives a lot of community support.

Ms. Silva states they cater to families and strive to do their best.

Ms. Silva states the school works well with them. They allow them to use the space in the school free all year-around. They can use the playground area also.

The program is convenient and meets a need to provide care for preschool and school-aged children. The program is in the school and does not require any transportation.

Ms. Silva states the program is open every day; even when there is no school and during bad weather days. The program is also open during the summer.

Ms. Silva states their staff members keep the children busy and entertained.

Ms. Silva states they have provided summer field trips. They can use the school buses and only must pay for the driver. They also go to the local pool three times each week during the summer.

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

109.10(1)b: School-age (for children five years and older and enrolled in school): Annual statement of health status signed by parent is submitted prior to admission, certifies that the child is free of communicable disease, and lists allergies, medications and acute/chronic conditions.
Number not in compliance: 2
There were two outdated school-age health statements.

109.10(3)b: For every day an authorization for medication is in effect and child is in attendance, there shall be a notation of administration including the name of medicine, date, time, dosage, given or applied, and the initials of the person administering the medication or the reason the medication was not given.
There is a child on a prescription medication. For prescription medications, licensing standards mandate that if a parent signs a medication authorization form, the center must document not only when the medication is given, but also when the medication is not given, a reason must be cited. Staff members who administer the medication should place their initials on the form.

109.15(5): Food preparation and storage procedures are consistent with NHSPS.
Not all food items on hand were stored according to NHSPS guidelines. There were cereals and crackers that were not properly stored. Once a food item is opened in must be stored in a sealed plastic, metal or glass container and be dated.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is issued. All DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

*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.