



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF  
LIFELONG EDUCATION, ADVANCEMENT, AND POTENTIAL  
LANSING

DR BEVERLY WALKER  
GRIFFEA  
DIRECTOR

8/15/2024

Sarah Brooks  
S&S Family Childcare Center, LLC  
205 Nugent Road,  
Bad Axe, MI, 48413

License Number: DC320409514  
Special Investigation Number: SI-00123570

Dear Ms. Brooks,

I conducted a special investigation because the child care licensing division received a complaint against your facility that related to licensing rules or law. The allegations were related to the following:

Rule/Law Number	Rule Description
R 400.8125(1)	All staff and volunteers shall provide appropriate care and supervision of children at all times.

The details of the allegations are in the attached report. To investigate the allegations:

- I interviewed: the complainant, the program director, and child care staff members.
- I completed on-site inspections on the following dates May 28, 2024:

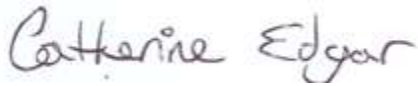
As a result of this investigation, I recommend no change to the current license status. I did not find any violations. The special investigation report is attached.

During this special investigation:	Yes	No
A rule or law violation was found and a serious injury or death occurred.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A rule or law violation was found and abuse and/or neglect of a child occurred.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

This report and any related corrective action plans must be filed in your licensing notebook. This report and any related corrective action plans will be online for parents to review under the [Statewide Search for Licensed Child Care Centers and Homes](#).

Please review this report for accuracy and contact your consultant, Catherine Edgar at (810) 931-1380 or [edgarc1@michigan.gov](mailto:edgarc1@michigan.gov). In the event that Catherine Edgar is not available and you need to speak to someone immediately, please contact the Child Care Licensing Bureau at 517-284-9730.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Catherine Edgar".

Catherine Edgar, Licensing Consultant

Enclosure

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF  
LIFELONG EDUCATION, ADVANCEMENT, AND POTENTIAL  
CHILD CARE LICENSING**

**Report Type:** Special Investigation Report

**Date of Report:** 8/13/2024

<b>Special Investigation Number</b>	<b>Complaint/Incident Receipt Date</b>
SI-00123570	05/24/2024
<b>Investigation Initiation Date</b>	<b>Report Due Date</b>
5/29/2024	07/23/2024
<b>License Number</b>	<b>Licensee Name(s)</b>
DC320409514	S&S Family Childcare Center, LLC
<b>Facility Name</b>	<b>Licensee Designee(s)</b>
S&S Family Childcare Center, LLC	Sarah Ruth Brooks Serrenna M Sengstock
<b>Program Type</b>	<b>Central Administrator(s)</b>
Center	
<b>Capacity</b>	<b>Program Director(s) Name</b>
158	
<b>Facility Address</b>	<b>Mailing Address</b>
309 Outer Dr, Bad Axe, MI, 48413	205 Nugent Road, Bad Axe, MI, 48413
<b>Facility Phone Number</b>	<b>Facility Email Address</b>
9892698600	ssfamlycc.sbrooms@outlook.com
<b>Original License Issuance Date</b>	<b>License Status:</b>
9/14/2021	Regular
<b>License Effective Date:</b>	<b>License Expiration Date:</b>
6/20/2023	6/19/2025

**ALLEGATION(S)**

	<b>Violation Established?</b>
A child exited the playground gate and was on the sidewalk.	No

**METHODOLOGY**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
5/29/2024	Special Investigation Case Created SI-00123570
5/24/2024	Special Investigation Initiated via Letter

	E-mail received from the facilities current licensing consultant Erin Kidd providing additional information.
5/28/2024	Contact – Phone Call Made Message left for complainant.
5/28/2024	Inspection Completed On-Site Unannounced onsite inspection. I interviewed program director Sarah Brooks and child care staff members 1 and 2. I also observed the playground areas.
5/28/2024	Contact – Phone Call Received Message from program director Sarah Brooks
5/29/2024	Contact – Phone Call Received I spoke again with program director Sarah Brooks.
5/29/2024	Contact – Document Received I received a video of the incident with Child A.
5/29/2024	Contact – Phone Call Made Attempted contact with Sarah Brooks. no answer and it would not allow me to leave a message.
6/25/2024	Contact – Document Received Received written statements from 3 CCSMs.
7/2/2024	Exit Conference E-mail sent to licensee designee Sarah Brooks.

**ALLEGATION:** A child exited the playground gate and was on the sidewalk.

**INVESTIGATION:**

On May 28, 2024, I made an unannounced onsite inspection to the child care center and interviewed program director Sarah Brooks. She was not aware of any incident where a child was unattended. She confirmed that the center has cameras inside as well as outside the building. Because I did not have a date or time, that this occurred, we could not review the video. Ms. Brooks showed me the playground areas. There is a small, fenced playground for younger children that is directly off of the building. This playground is surrounded by the building on two sides and there is a sidewalk on the other side of the fence on the other two sides of this playground. The older children play in the larger playground area beyond the fenced playground. This play area is not fenced. While at the center, I interviewed two child care staff members (CCSMs) that had been present the previous week. CCSM1 did not recall a child being unattended

while outside. CCSM2 also did not recall a child being unattended. She confirmed that only the Toddler and Wobbler classrooms use the smaller, fenced playground area. The preschool and school-agers use the large, unfenced playground. While at the center, I did not observe any traffic in the parking lot that is after the sidewalk when exiting from the smaller playground. Ms. Brooks said that the school does not use this parking lot and uses the parking lot on the other side of the building.

I again spoke with Sarah Brooks on May 29, 2024. She said that after I left, she spoke with additional staff. Staff in the Wobbler Room, who told her that Child A (male, age 2) did in fact open the gate leading from the playground to the parking lot. Child A never left the gate area, so they did not consider Child A being unattended at any time. Ms. Brooks told me that a memo has gone out and that she had discussed with each classroom that if for some reason the O rings that are used to lock the gates, are missing, they are to immediately report this to the office. Because the public sometimes uses this playground, the O rings will occasionally disappear. Since Ms. Brooks was able to determine the date that this happened, she was able to review the playground camera footage for that time.

On May 29, 2024, Ms. Brooks provided me with two videos to watch. One video shows the Toddler/Wobbler playground from near the exit doors, and looking out towards the gate near the sidewalk and parking lot. The other video is from near the main door of the building where you can only see a small portion of the play area, but the gate area is in full view. The first video is approximately one and a half minutes in length. You can only see half of the playground area in this video. You see two CCSMs walk by the front gate on the sidewalk with approximately eight preschool-age children. Child A goes to the gate to watch them walk by. Child A unlatches and opens the gate, and takes a step outside of the gate, while still holding on to the gate. He immediately turns and runs back on the playground, towards the door to the building, as a caregiver walks over to him. From the time Child A unlatches the gate until he runs back towards the door is approximately 12 seconds. While there is no sound with the video, it appears that the CCSM verbally addressed Child A when he unlatched the gate, as he immediately runs back towards the building. In the second video, you can see Child A at the gate and then opening the gate. Because this video is from a side angle, you can see that Child A actually never even stepped out on the sidewalk. He remained on the cement area at the gate for a few seconds after opening the gate, before running back towards the door to the building.

On May 29, 2024, I also heard back from the complainant. She confirmed that the incident she witnessed with Child A took place on May 23, 2024, around 4:07pm. She estimated the entire incident lasted approximately one minute and that there were at least two caregivers on the Toddler and Wobbler playground at the time of the incident.

On June 25, 2024, I received written statements from the three CCSMs that were on the Wobbler playground when Child A opened the gate. CCSM3 confirmed that she was on the playground with CCSM4 and CCSM5 when she saw Child A open the gate. She called his name and ran over to him and then asked CCSM5 to get a lock for the gate.

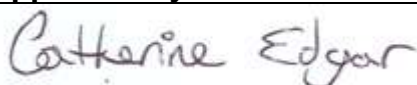

CCSM4 and CCSM5 both verified that they were on the Wobbler playground with CCSM3 when Child A opened the gate.

**RULE/STATUTORY VIOLATIONS:**

APPLICABLE RULES	
R 400.8125(1)	All staff and volunteers shall provide appropriate care and supervision of children at all times.
ANALYSIS:	Child A was not unsupervised when he opened the playground gate on May 24, 2024.
CONCLUSION:	<b>Violation Not Established</b>

**BUREAU RECOMMENDATION**

Bureau Recommendation
I recommend no change in the status of the license.

Approved By:			
	8/13/2024		
Catherine Edgar Consultant	Date	Crecendra Boone Area Manager	08/15/2024 Date