

FACT SHEET

Gary D. Prezler, Commissioner

EDUCATION FUNDING

When the federal government granted statehood in the 1800s, it also gave land (usually sections 16 & 36) to each newly-developed state to ensure that the financial needs of education did not get neglected. Each state created a governing body to manage those assets for education. In North Dakota, that body is the Board of University of School Lands, and the administering agency is the State Land Department.

The chart below shows the distributions made to the Permanent Trust Beneficiaries for the 2-year period ending June 30, 2003. Please note, our agency contributed almost \$58 million to the common schools trust fund (ND public school system - grades K-12); which amounts to approximately \$275/pupil/year. The revenue generated from surface rents, investment income, and oil and gas lease rentals, less a small percentage to operate our agency (salaries, mileage, telephones, paper clips, etc.) are listed below. The State Land Department is not a tax funded agency.

2001-2003 Income Distributions	
<u>Beneficiary</u>	<u>Amount Distributed</u>
Common Schools (K-12)	\$57,793,000
North Dakota State University	\$1,329,276
University of North Dakota	\$636,090
Industrial School	\$497,367
School for the Deaf	\$386,905
Valley City State University	\$310,199
School of Mines	\$358,922
School of Science	\$353,577
State Hospital	\$366,006
Ellendale (split to other funds)	\$268,569
North Dakota Veterans Home	\$278,091
School for the Blind	\$251,151
Mayville State University	\$217,891
Various Other Trusts	<u>\$7,136,102</u>
TOTAL	<u>\$70,183,146</u>

For more information regarding this topic, contact Mike Brand at mbrand@state.nd.us or call (701) 328-2800.