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

Name of Center: YMCA School Age Care at Southdale Elem **Enrollment:** 31 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 46272

Street: 627 Orchard Dr **City:** Cedar Falls Iowa **Zip** 50613 **County:** Black Hawk

Mailing Address: 669 S Hackett Rd, Waterloo, IA, 50701

Director's Name: Bekah Stevens & Brandon Bennett **Phone Number:** 319-553-2900

On-Site Supervisor(s): Aubrey Niles **E-Mail:** bstevens@blackhawkymca.org

Date(s) of Visit: 12-07-2022

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

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

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

Date Inspected: 01-29-2021

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: Infants (0-23 mo.) 2 Years Preschool-Age X 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	0	0	0	50	50
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 01-01-2022 to 01-01-2024
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Becky Frost **Date:** 12-19-2022

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

On 12/07/22 I made an unannounced off year licensing visit to YMCA School Age Care at Southdale Elementary in Cedar Falls. I met with John Ronan, an assistant in the program. Mr. Ronan was previously an on-site supervisor. Aubrey Niles is the on-site supervisor, but she was not present the day of my visit. Brandon Bennett and Bekah Stevens are the co-directors. Mr. Bennett is the Director of Youth Development, SAC. Ms. Stevens is the director of the ELC program. Mr. Bennett started with the YMCA on 10/05/22. He has previous experience in childcare, including as an assistant director, in Minnesota. He has not finished his education yet but has completed four years of classes in early childhood studies and secondary education. Mr. Bennett is primarily in charge of the school age programs and Ms. Stevens primarily oversees the early learning center. Ms. Stevens has been employed with the YMCA since September 2020. She has a BA in Social Work and Spanish. Their offices are in the YMCA facility in Waterloo. There are two staff members with the children in the morning and two in the afternoon session.

The program is in Southdale Elementary. They primarily operate out of the cafeteria area, but also utilize the school gym. The before and after school program operates Monday through Friday from 6:30-8:30 am and 3:30-6:00 pm. Every Wednesday the children get out of school at 1:50 pm. The program serves children who are in kindergarten through sixth grade. There are currently 31 children enrolled.

The cafeteria and gym are open spaces that allow for free play and organized activities. Natural lighting is available in the cafeteria and artificial lighting is used in the gym. The centers observed include art, library, blocks/Legos, games, table toys, and puzzles. Centers are stored in a closet located in the cafeteria.

I visited the program during the afternoon session. They were in ratio during my visit. The number of children at the program at any one time is changing constantly because of children arriving and leaving.

The children primarily use two bathrooms located outside the cafeteria. The girl's bathroom has six toilets and three sinks. The boy's bathroom has two toilets, three urinals and three sinks. Handwashing procedures were posted in both locations. There are additional bathrooms in the school.

Staff members have a cell phone. Emergency numbers could not be located. You must post emergency numbers, including poison control, with the program's address and phone number. Emergency fire and tornado procedures and evacuation diagrams were posted by the main program doors and outdoor exits in the cafeteria and gym. A daily schedule was posted.

I reviewed documentation of monthly fire and tornado drills for this school year. The program is keeping this year's records on a dry/erase sheet. Hard copies of the records must be maintained so they can be reviewed during licensing visits. Records must be kept for at least two years for review. Fire and tornado drills should be practiced on separate dates, and both should be practiced during the morning session and the afternoon session. Currently all the tornado drills are practiced in the morning and all the fire drills are practiced in the afternoon. There were no fire or tornado drills practiced in April or May 2022.

I reviewed documentation of monthly playground inspections. The program did not have inspections for the 2022-2023 school year. Playground inspections must occur every month. You must keep documentation of playground inspections for two years to be reviewed during licensing visits.

Radon testing, a fuel burning inspection and a carbon monoxide detector are not necessary because the program is exempt from environmental assessments as a before and after school program that serves only school-aged children and located in a public-school building. Outlets were protected. The fire marshal inspection occurred on 01/29/21.

The YMCA offers an afternoon snack. A snack menu is being kept, but it is kept on a dry/erase sheet. Snack menus must be maintained on a hard copy and available for review during licensing visits. Disposable products are used so dishwashing is not necessary. The program is not part of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) but is following the guidelines. Snacks are provided by the YMCA. Not all snacks were stored according to the NHSPS guidelines. There were Wheat Thins, Cheerios and nacho chips that were not stored correctly. Once a food item is opened it must be stored in a sealed plastic, metal or glass container and be dated. The program does not serve breakfast, but a table is cleaned and sanitized so children could eat breakfast if they bring it. The children can also eat breakfast at the school once they are released from the YMCA program.

The program uses Hydrogen Peroxide Disinfecting Cleaner to sanitize the food tables. This product has a one-minute dwell time and requires a portable water rinse on food surfaces prior to the children sitting down to eat.

The parent information is located on a portable bulletin board. The mandatory reporter, childcare consultant and the handbook availability were posted. The license was not posted. The license must be conspicuously posted. A no-smoking sign was posted at the entrance.

The program uses the elementary school's playground. The area is partially fenced in. Rubber tiles are used for surface cushioning. There are swings, bars, slides, climbing equipment, a climbing wall, rings, teeter totter, spinning items and rocking toys. There was a new playground area recently added. Rubber tiles are also used in this area. There is a large rope obstacle course. There is also a balance beam. There is a grassy area for play and a basketball court. Benches are available and trees provide shade.

The gym is available when the children cannot go outside.

Mr. Ronan was terrific with the children. He sat at the table and played games with the children. He interacted with them at their level. The children clearly enjoyed their time with him.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Mr. Ronan states they have a lot of games available for the children.

Mr. Ronan states he likes that they have several age groups, and they all interact well with one another.

Mr. Ronan states the program has a good relationship with the teachers and the janitors in the school.

The program is here for the community no matter what. They are here to serve the communities with any childcare needs they may have.

The program meets a need in the community to provide care for children before and after school. They are safe on the school site and do not have to transition to a new location.

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

109.4(6): The child care license shall be posted in a conspicuous place and shall state the particular premises in which child care may be offered and the number of children who may be cared for at any one time.
The license was not posted. The license must be conspicuously posted.

109.10(15)b: Emergency instructions, phone numbers, and diagrams for fire, tornado, and flood shall be visibly posted and documented at least once a month for fire and tornado. Records shall be maintained for current and previous year.
The program is keeping this year's records on a dry/erase sheet. Hard copies of the records must be maintained so they can be reviewed during licensing visits. Records must be kept for at least two years for review. Fire and tornado drills should be practiced on separate dates, and both should be practiced during the morning session and the afternoon session.

Currently all the tornado drills are practiced in the morning and all the fire drills are practiced in the afternoon. There were no fire or tornado drills practiced in April or May 2022.

109.11(5): Telephone: Working non-pay phone with posting adjacent for emergency numbers for police, fire, and poison control center. Center street address and phone included in posting.List of emergency numbers for children kept near phone. Emergency numbers could not be located. You must post emergency numbers, including poison control, with the program's address and phone number.

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. A snack menu is being kept, but it is kept on a dry/erase sheet. Snack menus must be maintained on a hard copy and available for review during licensing visits.

109.15(5): Food preparation and storage procedures are consistent with NHSPS.
Not all snacks were stored according to the NHSPS guidelines. There were Wheat Thins, Cheerios and nacho chips that were not stored correctly. Once a food item is opened it must be stored in a sealed plastic, metal or glass container and be dated.

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.

An administrative change is being made to name Brandon Bennett as a co-director and Aubrey Niles as the new on-site supervisor.

*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.