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USD 480 Supt. Stout Resigns

Superintendent Dr. Lance Stout tendered his resignation from USD 480 effective June 30 in a special board of education meeting held at Central Office at noon on Thursday. Dr. Stout has accepted a position as the Deputy Superintendent of Schools in Independence, Missouri.

Dr. Stout has served 21 years in the USD 480 public school system. During his time in USD 480 he taught biology at South Middle School for six years and spent the remaining 15 years working as an administrator in the school district. Dr. Stout indicated that USD 480 would always have a special place in his heart. “My wife and I came to Liberal right out of college and we began our teaching careers here and we began raising our family here. It is a very special place and I am honored to have spent 21 excellent years in this wonderful community.”

Dr. Stout said that leaving Southwest Kansas will be difficult. “I have been in Southwest Kansas all of my life except for 5 years that I attended college in Norman, Oklahoma. Leaving here is not easy. I love the cool evenings, the beautiful sunsets, the four seasons and especially the people. This has been a very difficult decision for me and my family due in large part to Liberal being such a wonderful place to call home.”

Dr. Stout will begin work in Independence, Missouri on July 1. Independence is a community of 115,000 and nearly 15, 000 students attend schools in their school district. It is located 10 miles east of Kansas City. “Working in a much larger school district is intriguing. I am very excited about this opportunity and look forward to growing professionally as I transition into this new position.” Dr. Stout indicated that his wife, Jill, and their middle son, Blake, will remain in Liberal for another year so Blake can graduate from Liberal High School as a Liberal Redskin. “Allowing Blake to finish his high school career as a Redskin is important to all of us.” Trey, the Stout’s youngest son, will travel to Independence with his father to begin his high school career there.

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