

Welcome to 2025 Leadership Convention

This session will begin soon



2G - What if your PTA could influence school spending on students without another fundraiser?

Marcus Chen, School LAND Trust Program Administration

Jessie Stuart, Assistant Director of the Land Trusts Protection & Advocacy Office

Marla Kennedy, Director of Communications and Governmental Affairs



Utah's School and Institutional **TRUST SYSTEM**

If you knew about a
program that...



Utah's School and Institutional TRUST SYSTEM

Land was put in Trust for the support of 12 public institutions known as Trust Beneficiaries—primarily public education.

The Trust System is responsible for ensuring the continued growth and integrity of these trusts for the benefit of Utah's schoolchildren and other public purposes.



Land Management



Fund Investment



Fund Distribution



Protection & Advocacy



From Grassroots to Statewide Impact

PARTNERS IN ADVOCACY

How PTA Has Made the Difference

- In 1989, Utah PTA member Sandra Skossen passed a resolution to review school trust lands and their revenue potential for schools.

Utah PTA and others worked for legislation that ultimately resulted in:

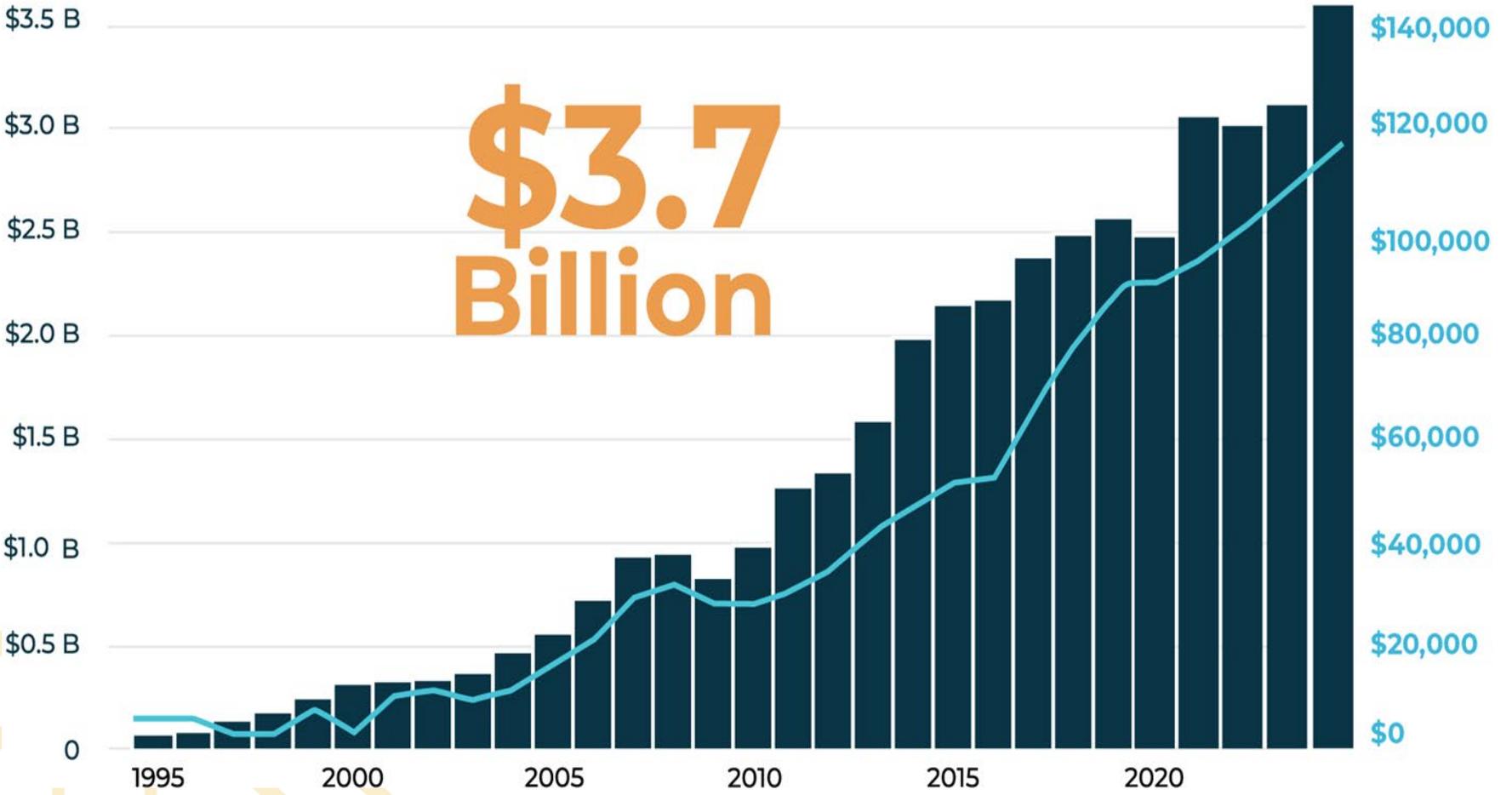
- School & Institutional Trust Lands Administration (1994)
- School Children's Trust at USBE (1999)
- School & Institutional Trust Funds Office (2014)
- Land Trusts Protection & Advocacy Office (2018)
- Passage of Amendment B (2024)



Since 1994 the Permanent Trust Funds Have Grown

Total Balance (Billions)

Total Distributions (Millions)



LAND TRUST FUNDING AT YOUR SCHOOL

2005 vs 2025

What's the difference?





TRUST LANDS ADMINISTRATION

SUPPORTING UTAH SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS



WHAT ARE TRUST LANDS?

HOW TRUST LANDS BEGAN

Before the United States had a constitution, elected officials at the time advocated for a public education system on equal footing for all

The Land Ordinance of 1785 assured that new states would receive lands “for the maintenance of public schools”

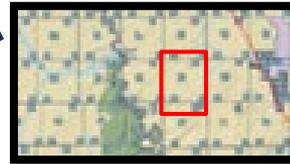
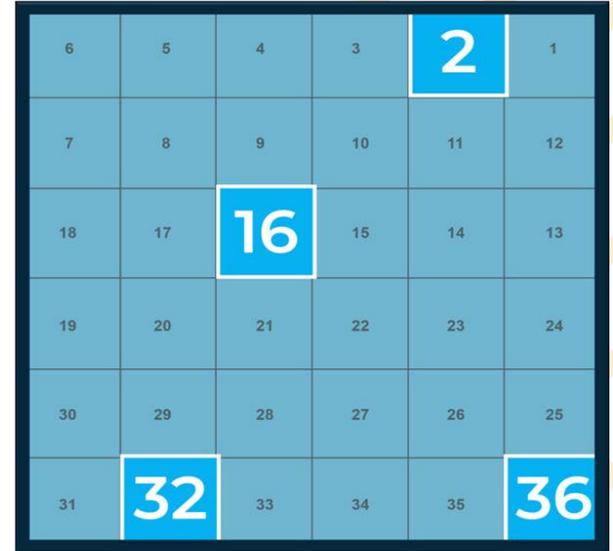
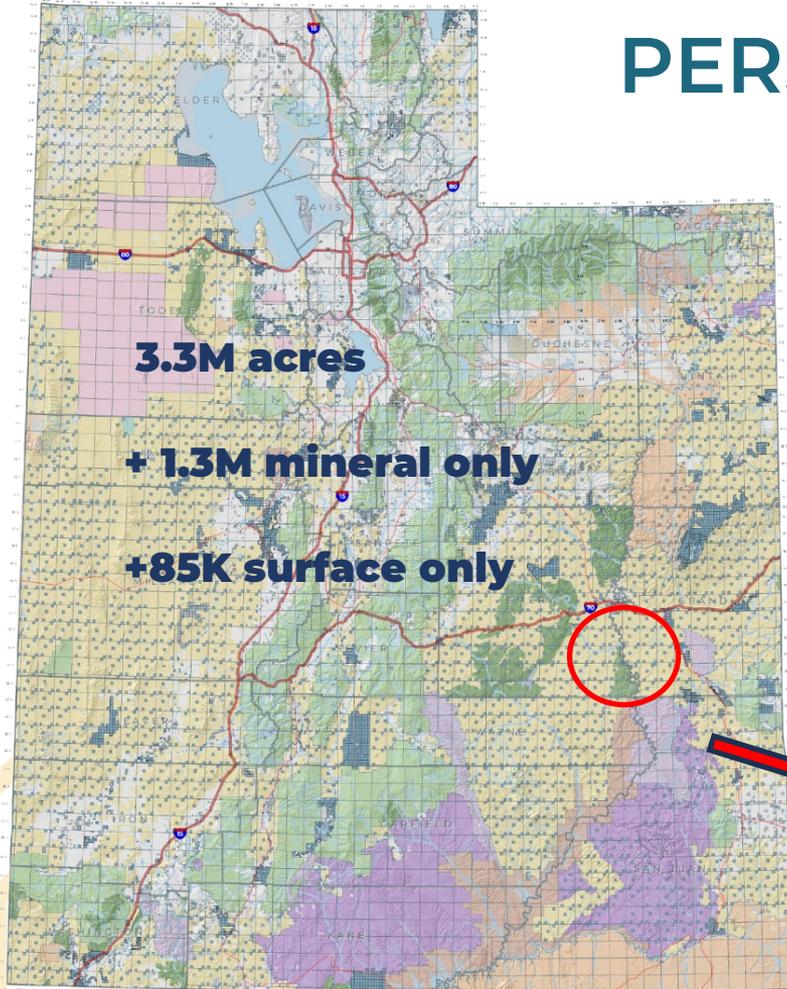
WHAT ARE TRUST LANDS PARCELS?

ENABLING ACT LAND GRANTS

Utah received sections
2, 16, 32, and 36 in each
6 x 6 square mile town-
ship for Utah's public
schools & eleven other
specific beneficiaries

6	5	4	3	2	1
7	8	9	10	11	12
18	17	16	15	14	13
19	20	21	22	23	24
30	29	28	27	26	25
31	32	33	34	35	36

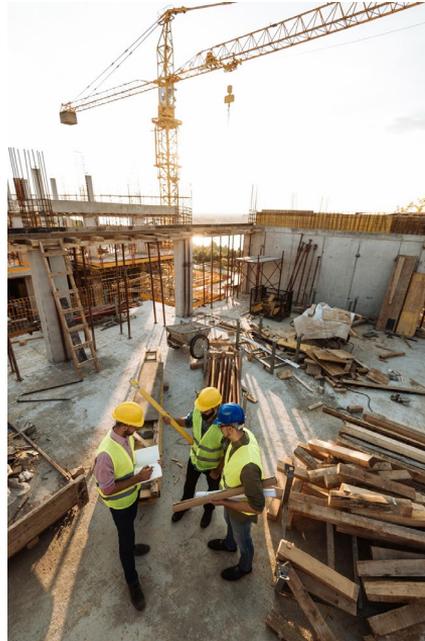
PERSPECTIVE



HOW WE MAKE MONEY



SURFACE USE



**REAL ESTATE
DEVELOPMENT**



**ENERGY &
MINERALS**





Utah State
Board of
Education

School
LAND
Trust

School LAND Trust

Created in 1999, The School Children's Trust at the Utah State Board of Education administers trust disbursements to K-12 schools through the **School LAND Trust Program** and provides training to charter and **school community councils.**



96% OF ALL TRUST LANDS REVENUE
GOES TO UTAH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Year 2024 – 2025 | \$106 Million
\$1.2 B since 1994



What are School Community Councils or Charter Trust Land Councils?



- **Collaborate** and make evidence-based decisions
- **Appointed by code and rule** (53G-7-1202, 53G-7-1203, R277-477, and R277-491)
- **Advise and make recommendations** to the LEA School Board
- **Create a School LAND Trust Plan** that supports the academic priorities of the district, the Teacher and Student Success Plan, and the needs of students at the school



Aren't they the same?

Utah PTA

- Advocate for every child's potential.
- Engage families and communities in education.
- Support schools and enrich student experiences.

Councils

- Plan for school improvement in critical academic areas
- Student-focused initiatives.
- Advise on school policy and use of School LAND Trust funds to support high quality instruction



Why is PTA and SCC collaboration important?

- Parent voice and input on school specific issues
- Communication and collaboration around major supports.
- Using the PTAs school enrichment focus to support the academic success focus of SCC's



How Do We Facilitate Collaboration between PTAs and SCC's?



Boost Parent Involvement

- Learn about your school's School LAND Trust plan
[SLT Public Reports Link](#)
- Attend an SCC meeting
Open and Public Meetings
- Join your SCC
Elections typically held in Fall
- Appoint PTA representative on SCC council





Home / LEAs

All LEAs

District LEA 

LEA

[Alpine District](#)

[Beaver District](#)

[Box Elder District](#)

[Cache District](#)

[Canyons District](#)

[Carbon District](#)

[Daggett District](#)

[Davis District](#)

[Duchesne District](#)

[Emery District](#)



Contact Us

Group email: schoollandtrust@schools.utah.gov

Paula Plant - Director

801.538.7555 | paula.plant@schools.utah.gov

Kira Bennett - Compliance Specialist

801.538.7533 | kira.bennett@schools.utah.gov

Marcus Chen - Training Specialist

801.538.7764 | marcus.chen@schools.utah.gov



Utah State
Board of
Education

School
LAND
Trust



AMENDMENT B APPROVED

More School LAND Trust
Funds for Utah Classrooms!



More School LAND Trust Funds for Utah Classrooms

- Amendment B raised the distribution cap from the State School Fund endowment from 4% to 5%
- Increase in LAND Trust Funds begins in the 2026-2027 school year



Connect with us on social media



FACEBOOK

- Utah PTA
- Utah PTA Advocacy
- Utah PTA Super Secondary
- Utah PTA Excellent Elementary
- Utah PTA Treasurers
- Utah PTA Reflections
- Utah School Community Councils
- Utah PTA Teachers
- Utah PTA Battle of the Bands



Connect with us on social media



INSTAGRAM - @UtahPTA



X - @UtahPTAOneVoice



PINTEREST - Utah PTA



YOUTUBE - Utah PTA One Voice



Thanks to our sponsors

UTAH PTA SPONSORS

