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

Name of Center: Southeast Webster Grand Daycare **Enrollment:** 50 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 17940

Street: 104 2nd ST NW **City:** Dayton Iowa **Zip** 50530 **County:** Webster

Mailing Address: 104 2nd ST NW, Dayton, IA, 50530

Director's Name: Sara Stevens **Phone Number:** 515-547-2200

On-Site Supervisor(s): Stephanie Will **E-Mail:** sstevens@svjags.org

Date(s) of Visit: 05-20-2025

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: 07-30-2021

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: 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	25		45	27	97
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: Raymond Salsbury **Date:** 05-22-2025

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced annual visit was made to the Southeast Webster Daycare on 05-20-25 where I met with the center director Sara Stevens. Sara has been the director of this program since 2012 and has obtained her CDA. Stephanie has been with center since 2011 and Center Director Certification in 2025. The program is located in a wing of the Dayton Elementary school which completed construction in 2016. The program is overseen by the school district and operated as a non-profit center. The program serves infants through school age children year round. There are currently 50 children enrolled in the program served by 8 staff. All areas of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed during this visit.

The overall design and layout of the building and each room remains the same as in prior visits. Each room was observed to be clean. The center continues to have issues with regard to roof leaks that have damaged ceiling tiles. Each room has direct secondary egress from the classroom. All exits were clear of obstruction and opened easily and freely. Each room has large windows which provide ample natural lighting, views of the outdoors, and ventilation. The windows in two of the classrooms are fitted with steel storm shutters and serve as tornado shelters for the daycare and school. Each room has toilets and sinks directly accessible from the classroom, and additional sinks in the classrooms to facilitate hand washing. The classroom used for the preschool age children is divided by mobile panel dividers to establish the formal preschool programming area from the daycare programming. This area is increased during the school year, and decreased during the summer. Each room a variety of activity centers created through the placement of furniture, shelving, and play structures which are arranged so that they do not create any blind areas. The toys and materials present were in good repair and generally appropriate to the ages of the children though there was toy in the infant room that had small parts that could break off and a choking hazard. This was removed during the visit when pointed out. A copy of the daily schedule and planned curriculum were posted in each classroom.

All staff were observed to be actively engaged with the children following the planned schedule and curriculum. During the visit the preschool and school age children moved from playing in the gym to returning to their classrooms where the engaged in teacher lead group learning activities. In the infant room the teachers were attentive to the children's needs feeding them, changing diapers, and playing with them. The center uses proactive approaches to promote positive behaviors with the use of routines, transition activities, reminders, and redirection. This approach was very successful in that there were not behavioral concerns observed during the time of the visit. All teachers were observed to use calm, positive, and encouraging tones of voice and word choices. Ratio was maintained in each classroom as required by age, and Sara did move between classrooms providing assistance as needed.

Good health and safety practices were observed during the visit. I was able to observe several diaper changes and all staff did follow the required procedures. The required diapering procedures posting was present but the notice board it had been attached to had fallen from the wall and needed to be repaired. First aid kits are maintained in the center, and the center would also have access to the school nurses office for additional supplies and support if needed. Over the counter medications were labeled with the name of the person to whom it belonged. One issue that was noted was the presence of teething gels in the infant room and these are prohibited due to containing ingredients such as beladona which can be toxic. The classroom teacher did state that they would send those home with parents. Chemical cleaners and other items that are labeled as "Keep Out Of The Reach Of Children", or which may pose a safety risk to children were stored in areas that are

not accessible to children. During the visit it was observed that teaches in the preschool room had purses Good cleaning practices were observed in the classrooms with the teachers waiting for children to be out of the immediate area before using chemical cleaners. Good handwashing practices were observed with the teachers ensuring that the children did wash their hands as required and providing assistance when needed. Safe sleep practices were followed for children under 12 months of age.

Meals are prepared by the school cafeteria when the school is in operation and prepared by the daycare staff in the school kitchen during the summer and days school is closed. Given that the school was not in session on the day of my visit Stephanie did prepare lunch. Good food storage, handling, and preparation practices were observed during the visit. A limited supply of food items are kept in the classroom and good food storage practices and good food storage practices were generally observed for those items as well. A thermometer was not found in the refrigeration/freezer unit that is maintained in the toddler room and that does need to be replaced. Additionally there were a couple rolled bags, and non-credible food items present but these were limited and food program requirements were discussed with Stephanie. Meals are served in the classrooms and the teachers did use measured scoops to portion meals. While the teachers did not eat with the children they did provide supervision at the tables.

The playground space used by the center is located in an interior courtyard bordered by the building on 3 sides and fenced on the forth. Climbing structures and other equipment have been installed with foam tiles used for fall surfacing. There is also a grassy play area, and paved area where the children can play. Several semi mature trees and the climbing structure provide shade. The equipment was observed to be in good repair. A shed was present where additional toys and materials were stored.

All required notices were posted in an area readily accessible and visible to all parents and visitors. While visiting the preschool room it was observed that a decorative wall hanging had been placed where part of it covered that posting for the emergency evacuation map and directions. This needs to be moved so that the posting is maintained by the exit and is readily visible at all times. In reviewing child and staff files the center does maintain both a hard copy and electronic system, Bright Wheel. A random selection of child files were reviewed and compared to the self-audit completed by the center which was found to be accurate. The self-audit identified 20 child files that needed an updated physical and it was noted that most of these were for preschool age children with some not having been updated since 2023. It was reviewed that children must have a renewed physical every year, or for school age children a parental statement of health and that if these are not provided those children should be excluded from the center until an updated physical is provided. In reviewing staff files Sara did acknowledge that they were not in good shape and each file reviewed was missing several elements. All required inspection logs and certificates were available and current. It as reviewed that recent changes do allow that for centers that do not have a radon mitigation system and which have tested levels below the cutoff limit of 4.0 pCi/L testing can now be completed every 5 years. The last available results were dated 06/21 with a tested level of 1.9 pCi/L. The center handbooks have been previously reviewed and found to contain all required written policies.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This center has several staff who have been with the center for a number of years. This does allow for staff to obtain on-going training such as with Stephanie having completed her Center Director Credential. It also allows for the center staff to become more familiar not only with the center operation, but also with the children and developing relationships with their families. Sara did identify that the center is fully staffed for the coming summer and increase in enrollment with the school age children, and next fall when several of their current families are expecting new born infants.

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

109.6(6)c: Center repeats Iowa record checks at a minimum of every two years or when aware of additional child abuse or criminal history that occurs.

109.6(6)d: Center repeats national criminal history checks at a minimum of every four years or when aware of additional history that occurs.

109.9(1)d: All files contain a pre-employment physical exam report completed within six months prior to hire and at least every three years. Physical exams shall be documented on form 470-5152, Child Care Provider Physical Examination Report.

109.9(1)e: All files contain documentation to indicate that ongoing staff training requirements are met, including current certifications in first aid/CPR and mandatory child abuse training.

109.10(1)a: Preschool (for children five years and younger not enrolled in school): Physical exam report submitted within 30 days of admission, was obtained no more than 12 months prior to admission, is signed by a licensed MD, DO, PA,

Chiropractor or ARNP, and contains health history; present health status including allergies, medications, and acute/chronic conditions; and recommendations for continued care if necessary.
Number not in compliance: 20

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license will remain in effect at this time. Please provide a written response to the licensing consultant identifying a plan of action to correct and maintain those aspects cited as not meeting licensing standards and identifying an anticipated date of compliance. At least one visit will be made to the center during the next year.

NOTE: A copy of the Staff File Requirements form was sent to Sara with a request for her to complete that form for all staff to identify what information was missing, and to establish a corrective action plan to bring all files into compliance. The form and plan were to be completed and returned to the Licensing Consultant by 05-30-25

*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.