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

Name of Center: Little Knights Learning Center - Mechanicsville **Enrollment:** 35 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 42543

Street: 609 125th ST **City:** Mechanicsville Iowa **Zip** 52306 **County:** Cedar

Mailing Address: 609 125th ST PO Box 130 , Mechanicsville, IA, 52306

Director's Name: Maria Porter **Phone Number:** 563-432-6752

On-Site Supervisor(s): N/A **E-Mail:** mporter@north-cedarstu.org

Date(s) of Visit: 12-13-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 07-10-2023

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

Date Inspected: 07-29-2022

Comments : Does Comply.

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	20	16	15	60	111
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 09-01-2023 to 09-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Heidi Brown **Date:** 01-06-2025

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

This worker arrived at LITTLE KNIGHTS LEARNING CENTER - MECHANICSVILLE - 42543 on 10/4/23 for an annual visit. The fire inspection was completed on 7/29/22. The center is nonprofit and overseen by a board of directors. The center serves infants-school aged children. The center is open year around. The hours of operation are 6:00am-6:00pm. Their current enrollment is 35.

The director is Maria Porter. The director started in 9/2018. The director has a Para Educator Degree.

This worker observed all programming space in the center and outdoor area to ensure that the environment was safe, sanitary and hazard free. The center is located in a school. The center has 3 classrooms, cafeteria, gymnasium and office.

Health and safety practices were also reviewed including handwashing, medication management, appropriate cleaning/sanitizing/disinfecting, excluding ill children/staff, incident reports, and first aid kits.

Nutritional practices and food safety were observed. The center is on the Child and Adult Care Food Program. The center offers breakfast, lunch and afternoon snack.

This worker reviewed required postings. This worker checked staff files and child files. The licensing notebook including emergency drills, first aid supplies, playground checklist, radon testing, HVAC testing and policies were reviewed.

The center does communicate with parents via: Brightwheel, emails, conversations, and when needed a written report. The center's curriculum is teacher created with a blend of: Applebaum. The center offers field trips for preschool to school aged children during the summer. They have gone to the splash pads, parks, movie theater, and museums.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

-The center utilizes Bright Wheel for open parent communication.
-The center is on the Child and Adult Care Food Program.
-The center director has been with the center since 9/2018.
-Child and staff files were in full compliance.
-Information about the center can be found at: https://www.north-cedar.org/Little-Knights-Learning-Centers/
-The librarian comes to the center throughout the year.

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

109.11(3)a: Center shall ensure that: Facility and premises are sanitary, safe, and hazard free.
-High chairs that use the 5 point harness must have the 5 point harnesses. Director bought and emailed this worker pictures.
-Refrigerator needs to have child proof latch. (Especially if there is caffeine involved.) Director bought and emailed this

worker pictures.
-Ensure that cleaning supplies is inaccessible at all times. Director email a picture of this corrected.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Based upon this review, it is recommended that this center remain in Full licensing status. It is important to note, all DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period. As a director, on-site supervisor, or child care staff it is vital that you know and understand all licensing standards and procedures. The licensing regulation checklist can be found by visiting: https://iowaccrr.org/resources/files/BGP/71%20Licensing_Chklist_3940.pdf

This worker will conduct at least one unannounced visit each year. This worker encourages you to establish a working relationship with your local Child Care Resource Consultant (CCR&R) and your local Child Care Nurse Consultant (CCNC).

Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) provides professional development and consultation services that support the child care business's ability to achieve and maintain regulatory status in good standing and work to achieve and maintain performance at higher quality levels in Iowa's Quality Rating and Improvement. To find your center's CCR&R consultant visit: https://iowaccrr.org/staff/region_5/

Healthy Child Care Iowa is a statewide publicly funded program to improve the health and safety of children while they are enrolled in child care and early education settings. Child care nurse consultants are registered nurses who provide consultation, training, and technical assistance on health and safety policies, health programs, health of personnel, and specific child health or safety issues. To find your center's CCNC consultant visit: https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/programs-and-services/child-care/hcci

*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.