FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HEADLINE: CACC receives $18,000 grant from 3M

COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, Feb. 12, 2016 — 3M recently awarded Julie Purcell, Columbia Area Career Center engineering and robotics instructor, $18,000 for her laboratory. The funds have been used to purchase 3-D printers for robotic projects. “The funds will help us expand the program—the class has doubled in enrollment requests for the 2015-16 school year,” said Ms. Purcell. “With the addition of the quality 3-D printers the students will be able to design and print additional parts for projects in a timely fashion, especially for our growing numbers.”

Ms. Purcell’s classroom participates in Project Lead The Way. PLTW is a nationally recognized curriculum to prepare student in careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics in a global economy. Columbia Public Schools adopted the curriculum in 2012-13 and committed to grow the program. Enrollments have doubled from 2012-13 to 2015-16. PLTW classes are now in all the public high schools and CACC. As the program grows, more materials, supplies and equipment are needed to support the additional students. Thanks to 3M’s generous donation the program’s needs are now being met.

CACC is a part of the Columbia Public School District and serves the community by providing the following education programs to a variety of ages including, but not limited to: career and technical education, personal enrichment, literacy advancement, workforce development and summer camps. For more information, visit www.career-center.org.

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[Photos Included]