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

Name of Center: Beyond the Bell-Walnut Hills Elementary **Enrollment:** 96 **License ID No. (Reapplications)** 44017

Street: 4240 NW 156th ST **City:** Urbandale Iowa **Zip** 50323 **County:** Polk

Mailing Address: 430 Ashworth DR, Waukee, IA, 50263

Director's Name: Andrea Wilmes and Rich Miller **Phone Number:** 515-987-5161

On-Site Supervisor(s): Jacob Harder **E-Mail:** awilmes@waukeeschools.org

Date(s) of Visit: 11-26-2024

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

LICENSING VISITS

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

Signed Application (470-0722) Received X **Yes** **No** **NA** **Date Signed:** 11-05-2024

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

Date Inspected: 02-13-2024

Comments : State Fire Marshal inspections are due at least every three years.

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	0	0	0	262	262
Summer					0

QRS Rating: N/A

RECOMMENDATION FOR LICENSE:	
X	**FULL** license from 01-01-2025 to 01-01-2027
	PROVISIONAL license from
	DENIAL of initial application
	SUSPENSION of license
	REVOCATION of license

Licensing Consultant: Nate Knepper **Date:** 11-26-2024

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

N/A.

II. IDENTIFY THE AREAS OBSERVED ON THE VISIT:

A licensing visit was conducted on 11/26/24. The on-site supervisor was present for this visit.

All areas of the program were observed. These areas observed consisted of classroom observations and activities, ratios, nutritional practices, health and safety practices, playground observation, field trip and transportation practices, and administrative review.

Beyond the Bell - Walnut Hills Elementary is a school-age program located within the Walnut Hills Elementary School in Urbandale, IA. The center uses the cafeteria, gym, and outdoor playground area. The program was previously supervised by the Department of Education and was given permission to open under HHH (formerly known as DHS) licensing/supervision on 9/2/14. During the school year, children who attend this school attend this Beyond the Bell program. However, during summer months, there is open enrollment. Hours are 6:30am - 6:00pm during the summer months and no-school days. During the school year, children attend 6:30am - 8:40am and/or 3:40pm - 6:00pm. Every other Wednesday is an early out school day. The program is one of several Beyond the Bell programs and they all use a similar learning curriculum based off of other learning curriculums.

All Beyond the Bell programs are overseen by a Board. The directors of this program and the other Beyond the Bell programs are Andrea Wilmes and Rich Miller. Andrea is also the director of the three Wee Care centers in Waukee. Both individuals meet the requirements for director. The on-site supervisor at this location is Jacob Harder as of 11/2022. Jacob has an AA degree as well as past experience working in child care.

During the visit, all children were in the cafeteria and spread out at several tables. Staff were also spread out and sitting at the tables with children. Children were observed doing some art projects and visiting with each other.

III. IDENTIFY THE OBSERVED STRENGTHS OF THE CENTER:

Staff use walkie-talkies to communicate with each other throughout the center.

A good system is in place for gathering attendance when school dismisses and children go to the program.

All of the Beyond the Bell programs have information posted online through the Waukee School District Website.

Staff photos are posted by one of the main parent boards.

Monthly staff meetings are held. Directors from this program meet with other western-suburb, school-age programs quarterly for meetings. On-site supervisors of the all the BTB programs also meet monthly.

Staff from BTB are interchangeable between sites as needed.

The program has a good working relationship with other school personnel.

The on-site supervisor is organized with daily activities, inspections, paperwork, etc.

All of the BTB programs have assistant on-site supervisors in addition to on-site supervisors.

Staff work well together. There is a good mix of tenured and new staff.

Enrollment remains steady.

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

109.9(1)b: All files contain: A signed copy of DHS criminal history record check or any other permission form approved by the Department of public Safety for conducting an Iowa or national criminal history check. A copy of Request for Child Abuse Information. Copies of the results of Iowa records checks conducted. Copies of national criminal history check results. Any Department-issued documents sent to the center related to records check.
Number not in compliance: 1 staff file was missing the fingerprint results in their file.

V. SPECIAL NOTES/RECOMMENDATIONS:

The program is exempt from environmental testing as they are located in a school building and only serve school-age children.

The center goes on field trips and will contract with the school to take a school bus for transportation. The center will also bring in different agencies for presentations to children.

I - Power was discussed at the visit. All staff should have I - Power profiles and be uploading professional development training certificates.

As mentioned at last year's visit, it is recommended that parents list at least one emergency contact for their child other than themselves.

The program uses Ridgeworks for permission for such things as field trips, photos, and acknowledgement of children having physicals and immunizations on file with the school.

One staff member has roughly one month to pick up six professional development hours.

A new, full, two-year license is recommended.

*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.