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Press Release

City and Borough of Juneau Applauds the University of Alaska's Decision to Consolidate the UA School of Education at the University of Alaska Southeast.

For Immediate Release –
December 14, 2016 – 2:45 p.m.

The City and Borough of Juneau today applauded the University of Alaska, for the Board of Regents' unanimous vote to consolidate the School of Education at the University of Alaska Southeast.

"I'm extremely pleased that the University made this important decision," said Mayor Ken Koelsch. "A strong, vibrant University is critical to Juneau's long term economic viability, a fact called out in the Juneau Economic Plan. The University provides us with local workforce training, is a center for academic and cultural exploration, and is a key factor in attracting and retaining new business development in Juneau."

Mayor Koelsch went on to add a personal observation, "I can speak from personal experience about the quality of UAS School of Education graduates. As a former Juneau educator, I had many opportunities to work with graduate students going through the program. The program produces innovative, passionate teachers who are critical to the long term success of our statewide education program."

"Today's vote keeps UAS a strong, comprehensive university. That's essential for Southeast Alaska and the capital city. And having the most innovative, successful, passionate School of Education take the lead training Alaska's teachers makes sense for all Alaskans," said Assembly Member Jesse Kiehl who serves as the Assembly's liaison to the UAS campus council.

The CBJ Assembly is committed to working with UAS to assure that the community continues to benefit from a strong and vibrant local university. To that end, the CBJ Assembly has the goal of working with the Juneau Community Foundation and the Juneau community to secure \$1 million dollars in funding to establish an endowment to help ensure the ongoing success of the School of Education centered at the University of Alaska Southeast.

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For additional information, please contact Rorie Watt, City Manager at 586-5240