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

Name of Center: Grundy Community Preschool & Childcare Center **Enrollment:** 40 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 22321

Street: 1001 8th St **City:** Grundy Center Iowa **Zip** 50638 **County:** Grundy

Mailing Address: 1001 8th St, Grundy Center, IA, 50638

Director's Name: Kim Brower **Phone Number:** 319-825-3565

On-Site Supervisor(s): Rhonda Kruger **E-Mail:** kbgcpcc@gcmuni.net

Date(s) of Visit: 09-07-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

New Application X **Re-Application** **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: 04-05-2023

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 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	27	14		25	66
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: Raymond Salsbury **Date:** 09-20-2023

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

NA

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

An unannounced annual visit was made to Grundy Community Preschool & Child Care Center on 09-07-23 where I met with the center director Kim Brower. Kim is the director of this program and also the director of Grundy Community Preschool which is located in the same building but operated under a separate license. Ms. Brower has been with the center since 1995 and is well qualified for the position based on her experience and training. The center is located in a remodeled building that was previously an elementary school and operated as a non-profit program overseen by a board of directors. The center provides daycare programming for infants through school age children. There are approximately 40 children enrolled in the program served by 14 staff. All aspects of the program subject to licensing standards were reviewed during this visit.

As noted the facility is located in a remodeled elementary school. The building has programming space on two levels with the daycare operating primarily on the main floor, and the preschool program operating on the upper floor. As noted the formal preschool program is operated under a separate license and while the space of those classrooms is available for use by the daycare program when the preschool is not in session that capacity is not included in the capacity determination for the daycare. The program has access to 5 classrooms with two infant rooms, a 2 year old room, 3 year old room, and 4-5+ classroom. There is also a large indoor gymnasium space that the program can make use of but which is also available to other tenants of the building, and community. The 4-5 year old classroom has a direct exit to the exterior. The two infant rooms have a connecting doorway that provides for secondary exit from either room and currently only one of the rooms is being used due to lower enrollment. The 2 year old and 3 year old classrooms have secondary exits on opposite ends of the rooms that open onto the main corridor. All rooms have windows along the exterior walls that provide ample natural light, a view of the outdoors, and ventilation. Each classroom has restroom facilities directly accessible from the classroom, with additional sinks located in the classrooms. One sink in the 3 year old classroom was observed to have broken away from the wall and only the pipes were present. Kim did state that the contractors have been notified and repairs scheduled. No other maintenance issues were noted.

Each classroom is arranged with activity centers created through the placement of furniture and play structures which are arranged so as not to create blind areas. Each activity center was stocked with a variety of toys and materials. The toys were appropriate to the ages of the children present and in good repair. A copy of the daily schedule and curriculum themes was posted. Each classroom developed their own curriculum plan and on the day of my visit the planned themes included Squirrels in the 3 year old classroom, and Apples in the 4 year old classroom. Good interactions were observed with the staff being engaged with the children and attending to their needs. This included staff in the infant room reading stories to the children, talking about textures, changing diapers, and feeing the children. In the older age classrooms the staff were also presenting the planned curriculums with the children. Good behavior management techniques were observed with the teachers recognizing positive behavior, giving specific direction, and redirecting children if needed. Ratio was maintained in the center as required by age. Each classroom does have a small refrigerator unit in the room and several of these needed to be secured so as not to be a topple hazard.

Good health and safety practices were observed on the day of my visit. I was able to observe a diaper changing procedure and the required steps were followed. A copy of the diapering procedures postings were present by all changing stations.

Good hand washing practices were in place with staff ensuring the children washed their hands following restroom use, and prior to eating. The staff also ensured that the children washed them in an effective manner sending them back to re-wash if needed. First aid kits were observed to contain materials necessary to address most common first aid needs. Chemical cleaners and other items that could pose a safety risk to children were stored in areas where they were not accessible to children. The staff did wait for children to be out of the immediate area before using chemical cleaners. Over the counter medications were labeled and all medications were properly stored. Safe sleep practices were being followed in the center on the day of my visit although several of the cribs had crib sheets that were too small and need to be replaced with properly fitted crib sheets that fight snuggly so that the material is not so loose that it allows gathering, or so tight that it pulls at the corners of the mattress.

Meals are prepared on-site and the kitchen area was observed to be clean. There was no indication of any insect or rodent infestation as evidenced by dead bugs, or droppings. Good food storage and handling procedures were observed during the time of my visit both in the kitchen, and classrooms. A menu is posted and followed and identifies a good variety of nutritious food options. Lunch was served during the time of my visit and consisted of a tuna sandwich, green beans, peaches, chips, and milk. Meals were served family style with the children portioning their own foods. The teachers did sit at the tables and ate with the children to provide supervision and model good eating habits.

The playground has several areas with one for the daycare children which is fully enclosed by fencing and further divided into an area for infants and toddlers, and an area for older children. There is another playground for the formal preschool program children. Also adjacent to the playground space is the elementary school playground. In addition there is a large open grassy football field, and paved area where the children can play. All of the equipment was observed to be in good repair and properly installed. The daycare playground makes use of foam tiles for fall surfacing. An awning and mature trees provide shade.

Administrative records were reviewed and all required notices and postings were present. Random selections of both staff and child files were reviewed and compared to the self-audit maintained by the center which was found to be accurate. The review child files involved a random selection of 15 files which were found to contain all current and required documentation. The review and self-audit and 6 staff files found all employees to be in full compliance. Inspection logs and certificates were current and available for all required elements. The center handbooks have been previously reviewed and found to contain al required policies.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center has completed a substantial renovation of a new space which has increased the available capacity, and provides a more engaging and positive atmosphere for the children.

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. Adequate indoor and outdoor space is provided. The outdoor area shall include safe play equipment and area of shade. Sufficient space provided for dining. Sufficient lighting shall be provided. Sufficient ventilation. Sufficient heating. sufficient cooling. Sufficient bathroom and diapering facilities. Equipment, including kitchen appliances, are maintained so as not to result in burns, shock, or injury to children. Sanitation and safety procedures for the center are developed and implemented to reduce risk or injury or harm to children and reduce transmission of disease.
-- Refrigeration units in the classrooms need to be secured so as not to be a topple hazard.

109.12(5)e: The provider shall follow safe sleep practices recommended by AAP for infants under one year of age:Infants shall always be placed on their back for sleep.Infants shall be placed on a firm mattress with a tight fitted sheet that meets Consumer Product Safety Commission federal standards.Infants shall not be allowed to sleep on a bed, sofa, air mattress or other soft surface. No child will be allowed to sleep in any items not designed for sleeping but not limited to, an infant seat, car seat, swing, bouncy seat.No toys, soft objects, stuffed animals, pillows, bumper pads, blankets, or loose bedding shall be allowed in the sleeping area with the infant.No co-sleeping shall be allowed.Sleeping infants shall be actively observed by sight and sound.If an alternate sleeping position is needed, a signed physician or physician assistant authorization with statement of medical reason is required.
-- Bedding in cribs that is loose and allowing the material to gather needs to be replaced or modified so that it fits snuggly without puling at the corners or edges of the mattress.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

A full license is recommended at this time. Please provide a written response to the licensing consultant identifying a plan

of action to correct 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: 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.