



### **Inspection Findings:**

An unannounced visit was conducted to KinderCare West on 7/23/2014 and again on 7/25/2014. Assistant director Ashely Hurley was present both days. Director Sara Schwerin was present on 7/25/2014. The following is based upon a face-to-face interview with school-age room lead staff Brie Y, a face-to-face interview with assistant director Ms. Hurley, a face-to-face interview with director Ms. Schwerin, face-to-face interviews with staff in each classroom, and a telephone interview with the complainant

109.8(2). Ratio is maintained as required by Iowa Code Chapter 109. COMPLAINT IS VALID. RULE WAS VIOLATED.

Ms. Schwerin reported the week of 7/7/2014, she was scheduled to be on vacation. She stated the week of 7/14/2014 she was gone to an annual national KinderCare convention/training for directors. Ms. Schwerin reported the week of 7/7/2014 she came and went from the center several times to ensure things were running smoothly. Ms. Schwerin reported she did bring her own children with her a few times while checking on the center. Ms. Schwerin reported her children would sit in her office while she was on-site. Ms. Schwerin also talked about taking lunch breaks, mentoring the new director at the other Cedar Rapids KinderCare, and having a director's meeting in Iowa City this week on 7/23/2014. Ms. Schwerin discussed how she communicates her schedule to families and staff so she is not sure why someone would be confused as to her whereabouts.

Ms. Schwerin and Ms. Hurley denied knowing about any child on-site who comes "smelling of pee" and has sores on his/her legs. Ms. Schwerin and Ms. Hurley both talked about how they are mandatory reporters, and that they would report this to human services if something like this was happening.

Brie Y reported being the lead teacher in the school-age room. Brie Y talked about how several of the children have difficult behaviors, and as a result, she struggles throughout the day. Brie Y discussed how there is a child in her classroom with special needs that requires a lot of one-on-one attention that she struggles to give him/her. Brie Y reported staff and/or management does not routinely come into her classroom to assist. Ms. Schwerin reported there is a child with special needs in the school-age classroom. Ms. Schwerin reported when he/she first started attending the center, he/she did pull hair but that he/she does not do this any longer. Ms. Schwerin reported incident reports were/are done when this happens. Ms. Schwerin reported KinderCare has an inclusion specialist which provides ideas and feedback about ensuring all enrolled children succeed in their program. Ms. Schwerin stated the daily school-age enrollment has averaged about 10 school-age children each day. Ms. Schwerin reported the most children in the school-age room as been 15 and has only happened 3 days this summer. Ms. Hurley reported she, Ms. Schwerin, and/or other extra/floater staff do assist in the school-age room as needed. Ms. Schwerin reported Brie Y is supposed to be asking for another staff's assistance if she needs it including when/if a school-age child needs restroom assistance leaving the rest of the children are going to be in the classroom unattended.

Ms. Schwerin talked about transporting a pregnant staff who they thought she was in labor in her car to the hospital. Ms. Schwerin stated the staff was vomiting so she asked another staff from the toddler room to come with them. Ms. Schwerin reported the toddler room was out of ratio for about 30 minutes during nap time that day. Ms. Schwerin stated 2 staff were asked to come back to the center early from break to help. Ms. Schwerin reported it was an emergency situation and denied this was part of the program's daily practice.

Ms. Schwerin reported some unexpected staff changes that happened during the time of her scheduled vacation and annual director's training meeting. Ms. Schwerin talked about how she is actively, currently hiring for 2 staff positions. Ms. Schwerin discussed how some staff were upset about the staff changes which may have resulted in complaints. Ms. Hurley talked about being a new assistant director and stated it was her first experience trying to ensure all rooms were in ratio. Ms. Hurley stated she gave staff shorter breaks and used the center cook to assist in classrooms when needed. Ms. Schwerin and Ms. Hurley talked about how the infant room was out of ratio about 1 hour each day the week of 7/14/2014. Ms. Schwerin reported this is no longer happening.

109.10(16). All assigned staff shall provide careful supervision. COMPLAINT IS NOT VALID. RULE WAS NOT VIOLATED. Brie Y reported she got a telephone call from a school-age child's parent one night last week. Brie Y talked about how that parent reported his/her child was looking at a pornographic website on the home computer that he/she reported hearing about at daycare from another school-age child. Brie Y denied hearing any of the school-age children talking about pornographic websites. Brie Y stated if she had heard something like this she would have redirected the children, told management, and completed an incident report. Brie Y talked about how school-age children have been allowed to bring electronic devices to daycare on occasion. Brie Y reported yesterday a child (also a sibling to the child that allegedly told the other child to look up a pornographic website) told her that when he/she turned on his/her electronic device, a pornographic website came open which he/she deleted. Brie Y reported taking the child's electronic device and looking at it. Brie Y denied finding any such website or game as the child described. Ms. Schwerin and Ms. Hurley denied that the center has open Wi-Fi which can be accessed without a security code. Ms. Schwerin reported the KinderCare company now as a policy in place that no outside electronic devices are to be brought on-site and played.

**Special Notes and Action Required:**

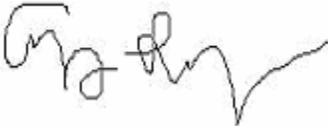
Based upon the above, no further response is requested.

If you feel something is unclear or unjustly cited, please contact me (phone 319-892-6827; email [alyons@dhs.state.ia.us](mailto:alyons@dhs.state.ia.us) <<mailto:alyons@dhs.state.ia.us>>) 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 I have failed to provide for you any information discussed during my visit, please contact me and I will forward the information to you. Thank you.

**Consultant's Signature:**

**Date:**

07/30/2014

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alyons', written over a light gray rectangular background.