



the heart of service in Boone County

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To whom it may concern:

I am very glad to write a letter of support for the Columbia Area Career Center SkillsUSA chapter. Their community service project "Cause an Effect" has had a tremendous impact on the Columbia area and the students of Columbia Public Schools.

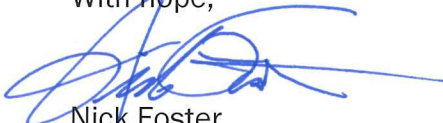
The Cause an Effect project addresses concerns about electronic waste and then finds ways that reclaimed computers can be used by those who may not be able to acquire them otherwise. Students provide the community with an environmentally responsible way of disposing of unwanted electronics. By refurbishing donated equipment, students have provided valuable computer resources to a variety of CPS organizations such as Advancement through Individual Determination (AVID) and Center of Responsive Education (CORE), among others. These results are highly valued in our community.

In addition to these efforts, the Career Center Students have also participated in "Homes for Computers," a program of Voluntary Action Center (VAC) in partnership with the city of Columbia, Missouri and Columbia's Downtown Optimist Club. The city each year provides computers they intend no longer to use for distribution to local school-age children who do not have a computer. This year 33 computers were distributed.

The Career Center students refurbished the computers and installed new software so that the machines were ready to go on the day they were distributed by VAC and the Optimists. We are very grateful for their participation!

We are proud to support SkillsUSA, the Columbia Area Career Center and the Cause an Effect project. This student project has certainly "caused an effect" in our community.

With hope,



Nick Foster
Executive Director

