

‘We’ve got a lot of options’

By RACHEL COLEMAN

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A bond issue election scheduled for April 8 will present Seward County residents with the choice to fund construction projects for overcrowded, ever-expanding USD 480 schools.

The projects, designed by consensus with citizen input, include five new buildings, four which would be constructed on new sites. One, a replacement project for the current MacArthur Elementary School, would be constructed next to the existing school on property the district already owns.

What about the other proposed schools? New middle school buildings are proposed on the northwest quadrant and southeast quadrant of Liberal. Two entirely new kindergarten-through-fifth-grade elementary schools are also proposed for construction east of Kansas Ave. At this stage, no firm plans have been made about exact locations.

“There’s a lot of discussion going on right now,” said USD 480 superintendent of schools Paul Larkin. “We’ve had a couple board of education executive sessions and we’re discussing property purchases.”

