

GLTHS gets \$493G grant

TYNGSBORO — **Greater Lowell Technical High School** is one of the 35 recipients of \$9.3 million in workforce skills equipment grants recently announced by Gov. Charlie Baker and Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito.

The grants are going to 35 high schools, community colleges and vocational-training providers across the state for vocational-technical education and equipment purchases that connect Massachusetts students and residents to economic opportunities in high-demand industries.

Greater Lowell Tech received \$493,395 to advance efforts to automate its Machine Technology shop and to create a state-of-the-art Precision/ Advanced Manufacturing Training Center. The purchase of the new equipment will align the shop to the current industry standards of CNC machines replacing outdated manual machines.

Machine Technology students Rosario Puleo and Ryan Silveira of Lowell and Instructor Brian Cornelier attended the awards ceremony at the Statehouse in Boston.

“We are very excited to be awarded this grant that will benefit the future of the Machine Tech program,” Puleo said. “The equipment will transform the program to align with current industry demands.” The high-school machine program has an average positive-placement rate of 95 percent over the last six years, as defined by the federal Perkins Act, with 51 percent employed, 41 percent pursuing additional education and 3 percent in the military. Through the Advanced Manufacturing Training Program — a partnership between Community College, the Greater Lowell Workforce Investment Board, the Career Center of Lowell and Northeast Advanced Manufacturing Consortium — **Greater Lowell Tech** serves 12 unemployed or underemployed adults with a six-month program, of which three months are offered at GLTHS in its Master Cam Lab and Machine Technology Shop.

As the equipment in the program is updated, the school will be able to increase the enrollment to 15 and eventually serve three additional cohorts per year, or 45 additional unemployed or underemployed adult learners.