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## **THE PURPLE SCHOOL ANNOUNCES FUNDING OF WILLISTON'S FIRST K-6 SPANISH PROGRAM**

*September 25, 2014 (Williston, ND).* The Purple School announced today the establishment of Williston's first-ever K-6 Spanish program. "I'm excited to announce a very generous donation from the Leininger Giving Fund. Spanish classes at St. Joseph School will be funded by this course-changing donation. The donation will fund K-2 to start and plans to continue adding a kindergarten class each academic year for the following four years. That means the current second graders will have had seven years of Spanish by the end of elementary school at St. Joseph's!" said Joyce Nadolny Shui, owner of The Purple School, a second language program for children. The Purple School has donated two years of Spanish language services to St. Joseph School and helped secure the Leininger Giving Fund donation to St. Joseph School.

Shirlee Leininger of the Leininger Giving Fund said, "Early childhood education is near and dear to our hearts. We attended last year's end-of-year kindergarten program at St. Joseph and were amazed by the kindergarteners who smilingly demonstrated their new Spanish skills, including singing several songs in Spanish. This is a priceless gift to young children which we are proud to be a part of."

Julie Quamme, Principal of St. Joseph School, said, "We are excited by this beautiful donation from the Leininger Giving Fund. It has been a hope that St. Joseph's school would be able to offer a second language to our students. This is a great opportunity for our students! As stated earlier, Ms. Shui, owner of the Purple School, has been providing Spanish language services for the past two years at our elementary school. This will enable a continuation of learning a second language. It is exciting to think about how fluent our students will be in Spanish when they graduate from St. Joseph's school."

Shui added, "Two years ago, our community, like the vast majority of cities and towns in our country, had no second language instruction in the early childhood years. Today in Williston, in addition to this Leininger Giving Fund charitable donation which is perhaps the first of its kind, we have had many individuals offer to donate and have been grateful to corporate sponsors, including American State Bank and Trust, Ryan Motors, Don Pedro's, Walmart, 3 Amigos, Los Compadres, Taco John's, who have donated to our annual Spanish Language Bee. Williston should be very proud of our support of the education of our children."

St. Joseph's Catholic School offers preschool through sixth grade and welcomes all faiths. St. Joseph's is committed to quality instruction and academic achievement for every student. Its students consistently demonstrate tremendous academic achievement in standardized test scores, scoring above the state average for the North Dakota State Assessment. Its students consistently demonstrate tremendous academic achievement in standardized test scores, scoring above the state average for the North Dakota State Assessment. Teaching students a second language as a part of its curriculum will enhance student success.

The Purple School, offering language instruction programs for kids in ten languages, was founded in 2001. For more information, contact [info@thepurpleschool.com](mailto:info@thepurpleschool.com).