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## **K-6 SPANISH CLASSROOM SPANISH BEES HELD THIS WEEK**

*Wednesday, April 27, 2016 (Williston, ND).* The Purple School's 4th Annual Spanish Language Bee, co-sponsored by American State Bank & Trust (ASBT), Ryan Motors, and Don Pedro's Family Mexican Restaurant, will take place on Thursday, May 19, at 3:45 pm at Williston Trinity Christian Schools. This year's Spanish Bee features an exciting new component: leading up to the May 19th Spanish Bee, various classrooms around town are holding run-off competitions this week. The 1st place winners of each classroom Bee will earn free registration to the May 19th event.

Also new this year, The Purple School launched a website a couple weeks ago to help children prepare for the Bee. The website at <https://sites.google.com/site/thepurpleschool/language-bees/2016-spanish-language-bee/participant-website> features online flashcards and a link to the official word list of the 125 colors, animals, parts of the body, bugs, and basic conversation phrases that will be tested.

Isaac Haugen, a 5th grader who came in 2nd in last year's Spanish Bee and this week placed 2nd in his classroom Bee, this week said, "Last year's event was lots of fun, and I look forward to competing again this year." Jackson Stone, a Rickard Elementary 1st grader who came in first in his classroom Bee said, "I'm so excited about the Bee next month. I'm a first grader and parents don't speak Spanish. So I know I'll be competing with sixth graders and native speakers. But I know also the most important thing is doing my personal best."

The Purple School Spanish Language Bee is a competition during which participants are challenged to translate a variety of words from English into Spanish. It was started in 2013 as a way for children to showcase their Spanish in a competitive and fun setting and has grown in popularity. The Purple School teachers have been preparing students in a number of classrooms around town.

This year's contestants will compete for the top three prizes: \$100 prize for the first place winner, \$50 second prize, and \$25 third prize. There will also be drawings throughout the Bee for prizes. In addition to co-sponsors American State Bank & Trust and Ryan Motors, over numerous other local businesses and organizations have donated fun prizes including: 3 Amigos, Taco John's, My Swirl, Meg-a-Latte, GoGo Donuts, Papa John's Pizza, Books on Broadway, Little Muddy Gifts, Williston Concert Series, Qdoba, Applebee's, the Williston ARC, Dairy Queen, and Subway.

Constance Colburn, Owner of GoGo Donuts and herself a Spanish speaker, said, "GoGo Donuts is thrilled to be supporting the children in Williston who have been working so hard to learn a second language." Harold Rose, Owner of Williston's Papa John's, commented, "The Spanish Language Bee is such a great, one-of-a-kind educational event. We are very happy to support it."

The registration fee for the Bee is \$15 (\$10 if registered by April 30). Contact info@ThePurpleSchool.com or 701-205-1962 for more information.