## **School Land Trust Constitutional Amendment B**

In the upcoming general election on November 8<sup>th</sup>, voters will see Utah Constitutional Amendment B, which was proposed during the 2012 legislative session to change the way State School Land Trust funding is distributed to schools across the state of Utah. Currently, schools are eligible to receive only the interest and dividends generated from the permanent State School Funds that align with School Community Council improvement plans, which in turn are review and approved by the local school board. The State School Fund has grown from \$18 million (1983) to over \$2 billion (2015). Voters will be asked to consider changing the Utah Constitution as it relates to the State School Fund distributions. The amendment allows for two changes; first, it recognizes that interest and dividends are not the only income instruments. Second, is to cap the distribution at 4% of the market value of the fund. Currently, schools only receive the interest and dividends from the \$2 billion State School Fund; amended changes to the constitution will allow for a portion of the principal from the funds to be distributed to schools. The fiscal year 2016-2017 distributions for School Land Trust Funding at Kane District is as follows:

BIG WATER SCHOOL	\$11,117
KANAB HIGH	\$40,816
KANAB MIDDLE	\$23,187
KANAB SCHOOL	\$73,849
LAKE POWELL HIGH SCHOOL	\$3,018
VALLEY HIGH	\$19,376
VALLEY SCHOOL	\$20,646
<u>Total</u>	\$192,009



If this amendment to the Utah Constitution passes, a new distribution formula will use inflation and enrollment growth to determine how funds are issued through a fund growth average over a three year period. Also, school community councils would receive more funding from the State School Fund for their school improvement plans.

When you have the opportunity to vote on Constitutional Amendment B, please be an informed voter by understanding both sides of the discussion. For the latest information on the Utah Constitution Amendment please access the following link:

http://www.schoollandtrust.org/fund/
If the school district office can be of assistance in answering questions or providing additional information, please feel free to contact us.

Ben Dalton
Superintendent
Kane County School District