



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

ORLENE HAWKS
DIRECTOR

November 9, 2022

Kyle Talicska
Chippewa Hills School District
3226 Arthur Road
Remus, MI 49340

RE: License #: DC370399669
Investigation #: 2023D0012003
Weidman Little Warriors

Dear Mr. Talicska:

I conducted a special investigation because the child care licensing division received information regarding your facility that related to licensing rules or law. The information was related to the following:

R 400.8125(1) Staff; volunteer; requirements

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

- I interviewed: the person who made the complaint, program director, child care staff members, and parents
- I completed on-site inspections on the following dates: 10/28/2022.

As a result of this investigation, I found the following violation(s):

R 400.8125(1) Staff; volunteer; requirements

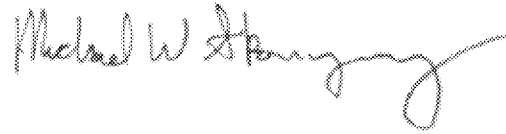
I recommend no change to the current license status.

The special investigation report is attached. Due to the violation(s) identified in the report, a written corrective action plan was required. On 10/28/2022, you submitted an acceptable written corrective action plan.

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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael W. Skonieczny". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Michael Skonieczny, Licensing Consultant
Child Care Licensing Bureau
611 W. Ottawa
PO Box 30664
Lansing, MI 48909
(989) 289-8572

enclosure

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS
BUREAU OF COMMUNITY AND HEALTH SYSTEMS
SPECIAL INVESTIGATION REPORT**

I. IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

License #:	DC370399669
Investigation #:	2023D0012003
Complaint Receipt Date:	10/21/2022
Investigation Initiation Date:	10/21/2022
Report Due Date:	12/20/2022
Licensee Name:	Chippewa Hills School District
Licensee Address:	3226 Arthur Road Remus, MI 49340
Licensee Telephone #:	(989) 967-8230
Administrator:	Kyle Talicska, Designee
Licensee Designee:	Kyle Talicska, Designee
Name of Facility:	Weidman Little Warriors
Facility Address:	331 N. School Road Weidman, MI 48893
Facility Telephone #:	(989) 644-3430
Original Issuance Date:	08/26/2019
License Status:	REGULAR
Effective Date:	05/23/2022
Expiration Date:	11/22/2022
Capacity:	49
Program Type:	CHILD CARE CENTER

II. ALLEGATION(S)

	Violation Established?
Child A (2.5-year-old male) was left outside on the playground alone for several minutes.	Yes

III. METHODOLOGY

10/21/2022	Special Investigation Intake - 2023D0012003
10/21/2022	Special Investigation Initiated – Telephone with Program Director Brenda Kowallic
10/25/2022	Contact - Telephone call made to Child A's mother. A voicemail was left
10/26/2022	Contact - Telephone call received from Child A's mother
10/28/2022	Inspection Completed On-site from 10:20–11:45AM Brenda Kowallic and Amanda McCarthy are interviewed
10/28/2022	Exit Conference with Ms. Kowallic onsite

ALLEGATION: Child A (2.5-year-old male) was left outside on the playground alone for several minutes.

INVESTIGATION: On 10/21/2022 I spoke with Program Director Brenda Kowallic on the telephone. Child A was inadvertently left by himself out on the fenced in playground for approximately five minutes. Child A's mother has been contacted.

On 10/25/2022 I called Child A's mother and left a voicemail requesting a return call.

On 10/26/2022 I spoke with Child A's mother on the telephone. She is aware of the incident that occurred involving Child A being left alone outside after Ms. Kowallic contacted her. She feels Child A is safe at the child care center and thinks it was an honest oversight by the staff. Child A enjoys being part of the program and likes the staff a great deal. She has no concerns about the care Child A receives while at the center program.

On 10/28/2022 I conducted an onsite inspection. Ms. Kowallic was interviewed about the incident. There were 10 children and two staff members on the playground on the day of the incident. They are normally outside between noon and 12:40PM. Around 12:20PM, Ms. Kowallic took a child inside to change their clothes because the child had an accident. Soon after that, it began to lightly rain so child care staff member Amanda McCarthy had the rest of the children line up and brought them

inside. Once inside Ms. Kowallic began assisting another child in the bathroom. A couple of minutes later, another school staff member knocked on the door and had Child A with her. Ms. Kowallic acknowledged she did not communicate appropriately with Ms. McCarthy in terms of how many children she was leaving her with, and she did not count the children when they came inside to ensure that they had everyone safely back inside. Since the incident, Ms. Kowallic has begun posting the number of children in care next to the door. Both Ms. Kowallic and Ms. McCarthy also have a post it notes stuck to their name tags with the number of children present. Ms. Kowallic spoke to Child A's mother who did not seem upset and understood that it was an error that would be corrected and not repeated.

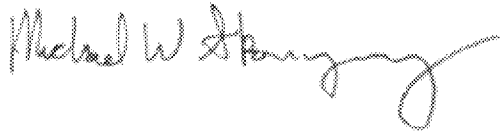
I then spoke with Ms. McCarthy. After Ms. Kowallic went inside, it began to lightly rain, and she lined up the children to take them inside. She counted twice and got the same number twice. She scanned the playground and then counted again. All three times she counted eight children. Ms. McCarthy did not realize that she was supposed to have nine children. She got to the classroom and Ms. Kowallic began helping another child in the bathroom. At that time, the school staff member knocked on the door and advised Child A was outside alone. The incident should not have happened and was the result of poor communication and not paying attention to the number of children she was supposed to have. She and Ms. Kowallic have taken steps to improve in these areas, so the incident is not repeated.

I conducted an exit conference with Ms. Kowallic while onsite.

APPLICABLE RULE	
R 400.8125	Staff; volunteer; requirements.
	(1) All staff and volunteers shall provide appropriate care and supervision of children at all times.
ANALYSIS:	The licensee failed to ensure that child care staff members provided appropriate care and supervision to children at all times when Child A was left outside unsupervised.
CONCLUSION:	VIOLATION ESTABLISHED

IV. RECOMMENDATION

An acceptable corrective action plan has been received; therefore I recommend no change in the status of this child care license.



11/09/2022

Michael Skonieczny
Licensing Consultant

Date

Approved By:



11/09/2022

Rose A. Rafferty
Area Manager

Date