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Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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State Board Approves UAS Superintendent Program

JUNEAU – The State Board of Education & Early Development, meeting by teleconference on July 30, approved a superintendent endorsement program at the University of Alaska Southeast. The program will be offered online across the state. It will be the state's only operating superintendent endorsement program.

Alaska regulations do not require school district superintendents to have a superintendent endorsement on their administrator's certificate. However, an endorsement program allows current and aspiring superintendents to study the elements of educational finance; district operations; use of technology; district governance; program planning, implementation, and evaluation; and communication with constituencies; and to participate in a leadership internship.

The State Board also approved regulations to implement a \$5 million legislative appropriation to fund the improvement of Internet speed in public schools. The goal is to allow schools to participate in interactive videoconferencing, such as for courses under the new Digital Teaching Initiative. Under the initiative, schools will deliver high-quality interactive distance courses to middle and high school students, helping to prepare them for the Alaska Performance Scholarship and postsecondary education.

For more information on the UAS program, contact Dr. Martin Laster at 907-796-6087 or mlaster@uas.alaska.edu.

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