



Each year the School Trust Lands Program provides money for schools to help with critical academic needs. The school and community council develop a plan to address how the money will be spent. I am very grateful for the program and wanted to share with you how the money has been used.

- We have purchased technology for classrooms including a Smartboard, 3 projectors, 7 desk top computers and 6 COWs (computer on wheels). Each COW contains 40 Chromebook computers. These items have been used to enhance instruction through the use of technology.
- Professional development institutes were attended and staff trainings held to help DHMS become a strong Professional Learning Community. Many teachers had the opportunity to attend trainings and workshops in their areas of discipline. Emphasis was placed on collaboration, common formative assessments, using data from assessments to drive instruction, and identifying students who need additional time and support.
- We have developed and implemented a number of student intervention and accelerated programs to ensure high levels of learning for all students at Desert Hills Middle. Many of these classes, such as block math, enhancement, math enhancement, and Read 180, require block scheduling to allow students additional time and support. Money was used to help supplement funding (staffing) to keep these programs running.

Our students' educational experience is greatly enriched by the School Trust Lands Program. Student learning is our primary focus and we are committed to using every avenue available to us. With the programs, teachers, and supportive parents and community, together we will ensure the success of Desert Hills Middle School students.

Brian Stevenson
Principal, Desert Hills Middle School