

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	FULL license from 01-01-2020 to 01-01-2022
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCACTION of license

Licensing Consultant: Jill Seibert

Date: 11-07-2019

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

N/A

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Danville Early Learning Center is located inside Danville Elementary in a residential area of Danville. The center operated for several years under the Department of Education. The center is owned and operated by the School District.

The program consists of three separate classrooms for infants, toddlers, and school age children as well as two preschool classrooms. An office and conference room completed the facility. The daycare/preschool rooms are within the school and can only be accessed by first entering the school building. Visitors to the school must check into the building at the front office. When a visitor arrives they must enter the front door, as all other doors are locked. A visitor badge will be given at the time of sign in to fill out. Visitors are directed by office staff to wear the tag in a visible area. Visitors must also sign out.

Ms. Blomme has directed this program for 3 years. She was formerly a Director at another DHS licensed preschool for 8 years. She has a Bachelor of Science degree. The Preschool and Elementary office assists Ms. Blomme with record keeping for staff and children. I arrived at the center on 10/28/19 for a licensing visit. I met with the Director, Becky Bloome, School Principal Steve Ida and Luanne Walker, Office Manager and On Site Supervisor. Ms. Walker has also worked in the center for the past several years. The program was in session and children were present during this visit. All program areas were observed at that time.

Students in both the 3 year old and 4 year old program are taught Music, Art, and PE by licensed teachers. Students in the preschool program also have field trips, special guests, and assemblies that the rest of the building participates in.

PHILOSOPHY

By utilizing the approach of a developmentally appropriate program of learning, we provide each individual the opportunity to develop physically, emotionally, socially, and intellectually as a whole person. We believe that interaction with other children in a stimulating environment is vital for success in life. It will be curiosity that stimulates the learning process. We will provide a challenging environment with a variety of opportunities for learning and encourage them to use their freedom to exercise their abilities and potential.

Observation of Rooms: The classrooms are self-contained. They have phones and direct access to the outdoors. The curriculum is Creative Curriculum. Materials were organized and child accessible. The Center appears to have an adequate amount of equipment including games and activities that appear to be of high quality. Interest centers available to the children include: blocks, children's literature, dramatic play, toys and games, puzzles and small manipulatives, art, music and movement, science and discovery, sensory tables, writing center, and computer area.

All rooms were appropriately staffed and staff were engaging with the children. Ratio was met and maintained on the visit in each room.

During the visit I observed a variety of activities. Room arrangements are neat and organized. On past visits we discussed blind spots and room arrangement. This did not appear to be an issue on the visit. The program should have one toilet and

sink for every 15 children in each room. Hand washing posters were easily observed. Storage is located in plastic crates and closets. Room lighting consists of both natural light from windows as well as adequate interior lighting. The classroom and bathroom facilities were observed to be clean.

All classrooms have new censer lighting, and a newer ventilation system. The program also has new fire alarms and an emergency lighting systems. Heating and cooling is provided by a Geo-Thermal system and is forced through ceiling vents.

The infant room moved to a larger room two years ago. The program typically has approximately 12 or fewer infants. Safe Sleep practices should be utilized in this room. We measured to ensure space requirements of 40 square feet per child are met. I observed staff supervising the infants while sleeping. We discussed staff positioning so that they could observe infants by sight and sound at all times as we have in years past.

The toddler room has an ample amount of space for toddlers to engage in a variety of gross motor activities.

Center Nutrition: Breakfast, a noon meal, and snacks are provided by the School. Breakfast and lunch are prepared in the school kitchen by school staff. Preschool students in the voluntary preschool program bring a snack each day. Snacks are prepared by daycare staff and served in the classroom. The school chooses what will be served for snack to all other classrooms but the 4 year olds. The school follows USDA guidelines.

I observed food storage practices. Dry goods were not stored appropriately. Open food was placed in a sealed container or bag. Generally expired or opened food is not an issue. Thermometers should be in each refrigerator/freezer unit. Cooling temperatures should be 40 degrees or below. Freezing temperatures should be zero degrees or below.

Meals are served family style in each classroom. Children dine at child size tables and sit in small chairs. During snack, the children are read to and they discuss books or staff sit and visit with the children. Food menus for all meals and snacks should be kept on hand.

Center Health and Safety: Staff and I reviewed prescription and non-prescription medication in accordance with licensing regulations, physician directions, and parental consent I reviewed medication policies and procedures. Medications (including sunscreen) should be stored in their original containers with physician/pharmacist directions and label intact when on the premises. I observed prescribed medication on site that did not contain the pharmacy label. One should be procured.

An ill/injured area is the preschool office area or a designated space in each classroom.

I reviewed storage and maintenance of a first aid kit. Many supplies were present to address minor trauma. The Director had the most recent first aid kit checklist. Labeled first aid kits were identifiable and easy to access in a high cabinet in each room. I discussed this with staff. The school nurse can be accessed during school hours if necessary.

I reviewed environmental testing and the maintenance of any necessary detection equipment. Radon testing is due every 2 years. The school installed a Geothermal heating and cooling system so an annual fuel burning appliance inspection is not required. A non-battery operated carbon-monoxide detector is in the preschool room. The center has outdoor air exchanges throughout the school so ventilation is adequate. The Elementary School building was built in 2013. As a result a lead paint assessment is not required. The school building is on Danville City water. As a result, a private analysis is not required.

I reviewed general regulations regarding safety policies and procedures. Storage is not an issue in the classrooms.

Lighting was appropriate at nap time. All cots were spaced at least two feet apart or more. Cribs were spaced at recommended distance which is an improvement from years past. More on this topic can be found at Caring For Our Children.

The program has a pet guinea pig in the preschool room. The cage and guinea pig were clean and the animal appeared to be healthy. The Director indicated all plants in the rooms are on the safe plant list.

Each program room should accommodate each child so that they have at least 35 square feet of usable floor space.

I reviewed emergency plans and drills for fire and tornado. Tornado and fire drills should be practiced and documented once a month. The entire program area has secure windows and reinforced walls and ceilings. The center/preschool is the safe area for the Elementary School. When tornado drills occur all elementary children are taken to this area.

Electrical outlets are child safe. Staff personal belongings were stored out of the children's reach in cabinetry.

I reviewed general regulations regarding sanitation policies and procedures. Sufficient toileting articles and hand washing supplies were observed in the restrooms.

Wipes or any other materials should not be stored on changing tables.

Staff have reviewed sanitizer/disinfectant by the Iowa Department with the of Public Health. Sanitizers and Disinfectants vary in each room. This has been addressed the past 2 years. Each classroom has a set of opening, nap time, closing and weekly cleaning tasks.

Center Playground: The center uses a newly installed outdoor play area on school grounds specifically designed for preschool age children. The area is fenced with tall chain link fence. The area is not naturally shaded. Shade is provided by the building and the storage shed. The area features large, anchored, metal/plastic climbing and activity toys. It also contains benches, basketball hoops and a swing set. The entire play area is surfaced with rubber matting. Children also use riding toys on the rubber matting surface. Riding toys are available but kept in a nearby shed.

Screws/bolts on the fence should be cut, or capped. No more than two thread bolts should be exposed. When in outdoor play each child should have a minimum of 75 square feet of usable space. The bottom of the fence is loose and gaps in between the gates and the fence should be measured.

Playground inspections should be conducted and documented on a monthly basis.

Center Transportation Arrangements/Field Trips: Teachers may decide and are encouraged to conduct short, unannounced field trips including but not limited to: walks as a class around the perimeter of the building and/or nearby neighborhoods. The center provides no transportation. Transportation for field trips is provided in school bus vehicles owned and operated by Danville School District. All children in the program have signed parental waivers to ride the regular school bus. A first aid kit is on every school bus. CPR certified staff and emergency contacts are taken on field trips.

Center Administrative Records: Redirection is used on a regular basis.

Postings, including Emergency evacuation postings and mandatory abuse reporter, no smoking postings were observed hanging in the rooms on the parent boards. The state consultant contact information were also present. Special upcoming events calendars were also posted.

Emergency evacuation maps as well as 911, Emergency and Poison Control numbers were posted. Center phone and address should be posted by the phones in each room.

Annual emergency procedures training was conducted by the Director in the fall. Staff should sign acknowledgement of such. This has been noted the past two years.

I reviewed regulations regarding required written policies provided to parents in the form of a parent handbook and staff handbook. The handbook contains limited and unlimited access policies. The Center does have a biting policy which is available in the handbook. Evacuation of immobile children is now covered in the Emergency Preparedness Plan.

The program needs to utilize the correct Volunteer Form if volunteers are utilized.

Child records and incident reports are kept in the Preschool Office. All children are required to have updated physicals and immunizations, emergency contact information, dental and medical provider information and pick up authorization information. Each child has an Allergy Action Plan that has a food or other type of allergy. Incident and injury reports are on file. LuAnn Walker, Preschool Secretary is the record keeper for child records.

Staff files are now accessible from the daycare. This is an improvement from years past and is duly noted. We reviewed required training such as Universal Precautions, CPR/First Aid, Mandatory Reporter training and professional development. Updated physicals are due at start of employment and every 3 years. I reviewed current Iowa Criminal background checks and Fingerprint results.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

The center classrooms are nicely decorated and welcoming to those who enter.

Teaching Strategies GOLD is the assessment tool used by the programs to evaluate and track each child's individual development.

The program meets a childcare need in the community.

The center may occasionally access the gym for gross motor activity.

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

1. 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. On 11/7/2019 the Director emailed me, "The staff was fingerprinted on October 31, 2019. I sent in the fingerprints on November 5, 2019." Fingerprints were rolled on 11/4/19 by Jodi Norton (CCR&R). In Process of Correction.

2. 109.7(1): All staff(within first 3 months of employment)Two hours of approved training FOR the mandatory reporting of child abuse. At least one hour of training regarding universal precautions and infectious disease control.Certification in American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Safety and Health institute or MEDIC First Aid infant, child, and adult cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) OR equivalent certification approved by the department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Certification in infant, child, and adult first aid that uses a nationally recognized curriculum or is received from a nationally recognized training organization including the American Red Cross,American Heart Association, American Safety and Health Institute or MEDIC First Aid or an equivalent certification approved by the department. A valid certificate indicating the date of training and expiration date shall be maintained.Minimum health and safety trainings, approved by the Department. If significant changes occur to content, the Department may require the training be renewed. The Director emailed me on 11/7/2019 and stated, "CPR & First aid is scheduled for November 23, 2019. We have also set a tentative date for February 2020 for any new staff that is hired."

3. 109.10(3)a: All medications shall be stored in original containers with physician or pharmacist directions. Labels should be intact and stored so they are inaccessible to children and public. Nonprescription medications shall be labeled with the child's name. Prescribed medication did not have the pharmacy label with it. The Director emailed on 11/7/2019, stating, "I contacted the parent of the child with the Epi pens on November 1. I'm still waiting for a label. I sent her an e-mail again today." In process of CORRECTION

4. 109.10(15)a: The center shall have written emergency plans and diagrams for responding to fire, tornado, flood, and plans responding to intruders within the center, intoxicated parents, and lost or abducted children .Shall have guidelines for responding or evacuating in case of blizzards, power failures, bomb threats, chemical spills, earthquakes, or other disasters that could create structural damage to the center or pose health hazards.If center is within 10 miles of nuclear power plant, center shall have evacuation plan. Emergency plans shall include written procedures including plans for- Evacuation to safely leave the facility- Relocation to a common, safe location after evacuation- Shelter in place to take immediate shelter when the current location is unsafe to leave due to the emergency issue- Lock down to protect children and providers from an external situation- Communication and reunification with parents or other adults Responsible for the children which includes emergency telephone numbers- Continuity of operations- To address the individual children, including those with functional or access needs.

The center was using a variety of different cleaners. They agreed to contact CCNC Granaman regarding appropriate cleaners for sanitizing and disinfecting. A swaddle sack was being used in the infant room. Infant room staff agreed not to continue the use of this sack the day of the visit and agreed to discuss future questions about Safe Sleep with Child Care Nurse Consultant Granaman. Food waste containers must be covered. Gaps on the fence in the outdoor play area between 3.5-9 inches could be potential entrapment hazards.

109.10(15)c: Center shall develop procedures for annual staff and volunteer training on emergency plans. A technical referral was made to CCR&R regarding the Emergency Preparedness Plan, as some items were missing on the current plan. Some information is missing on the Emergency Preparedness Plan for the center. The template for the plan is on the CCR&R website. A technical referral was made to CCR&R on this issue so consultation may be provided.

5. 109.10(16)b: Any person who does not have a record check completed shall not have unrestricted access to children for whom that person is not a parent, guardian, or custodian. School employees may not supervise children or have unrestricted access to them who does not have a completed record check. This is in the process of correction as noted above. Staff may not be pulled from the school as a childcare staff unless the person has a completed record check and required training.

6. 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. On 11/7/2019 the Director emailed, "I e-mailed Nancy G regarding the sanitizer and disinfectant. We have discontinued use of the swaddle sac in the infant room. I've looked into covered trash cans but I'm having trouble finding one large enough for our needs and one that students are able to use. When children step on the foot pedal the lid hits them in the face. The maintenance staff has been told about the fence, due to the weather it won't be able to be adjusted until the spring or summer of 2020." In process of CORRECTION.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

Based upon this review, it is recommended that this center remain in Full licensing status. The center is directed to correct the items listed in Section IV. The director gave me a verbal commitment that the noted rule violations would be promptly corrected. It is important to note, all DHS licensing standards and procedures must be maintained during the renewal period.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (641-684-3951 or jseiber@dhs.state.ia.us) so that we may discuss the issue. If necessary, I can make a notation in your record. You may also send a letter that will be included in your licensing file noting any disagreement you may have with this report. If you have the need for any additional information discussed during my visit, please contact me and I will forward the information to you. Thank you.

*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.

I encourage you to contact your local nurse consultant with IDPH. Child Care Nurse Consultants work with child care and early education businesses. Businesses may call or send questions to a child care nurse consultant about health and safety policies, health programs, health of personnel, and specific child health or safety issues. This summer the center did access CCNC Nancy Granaman (Des Moines County Child Care Nurse Consultant Iowa Department of Public Health). An Injury Prevention Checklist was completed on June 26th, with follow-up in July. A Recall notice for Inclined Sleepers was sent out to all providers on August 5: on August 19 the director had further contact with CCNC Granaman regarding this issue. On September 16 CCR&R referred the program to CCNC services regarding the use of inclined sleepers. I phoned CCNC Granaman on 11/4/19. She had not had recent contact with the center. I encouraged the Director again on 11/4/2019 to access this service regarding cleaning chemicals and swaddle sacks.

I encourage you to contact Child Care Resource and Referral. They offer centers assistance with meeting the DHS regulations, QRS, infant/toddler concerns, room arrangement and environment, developmental concerns, Best Practice information, CDA assistance, or any questions or concerns you may have. Please visit the following website to find out who your consultant is: http://www.iowaccrr.org/who_we_are/region_5

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