



### *Mayor Hayes Celebrates Chinese New Year*

On Sunday February 22<sup>nd</sup>, Mayor Hayes had the pleasure of attending the Chinese Lunar New Year Celebration hosted by the Huaxia Chinese School in Bridgewater. This year was a special occasion for the group as it marked their ten year anniversary as a school. The event, held at Bridgewater Middle School, celebrated the end of the year of the horse and welcoming the year of the goat/sheep. “It was an incredible display of talent and cultural beauty” stated Mayor Hayes. The event demonstrated the depth of Bridgewater’s cultural wealth as well as the enthusiasm our community has to share their traditions and values.

The event was focused on two areas; performances in the auditorium and games in the cafeteria. The performances included a martial arts performance, Chinese opera, plate spinning, and traditional cultural dance performances. “I was particularly impressed with the intricacy of the Chinese opera and dance, but all of the activities were equally entertaining” added the Mayor. Family participation was abundant and all enjoyed an afternoon of fun and celebration.

Mayor Hayes congratulates the regionally renowned Huaxia Chinese School on 10 years of success as well as a Happy New Year to the Chinese community. The Mayor is glad the school is located in Bridgewater and delighted they shared this event with the community.