

Regular meeting set for 6:30 p.m.

By RACHEL COLEMAN • Leader & Times Jobs in the Liberal school district – new and old — take up considerable space on the agenda of tonight’s Liberal USD 480 School Board regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. The board has been asked to approve using the services of the Kansas Association of School Boards in seeking a new Superintendent of Schools. The “search service” by KASB provides help in recruiting, screening and matching applicants for the position soon to be vacated by current Superintendent of Schools Lance Stout. The KASB service, which recommends but has no deciding power in the district’s ultimate selection, costs \$6,000.

The board will also vote on approval of various lists of rehires in the district. Among the classified employees, 430 are recommended for rehire; a similar list for administrators totals 34; and 342 teachers are listed for rehiring, bringing the district total of rehired employees to 806.

Two rehired employees may be getting promotions tonight, as the board has received recommendations to fill opening positions with applicants currently in the district. Liberal High School Instructional Coach Ashley Kappelman has been selected as an assistant principal at LHS. Traci Mettlen, currently the assistant principal at Washington Elementary School, has been selected to take on the job of principal. Both positions must be approved by the board.

Deputy superintendent of schools Paul Larkin will present a report on his ongoing recruiting efforts at various college job fairs in Kansas and nearby states.

Changes to the district’s student handbooks are up for approval tonight. In addition to routine updates, the LHS handbook changes include a clause that would apply to the school’s prom policy when exceptions might be appropriate.

Other business on the agenda tonight includes approval of various trips for students and staff, including travel to the regional and state track meets. Several conferences, including the National Conference on School Discipline, to be held in Las Vegas, also appear on the list.

A complete online agenda, along with various reports from directors, is available online at www.usd480.net.