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**SUCCESSFUL SPANISH LANGUAGE BEE
AT TRINITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL**

May 20, 2015 (Williston, ND). At Trinity Christian School yesterday, K-6th graders responded to hundreds of questions in Spanish at The Purple School's Third Annual Spanish Language Bee, an event where children have the opportunity to showcase the Spanish they have learned.

"There's a direct correlation between community leadership and participation," said Joyce Shui, owner of The Purple School which teaches second languages to kids and runs the annual Bee. "Between our first Bee in 2013 and today, community donors have tripled. So has participation. The kids see how important local businesses consider academic success and are motivated by the generous donations." Co-sponsoring the Spanish Bee with The Purple School were American State Bank & Trust, Ryan Motors, Don Pedro's, Walmart, 3 Amigos, My Swirl, Los Compadres, Meg-a-Latte, and Taco John's.

Williston resident Silvia Milena Zubke, originally from Bogota, Columbia, presided as the judge for the third consecutive year, beginning with the question, "*¿Como se dice duck en español?*" (How do you say duck in Spanish?) to Trinity 4th grader, Kayla Arnson. Ms. Arnson correctly answered "*pato*."

Many agreed #19 of the colors category was the hardest. "Maroon" is a deep red color that many K-6 kids do not even know in English. Adding to the confusion is that the word *marrón* in Spanish is close-sounding, but refers to brown and was therefore an incorrect "false friend." Any of the following were correct: *corinto* (named after a deep red colored grape from the eastern Mediterranean), *granate*, *tinto vino* or *guinda*.

First place winner, kindergartner Emma Shui successfully completed 39 rounds of questions about animals, colors, basic conversation and parts of the body. Second place, Isaac Haugen in 4th grade, earned 38 glow sticks by completing 38 rounds. And third place winner 3rd grader Rebeca Cruz from Trinity successfully completed 30 rounds, eight more than last year's first place winner. All participants and audience seemed to have a great time even during some intense count-downs and eliminations.

Commenting on the success of the event, Shui said, "Williston has leaders who understand early childhood is the prime time to learn second languages. Under Ed Crawford (Administrator)'s leadership, Trinity brought Spanish into its extra-curricular programs last year. And Cory Fleck, Assistant Administrator, then spearheaded the introduction of Spanish into Trinity's K-4 curriculum. His enthusiasm is contagious and has led to tangible results. Two-thirds of this year's Bee participants were Trinity students, and they represented the school magnificently, including Ms. Cruz who earned third place. The next largest group was from St. Joseph's whose K-2nd graders have also been benefiting from leadership, including in the form of a very generous donation from the Leininger Giving Fund which will continue to fund Spanish at St. Joseph's for another four years."

For more information about kids learning Spanish in Williston, contact info@thepurpleschool.com or 701-205-1962.