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

Name of Center: Moser Preschool and Daycare **Enrollment:** 48 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 39371

Street: 1401 1st St West **City:** Independence Iowa **Zip** 50644 **County:** Buchanan

Mailing Address: 1401 1st St West, Independence, IA, 50644

Director's Name: Candy Moser **Phone Number:** 319-327-0155

On-Site Supervisor(s): Gayle Burgin & Tiffany Bean **E-Mail:** moserkids@yahoo.com

Date(s) of Visit: 05-22-2025

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 12-13-2022

Comments : Compliance on 01/13/23.

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 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	9	9	28	29	75
Summer					0

QRS Rating: 3

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 07-01-2024 to 07-01-2026
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 06-30-2025

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 05/22/25 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to Moser Preschool and Daycare in Independence. I met with Candy Moser, the co-owner and director of the program. Her husband, Chad Moser, is also a co-owner. Ms. Moser has been a director since the program opened in August 2012. She has an AA in accounting and several years of experience working with children. She previously had an in-home childcare program. Ms. Moser has her National Administrator Credential (NAC). Gayle Burgin and Tiffany Bean are the on-site supervisors for the program and are in charge when Ms. Moser is not available. Ms. Burgin has been with the program since August 2016 and Ms. Bean has been with the program since July 2013. The program has seven employees.

This center has been open since 2010. They operate out of a free-standing building. The program operates Monday through Friday from 5:30 am until 5:30 pm and serves children who are infants through school-age. The center partners with the Independence School District to provide the voluntary four-year-old preschool program. Ms. Bean is the teacher of the four-year-old preschool program. She has a BA in early childhood and elementary education with an endorsement in special education and sign language. They rent a room in the Early Childhood Center for the program. The voluntary preschool room is regulated through the Department of Education but also included under the license for the sake of insurance. There are currently 48 children enrolled.

The center operates out of four rooms. They have an infant room, a room for children eighteen months old through two-years-old, a preschool room for three and four-year-old children and a school-age space. The school-age space also serves as an additional space for the preschool children when school is in session. An inspection of each room was completed. The rooms are decorated with the children's art projects, and posters to assist the children with the learning process, such as the alphabet, colors and numbers. There is an area for circle time.

The centers observed at the center include library, blocks, table toys, games, puzzles, transportation, art, dramatic play, writing, math, science, listening, Play-Doh, woodworking, sensory table and music. Toys are sanitized daily. Centers were arranged in a manner that allowed easy movement between activities, but it also allowed for clear supervision by staff members. Materials were in good condition. The materials are located at child level, so they are easily accessible to the children.

Mats, cots and cribs are used for naps.

The program uses a variety of resources to create the lesson plans. Ms. Moser creates the base curriculum for each room, such as social/emotional activities, crafts and letters. The teachers then fill in the rest of the areas on the lesson plans for their classrooms. Lesson plans were available for review.

Daily sheets are being maintained for children under the age of two in the ProCare app.

There was a phone with emergency numbers in the office. The classrooms use two-way radios to communicate with one another. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by the program doors and outdoor

exits throughout the center. A daily schedule was posted in each room.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills. I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections. A radon test was completed in June 2023 and must be repeated in five years. Results were within EPA guidelines. The annual fuel burning inspection was completed and no concerns were noted. A carbon monoxide detector was on site and is in the dining area. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 12/13/22, with compliance on 01/13/23. The program is inspected for lead annually.

The program has three vans available to transport children. I reviewed van maintenance logs. Each van has an emergency backpack.

The program does participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The program provides lunch and a morning and afternoon snack. Chad Moser is the cook. He uses an eight-week rotation of menus. The children eat all their meals and snacks in the dining area. Menus are sent to all families using the ProCare app. Food items were stored according to the NHSPS guidelines. There are three refrigerators and an upright freezer and thermometers were present. There are alarms installed in the refrigerators and freezer so that if they stop working the Moser's are notified. The program has an industrial dishwasher and a residential dishwasher. There are also two sinks for dishes in the kitchen. The program has two commercial Vulcan ovens.

Children are served their meals already dished out. Family style is not used.

In the infant room the center provides one brand of formula, baby food and cereal. Bottles are sent to the kitchen to be washed or they are sent home with parents each night.

The program uses owlets in the infant room.

The center uses Peroxide Multi Surface Cleaner and Disinfectant to sanitize the food tables and toys. This is also used to disinfect the changing tables. In the infant room the high chairs only being washed with soap and water. They must be cleaned with soap and water and then sanitized after every use.

I discussed and observed diaper changes with staff members. In the infant room the staff member was not washing the children's hands following diaper changes. All children must have their hands washed with soap and water following a diaper change.

There are three bathrooms located in the center, each has one toilet and one sink. Handwashing and diaper changing procedures were posted in most mandated areas. Post handwashing procedures near the sink in the bathroom in the dining room area.

The parent information is located on a bulletin board inside the entrance. The mandatory reporter, childcare consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The license was conspicuously hung. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

The program has a fenced-in playground area. There is no fall surfacing. There is a grassy area for the children and a concrete area with a small basketball hoop. There is a sandbox, music center, a tunnel, playhouse, games, a picnic table and a bench. A tree provides shade.

Staff members are great at entertaining the children in a way that is both fun and educational. Child friendly music was playing in the rooms and staff members had great teamwork. They covered for one another when needed. Staff members were flexible with their schedule. They provide clear and easy to understand directions. They interacted with the children at their level, whether sitting at a table with the children or sitting on the floor with the children. Staff members encouraged the children to use their imaginations and used play to talk with them about colors and numbers. Staff members modeled good manners and talked with the children about sharing and using their words. Staff members offered to help children but also encouraged independent play. They provide the children with praise. The children appeared to enjoy their time at the center.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The program has an IQ4K level of 3 that expires on 07/31/26.

Ms. Moser has her National Administrator Credential (NAC).

The center has three staff members on the WAGES program and one staff member using TEACH.

Ms. Moser states she thinks it is a strength that the center is still "going" and still participating in new things.

Ms. Moser states they apply for grants to help financially.

The program is in a secure building and they have cameras in the classrooms and outside of the building.

Each room has an Alexa to play child friendly music in the classrooms.

In addition to fire and tornado drills the program practices intruder drills.

The program partners with the Independence School District to provide the voluntary four-year-old preschool program. The voluntary preschool class is regulated under the Department of Education but included in the license for the sake of insurance.

The program uses ProCare Software to help keep business practices organized.
The program has a private social media page on Facebook to help increase communication with the families. The program provides families with regular newsletters.

The program collaborates with local businesses, AEA, the local school district, Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) and the local nurse consultant.

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

109.10(8): Children's hand washing: Center shall ensure staff assist children in personal hygiene. For each infant or child with a disability, a separate cloth for washing and one for rinsing may be used in place of running water. Children's hands shall be washed:Immediately before eating or participating in food service activity.After using the restroom or being diapered.After handling animals.
In the infant room the staff member was not washing the children's hands following diaper changes. All children must have their hands washed with soap and water following a diaper change.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is issued for the remainder of the licensing period. 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.