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

Name of Center: Newton YMCA After School at Thomas Jefferson **Enrollment:** 11 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 51442

Street: 112 Thomas Jefferson Dr **City:** Newton Iowa **Zip** 50208 **County:** Jasper

Mailing Address: 1701 S 8th Ave E, Newton, IA, 50208

Director's Name: Serenity Bookout **Phone Number:** 641-792-7021

On-Site Supervisor(s): Diane Hagerty **E-Mail:** serenity.bookout@newtonymca.org

Date(s) of Visit: 08-28-2023

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 06-04-2023

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

Date Inspected: 03-17-2021

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: X Year-round School-Year Summer Only

HOURS:	*Year-round*	*School-Year*	*Summer Only*

LICENSE CAPACITY	Infants	2 Years	Preschool	School-Age	Capacity
General				42	42
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 08-23-2023 to 06-01-2025
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Melinda Larson, Child Care Licensing Consultant **Date:** 09-26-2023

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

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

Newton YMCA After School at Thomas Jefferson was given permission to open in August 2023. The center provides before and after school child care for children who attend this school. The center operates inside the elementary school and has it's own secured entrance. The center uses the gym, a room by the gym, the cafeteria and playground for programming space. Serenity Bookout is the director of this center. Serenity is the director of the YMCA Early Learning Center. Diane Hagerty is the on site supervisor.

An unannounced visit was completed on today's date. All areas subject to DHHS licensing rules were reviewed. Mandatory postings are in place by the entrance. A schedule/lesson plan was posted. The center has a nice supply of age appropriate games, art supplies, toys and learning supplies that are kept in their room by the gym. Children's coats and backpacks are kept in the center's room.

Diane assisted with today's visit. There were nine children present. Children were observed making an art project together. They were also observed playing large motor play games and reading in the gym. Diane assisted the children with the children throughout the visit.

The center serves snack after school. The menu is prepared from the YMCA Early Learning Center. Children that attend programming before school eat breakfast with in the school cafeteria.

The school playground is partially fenced. There is rubber tile, wood chips and blacktop for surfacing. There are some large climbing structures and basketball hoops. The center will need to complete monthly playground checks.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

This center has spacious programming space. The center is overseen by the YMCA Early Learning Center. The children are offered large motor play activities through the use of the gym and playground.

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

109.8(2)d: At least one staff shall be present in every room.Brief absence of staff person permitted for 5 or less minutes when another staff person is present.
The staff member had to leave the children in the gym without supervision to let parents in the door throughout programming. She also had to talk to a parent in the hallway during programming, leaving the children unattended for a time period. The parent had questions that required confidentiality and the staff did a good job addressing his issues but also telling the parent she needed to get back to the gym to be with the children. During that time, some children were wrestling on the gym floor and needed intervention. This shows the importance of children needing continuous supervision from staff.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The center has a full license.

The issue of the center being out of ratio at times during programming was discussed with Serenity Bookout the date of the visit. Serenity said she would have a second staff member is place at the center on 8/29/23.
The door the parents use is secured. The door is down a hallway from the gym, which is the main program room. The staff member had to unlock the door throughout programming time, leaving the children unattended. Serenity did not know the door was going to be locked. Serenity said another staff member would be at the center the following date to ensure ratio was always maintained.

*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.