# MINNESOTA SCHOOL TRUST LANDS

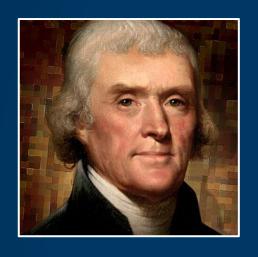
**Senate Education Finance** February 7, 2023



### Presentation Overview

- 1. School Trust Lands Historic and Legal Foundations
- 2. School Trust Portfolio
- 3. 10-year Revenue Generation and Distributions
- 4. Office of School Trust Lands Role and Responsibilities

## Historical and Legal Foundations



#### Thomas Jefferson had the idea

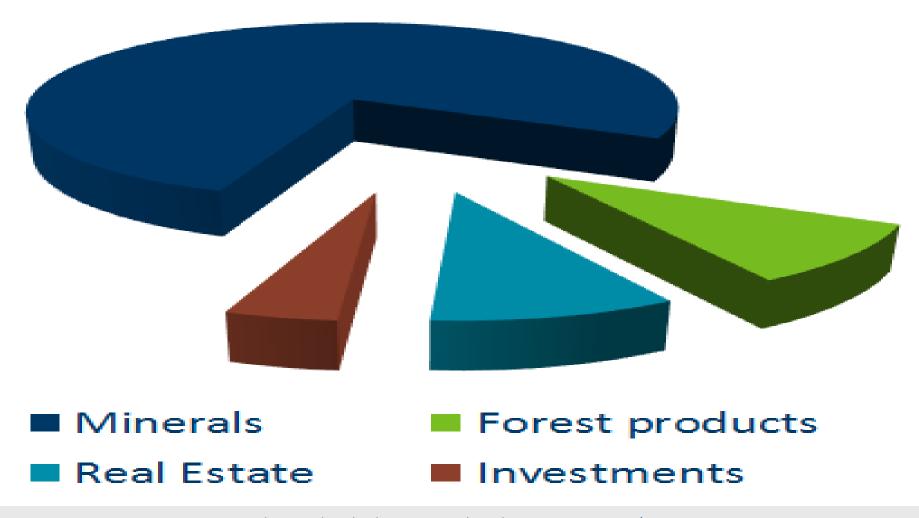
Fund education by using income from land to supplement public school funding.

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

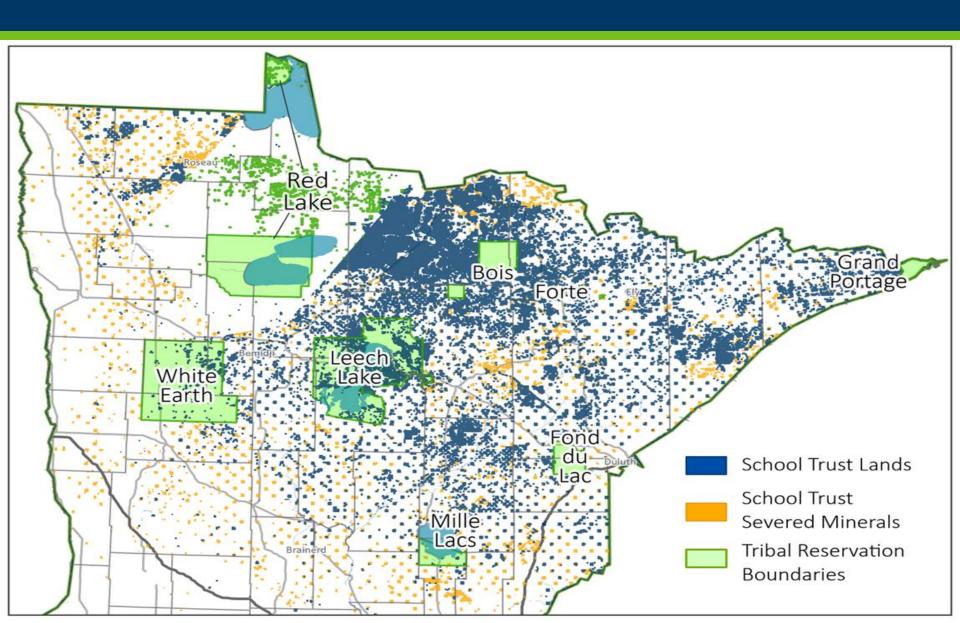
### 1785 Land Ordinance made it a reality

Section 16 of each township (the "school section")
set aside for school purposes.
Section 36 later added as a school section in
western states, including Minnesota.

### **School Trust Portfolio**



### **School Trust Portfolio**



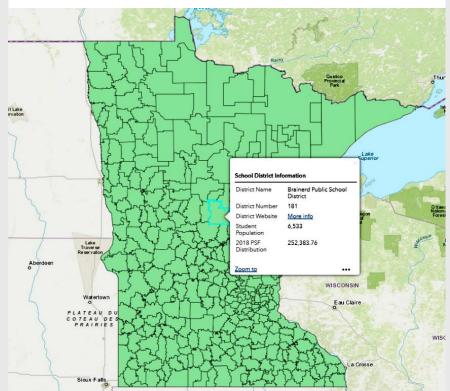
# Revenue Generation & Distributions (FY22-23)

FY22 - Revenue Generation



\$42.5 million

FY23 - Distributions



\$39 million distributed statewide \$45 per pupil – most ever

### Minnesota Office of School Trust Lands

**Established by the Minnesota Legislature in 2012** 

First director appointed in 2015

Small staff (2.5 FTE) with significant responsibilities

- Advise the <u>Governor</u>, <u>Executive Council</u>, <u>Legislative Permanent School Fund</u> <u>Commission</u> and <u>Department of Natural Resources</u> on school trust management activities;
- 2. Work in conjunction with the LPSFC on <u>legislation</u> to improve school trust assets; and
- 3. Develop <u>long range strategic plans</u> to ensure school trust resources are optimally managed for each generation of beneficiaries.

### Asset Management Plan

A written document describing the overall long-term vision, operating philosophy and general direction to be used in managing trust assets.

#### Goals:

- Identify and retain core real estate assets;
- Increase the value of the real estate assets and the cash flow from those assets;
- Rebalance the portfolio in assets with high performance potential and the strategic disposal of selected assets;
- Establish priorities for management actions;
- Balance revenue enhancement and resource stewardship;
- advance strategies on school trust lands to capitalize on ecosystem services markets; and
- Provide a clear commitment to create consistent and growing revenue streams to grow the trust corpus and increase annual distributions to schools.



## MINNESOTA OFFICE OF SCHOOL TRUST LANDS

The Lands

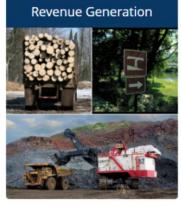
Management

Beneficiaries

Projects













## Thank You

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