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

Name of Center: Drake University Head Start-Boone **Enrollment:** 14 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 28425

Street: 1111 S Linn St **City:** Boone Iowa **Zip** 50036 **County:** Boone

Mailing Address: 3800 Merle Hay Rd Suite 323, Des Moines, IA, 50310

Director's Name: Susan Abel **Phone Number:** 515-432-2872

On-Site Supervisor(s): Minelia Solis **E-Mail:** susan.abel@drake.edu

Date(s) of Visit: 11-16-2023

X **Licensing Visit** **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:** 07-27-2023

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

Date Inspected: 10-10-2023

Comments : Boone Fire Marshal. Fire Marshal inspections are due at least every three years. Boone typically does annual inspections.

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 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			17		17
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 12-01-2023 to 12-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 11-20-2023

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A licensing visit was conducted on 11/16/23. The on-site supervisor and her assistant were both present for this visit.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review. This was the first time the program has been officially open and with on site learning since the last in-person visit in 11/2021. The most recent COVID updates were also reviewed.

Drake University Head Start - Boone is located in the Goldthwaite-Garvey Family Resource Center in Boone, IA. The center, Child Care Junction, is also located in this building. There is a secure entrance into the building. The Head Start program uses one classroom down one of the main hallways. The program is overseen by the Drake University Head Start program. The director and program coordinator of this program is Susan Abel (formerly Miller). Susan has her Master's degree in Special Education and her BA degree in Child Development. Susan has also worked in the child care field for a number of years. The on-site supervisor and lead teacher of Boone Head Start as of 9/2023 is Minelia Solis. Minelia has a CDA and a BA in Early Childhood Education. She also has past experience working in child care.

The program serves children ages three to five years in age. Classes are held full days, Monday - Friday, 8:00am - 2:30pm. The program uses the Teaching Strategies Gold Curriculum (part of Creative Learning Curriculum) in their teachings and activities with children.

During the visit, children were observed in a large group story activity that was being facilitated by staff. After this activity, children lined up to wash their hands and then sit down for lunch. Staff sat with the children at the child-size tables for lunch.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The program participates in the food program (CACFP).

The program continues to partner with the Boone County School District for meals. The school district continues to provide/cater in lunch for the Head Start program.

The building custodial staff clean the floors and classroom nightly.

The program has their own nurse consultant, family advocate person, behavioral specialist, mental health consultant, and other in-house professionals who work within the Drake Head Start programs.

Parental participation and communication is stressed. There are quarterly home visits and two parent-teacher conferences

throughout the school year. In addition to the above, the lead teacher also visits children in their homes two times a school year.

The program has a website through Drake Head Start where additional information about the program can be obtained.

Staff bios and pictures are posted at the main entrance to the classroom.

The program participates in a program designed to get children more physically active and fit. The name of this program is "I am moving, I am Learning".

The two staff members in the classroom work well together. There was a good flow and organization to the class day and activities.

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

109.9(2)b: All files contain sufficient information and authorization to allow the center to secure emergency medical and dental services at any time child is in center's care.
Number not in compliance for medical: 0
Number not in compliance for dental: 1
Information lacking: All enrolled children, regardless of age, need to have listed the name, address, and phone number for a doctor and a dentist.

109.15(2): Center shall follow minimum CACFP menu patterns for meals and snacks. Menus planned one week in advance, made available to parents, and kept on file with substitutions noted. Avoid foods with high incident rate of causing choking. Last week's food menu was posted and the current week's menu missing.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Radon testing is currently in process. If the classroom level comes back below the 4.0 cutoff, testing can then move to at least every five years. If the classroom comes back 4.0 or higher, retesting will be needed and the center will remain, at least temporarily, on an every two year testing plan.

The annual boiler inspection was last completed 10/20/23.

As previously noted for transportation/field trips, the program does not go off site but rather bring in different agencies for presentations to children.

I-Power and IQ4K were discussed some at the visit.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended.

*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.