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

Name of Center: Science Center Of Iowa Preschool **Enrollment:** 101 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 27773

Street: 401 W MLK JR PKWY **City:** Des Moines Iowa **Zip** 50309 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 401 W MLK JR PKWY, Des Moines, IA, 50309

Director's Name: Beth Brewer **Phone Number:** 515-321-8899

On-Site Supervisor(s): Zach Riggins **E-Mail:** Beth.Brewer@sciowa.org

Date(s) of Visit: 11-07-2024

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:** 12-13-2023

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

Date Inspected: 06-12-2023

Comments :

LICENSE TYPE: **Child Care** X **Preschool (ages 3-5 meets three hours or less per day)**

Financial Type: Profit X Non-Profit NA

Accredition: Accredited X NAEYC NSACA Other NA

Program Serves: Infants (0-23 mo.) 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			120		120
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: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant **Date:** 11-18-2024

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

The Science Center of Iowa Preschool has been in operation since 2005. The preschool has it’s own entrance, which is secured. Each classroom is also locked. Beth Brewer is the director. Beth started at the preschool in August 2023. Beth has a Masters degree in Elementary Education. Zach Riggins is the assistant director. Zach has been employed at the preschool since 2016. He has a Masters degree in Elementary Education.

An unannounced visit was completed on today's date. All areas subject to HHS licensing rules were reviewed. Mandatory postings are in place at the center's entrance. The preschool has six classrooms: Curiosity, Discovery, Inquiry, Exploration, Imagination and Wonder. There is also a multipurpose classroom that is used for large motor play activities. Children's coats and backpacks are kept on hooks and cubbies in the hallway. Each classroom has a schedule and lesson plan. Classrooms are well supplied with developmentally appropriate furnishings, toys and learning supplies. Each classrooms has labeled interest centers. Children's art projects are displayed in classrooms and hallways.

Zach Riggins assisted with today's visit. Six classes were in session today. Children were observed in classrooms, in the multipurpose room and on the playground. Ratio was met or exceeded licensing requirements in all areas. Children were observed during different activities: child directed learning and play activities, large motor play, transition times and rest time.

The center serves morning snack, lunch and afternoon snack. The center has a contract with the Science Center cafeteria for meals. Menus reflect CACFP requirements are followed.

The center's playground has fencing. The center's playground is still under construction. The playground is still able to be used at this time. The center completes monthly playground checks.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This center has their NAEYC accreditation which is an achievement obtained by only a small percentage of child care programs in the nation. This is a reflection of the center's commitment in providing a quality early educational program for young children. The classrooms are well supplied with age appropriate learning materials and toys.

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

There were no licensing violations cited during today's visit.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center has a full license.

*Note: If you are the Child Care Center Director and you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (phone 515-362-7823; email melinda.larson@hhs.iowa.gov) 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.

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