

NAF

DISTINGUISHED

KATHERINE BLASIK DISTINGUISHED & NAF MODEL ACADEMIES

Advanced Projects

- haunted School Bus
- Club raffle baskets/
Silent Auction
- guess the candy #
- Cornhole
- Pie the teachers
- mini pumpkin painting/
carving/rolling
- Relay Racing
- costume contest
(awarded by age group)

INSIDE

PREPARING FOR COLLEGE

BECOMING
CAREER READY

DEVELOPING STUDENTS
AS LEADERS

CREATING A CULTURE
OF ACCEPTANCE

AND MORE

COX MILL HIGH SCHOOL

2020

2020

DISTINGUISHED

Academies committed to demonstrating exceptional fidelity directly impacts the success of NAF students.

NAF's annual Academy Assessment measures an academy's strengths and challenges in implementing NAF's results-driven educational design that prepares students for college and careers. The highest scores on the assessment are Model academies. A subset of those academies—which achieve additional thresholds—are recognized as Distinguished.

In 2019-2020, NAF had nearly 200 academies reach Model quality level and 138 reach Distinguished quality level—91 of these academies have reached this quality level more than once and 47 are new to the roster. Their commitment to quality serves as a reminder that with hard work and dedication, we can deliver the highest level of quality experiences to benefit our students.

At a time of great uncertainty and rapid changes in education, we are privileged to celebrate our academies who are doing an outstanding job of supporting student success. Thank you to our educators, advisory board members, and supporters for everything you do—we commend you, today and every day.

Once again, we are proud to call our Distinguished academies, the Katherine Blasik Distinguished Academies, in honor of Katherine Blasik, NAF's Vice President of Research and Evaluation, who passed away last year. Under Katherine's leadership, NAF's continuous improvement cycle and academy assessment system became what it is today—an essential measurement tool to help academies become the strongest that they can so that our students get the best possible opportunities for success.

This brochure is a testament to those academies that have gone above and beyond the guidelines and principles of quality to implement and sustain improved outcomes for high school students. Read on to find out how this year's Distinguished academies have united in our shared mission to provide the best opportunities for our future leaders, as they prepare to take next steps in college and careers.

We hope that you will feel inspired by the promising practices on the pages ahead and that it sparks an "aha moment" for you to implement for your work. Congratulations to our 2020 Katherine Blasik Distinguished and NAF Model Academies—your leadership is an inspiration to the entire network and will create a ripple effect of success and innovation.

building an academy's brand



BLANCHE ELY HIGH SCHOOL

BLANCHE ELY HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Health Sciences
Pompano Beach, FL

BEST PRACTICE: We partner and participate with several different organizations in order to represent the academy in the areas of business and workforce development. For example, we have direct collaborative partnerships with the Museum of Discovery and Science, AIDS Healthcare Foundation, Broward Education Foundation, Jersey College, and a plethora of small businesses within Broward County. We also work collaboratively with Junior Achievement to provide training and preparation for job employability.

BLANCHE ELY HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Hospitality & Tourism
Pompano Beach, FL

BEST PRACTICE: We have partnerships with Marriott, Hilton, Florida Lodging and Restaurant Association, Pompano Beach Chamber of Commerce, and several local businesses. We also work collaboratively with Junior Achievement to provide training and preparation for job employability.

Both academies have created small groups based on student needs at our high school, and apply several techniques to scaffold their learning. Many students have a 1:1 mentor, as they learn best in a small group environment. They also use social media to promote the academy and use as a vehicle to communicate with all stakeholders and celebrate our journey.

FORT LEE HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Finance
Fort Lee, NJ

BEST PRACTICE: We operate as a team and have the support of an advisory board that assists students with developing their soft skills, assisting with resume preparation, and participating in mock interviews. Our students have had very successful paid internships that have even led to full-time jobs. Teachers and administration are supportive of various fundraising activities throughout the year that are in alignment with our strategic plan. Our enrollment has increased each year and we have also been able to retain students in our program longer.

“KINDNESS AND WORDS
MATTER AND HELP
BETTER OUR SCHOOL
NAF COMMUNITY.”

SOUTH OAK CLIFF HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Engineering
Dallas, TX

BEST PRACTICE: Building relationships and developing sustainable systems for NAF students' recruitment, course enrollment, and work-based learning experiences. A College/Career Series spans 3 days and features a college and career fair, mock interviews, and guest speakers. Our Principal, Dr. Johnson and Career and Technical Educator, Euranie Patin, also volunteered to deliver congratulatory yard signs to 19 graduating NAFTrack Certified seniors to celebrate all of their hard work!

“STRANAHAN HS HAS
DEVELOPED AN OUTSTANDING
CULTURE OF FAMILY AND
DEDICATION TO STUDENT
SUCCESS THROUGHOUT THE
SCHOOL, WHICH PROVIDES
A SOUND FOUNDATION FOR
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
NAF PRINCIPLES.”

STRANAHAN HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Engineering
Fort Lauderdale, FL

BEST PRACTICE: Our program emphasizes the importance of intertwining practical skills, creativity, and knowledge.



STRANAHAN HIGH SCHOOL

creating a culture of acceptance



“STUDENTS REACHING THEIR POST-SECONDARY GOALS, WHETHER IT BE ENTERING THE WORKFORCE, SPECIFIC INDUSTRY TRAINING, OR FURTHER EDUCATION, HAS BECOME THE FOCUS OF OUR ENTIRE SYSTEM.”

NORTHRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL
STEM Academy
Greeley, CO

BEST PRACTICE: Consistent conversations with students about their career interests and passions and how the system can support each of them, are keys to success. Our staff is persistent in asking students to continually check their choices against their goals.

NORTHRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL

BARBARA GOLEMAN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Hospitality & Tourism
Miami Lakes, FL

BEST PRACTICE: Students discussed how the academy allows them the opportunity to relate to others and work as part of a group. The seniors described their academy experience as being part of something that is real, and yet flexible enough to fit student interests. Common interests help bond academy members and they also take pride in mentoring freshmen students.

H. GRADY SPRUCE HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Finance
Dallas, TX

BEST PRACTICE: Programs are fully mapped out and aligned with further education and career advancement, and assessments are used to identify areas where students need support. Supporting motivation and consistency is an explicit instructional goal across all grade levels.

J. CHRISTIAN BOLLWAGE

Academy of Finance
Elizabeth, NJ

BEST PRACTICE: All students, teachers, and staff—from the principal and academy director to the custodian—live the theme of business and finance in our classes, our collaborations, and our work-based learning opportunities. There is a spirit that comes alive in this school-wide drive to inspire students to think beyond high school.

SUNSET HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Health Sciences
Dallas, TX

BEST PRACTICE: The academy consistently strives to amplify each of our student's innate abilities and interests by pushing them towards any opportunity, such as an internship or volunteer experience, that will allow them to build self-confidence. We also collaborate with our students to identify their individual areas for improvement—public speaking is a common one—and provide safe, but challenging opportunities for our students to build and eventually hone their skills in these areas, developing them into strengths and additional sources of self-assurance.

ZEBULON B. VANCE HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Engineering
Charlotte, NC

BEST PRACTICE: At Vance, our students come first. Our academy strives to provide students with opportunities that make them feel supported and celebrated every day! We have an active and dedicated team that directly boosts our academy work, including a Career Development Coordinator and a Pathway Development Coordinator. Together, we are Vance tough and don't allow any circumstance to hinder our success!

“EMPOWER YOUR STUDENTS. ALLOW THEM TO FAIL, BUT MAKE SURE THEY UNDERSTAND THE LESSON AND HOW TO BE MORE SUCCESSFUL NEXT TIME.”

COX MILL HIGH SCHOOL
Academy of Information Technology
Concord, NC

BEST PRACTICE: The academy has amazing students and teachers who rise to the challenge! The administration and counselors support the academy every step of the way, from approval of experiences beyond the classroom, to making sure students are cohorted in all 4 core subjects. The final piece to our success is our advisory board! If they cannot provide the opportunity for our students, they find someone who can!

“I CAN'T THANK NAF ENOUGH FOR THE SUPPORT AND OPPORTUNITIES THEY HAVE PROVIDED!”

H.D. WOODSON STEM HIGH SCHOOL
Academy of Engineering
Washington, DC

BEST PRACTICE: We believe the use of data and the development of strong, authentic relationships drives student success and engagement in NAF's Academy of Engineering at H.D. Woodson. We rely on frequent communication with students and families to share successes, as well as areas for growth, in an effort to prepare our scholars for future opportunities to grow and expand their personal and professional knowledge.



SUNSET HIGH SCHOOL

developing students as leaders



NORTH MIAMI SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

“THE KEY, TO BEING
SUCCESSFUL IN ANY
ENDEAVOR, IS DOING
YOUR BEST AND PUSHING
OTHERS TO DO THEIR
BEST. DON'T SETTLE
FOR MEDIOCRITY.”

WILMER-HUTCHINS HIGH SCHOOL
Academy of Information Technology
Dallas, TX

BEST PRACTICE: The collaborative efforts of our students, teachers, counselors, CTE/NAF coordinators, business partners, and administrators all played a role in securing this accomplishment. Our students were put on a path to get them up to speed in their NAF studies and to understand the importance of NAF and the benefits that go along with being NAFTrack Certified. Students stayed focused and participated in supporting activities, such as work-based learning, college and site tours, mock interviews, resume writing, and documenting their participation in their profiles. Feedback is offered every step of the way.

**EASTERN IDAHO PROFESSIONAL
-TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL**

Academy of Finance
Idaho Falls, ID

BEST PRACTICE: In order to provide opportunities to all students in the school, the academy has implemented weekly meetings, student-led functions, working with advisory and community members, and internship portfolio presentations to advisory board members. With the internship opportunities and community presentations given by our student leadership team, students have been able to gain employment, as well as leadership opportunities with the skills they have learned in the program.

NORTH MIAMI SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Finance
North Miami, FL

BEST PRACTICE: Along with an interactive curriculum, students are exposed to and actively participate in extended learning activities—such as seminars with industry professionals, local and statewide college and university visits, and paid summer internships. In addition, students successfully operate a business and earn real pay through the Junior Achievement of Greater Miami business course and participate in the JA Stock Market Challenge. Most have attained industry certifications in Microsoft Office and/or QuickBooks.

NORTH MIAMI SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Health Sciences
North Miami, FL

BEST PRACTICE: The academy set a goal to train over 700 students and staff with our ‘Stop the Bleed’ campaign, which was our multidisciplinary plan for this year. ‘Stop the Bleed’ is a project that grew out of the Stoneman Douglas tragedy and has become a school-wide effort with the AOF and the Fire/EMT academies. Students have assisted with writing grants to fund the emergency kits for injuries, learned about domestic terrorism and the effects of physical trauma, as well as strategies for the response plans needed to save lives.

WENONAH HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Hospitality & Tourism
Birmingham, AL

BEST PRACTICE: ‘Voluntourism’ is a term the academy coined to help our students tour the city and complete volunteer hours. Through these experiences, young people have been able to explore areas outside of their neighborhood and other cultures, while helping others. They’ve also assisted with Toys for Tots drives; can goods drives; preparing meals for local shelters; and facilitated the event preparation for family reunions.

We were proud to be recognized for our efforts and were selected as the 2020 Sanford I. Weill Academy of Excellence Award Winner!



WENONAH HIGH SCHOOL

“STUDENTS LEARN THAT
SUCCESS IS NOT MEASURED BY
HOW MUCH MONEY THEY MAKE,
BUT WHAT THEY HAVE GAINED
FROM LEARNING.”

DILLARD HIGH SCHOOL
Academy of Finance
Fort Lauderdale, FL

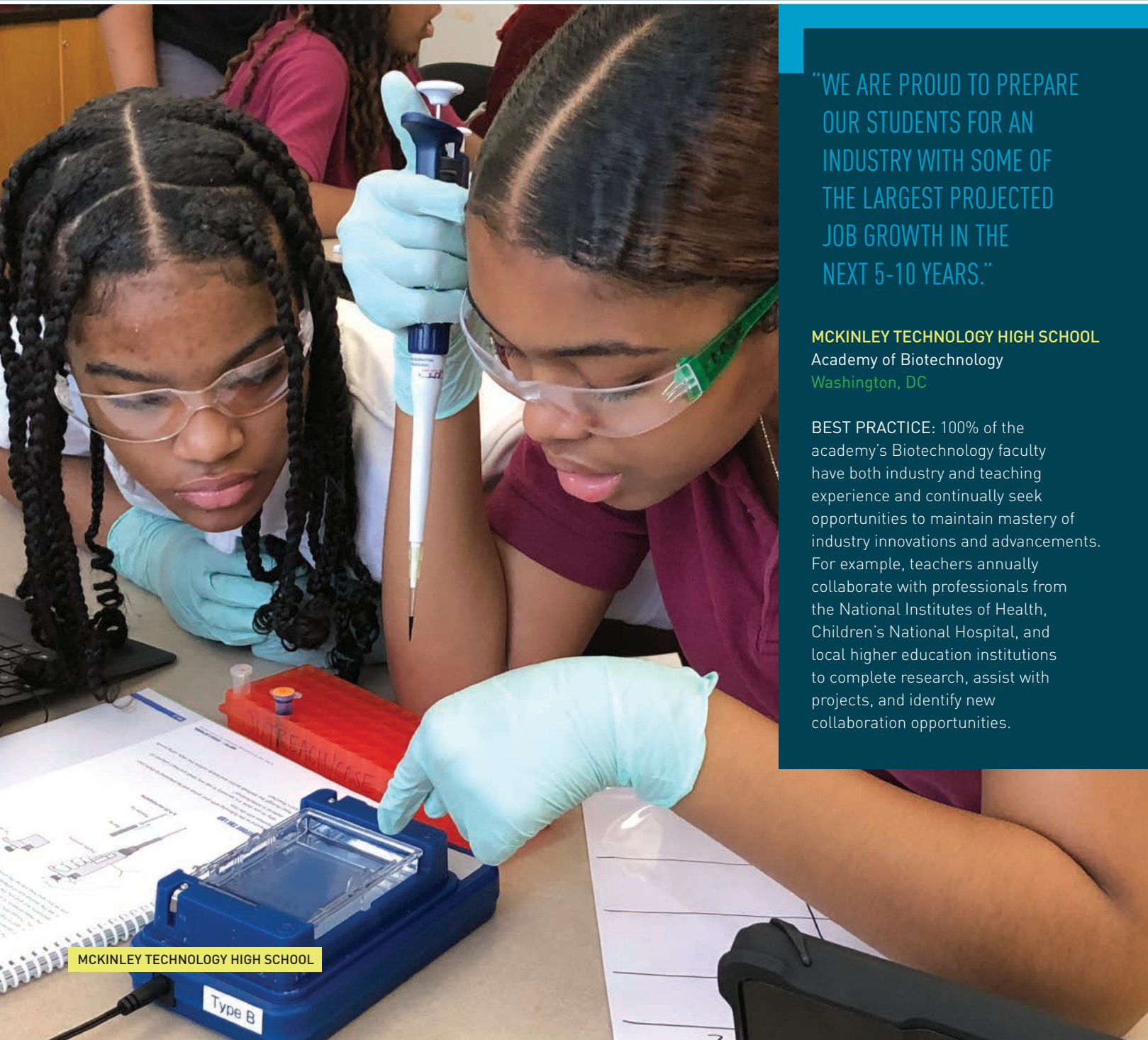
BEST PRACTICE: We strive to meet students where they are and ensure that they are being exposed to the various opportunities to achieve success in the areas of finance and business. Students take ownership of their learning and the NAF curriculum invites in creativity for both the student and teacher, paving the way for critical thinkers and decision makers.

“OUR STUDENTS ARE CHALLENGED
TO FIND INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS
TO LOCAL AGRICULTURE ISSUES
AND LEARN ABOUT AGRIBUSINESS,
AS THEY RUN AND OPERATE OUR
FARMER'S MARKET.”

STRATHMORE HIGH SCHOOL
Academy of Emerging
Agricultural Technology
Strathmore, CA

BEST PRACTICE: Our academy utilizes innovative technologies to grow crops sustainably and efficiently. Through the support of our advisory board and local industry partners, we have been able to create opportunities for students to learn the skills that are relevant to the agriculture industry today.

infusing industry experience



"WE ARE PROUD TO PREPARE OUR STUDENTS FOR AN INDUSTRY WITH SOME OF THE LARGEST PROJECTED JOB GROWTH IN THE NEXT 5-10 YEARS."

MCKINLEY TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL
Academy of Biotechnology
Washington, DC

BEST PRACTICE: 100% of the academy's Biotechnology faculty have both industry and teaching experience and continually seek opportunities to maintain mastery of industry innovations and advancements. For example, teachers annually collaborate with professionals from the National Institutes of Health, Children's National Hospital, and local higher education institutions to complete research, assist with projects, and identify new collaboration opportunities.

BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF GLOBAL FINANCE

Academy of Finance
Brooklyn, NY

BEST PRACTICE: Our advisory board supports the planning and hosting of our annual off-site school-wide College and Career Fair. For the past two years, Brooklyn UFT has hosted our entire school for a day to have panelists and colleges present workshops and information for our scholars. This day is an opportunity for our students to learn about a wide variety of career opportunities and network with individuals from these various fields.

GRANITE HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Law, Justice, & Ethics
Porterville, CA

BEST PRACTICE: Our academy offers practice opportunities with real judges and attorneys that come in to help the students prepare. Learning on their own, as well as from experts in the field, makes the project come to life. Our students work hard, are extremely motivated, and truly enjoy learning. Not only do they learn from their classroom teachers, but they also have dedicated police and forensic science experts helping them along the way as well.

HAMBURG HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Finance
Hamburg, NY

BEST PRACTICE: We offer a "Mentor Program" where each AOF student is matched with a member of our advisory board who becomes their mentor for the three years the students are in the program. Mentors meet with students three to four times throughout the school year and help them develop LinkedIn profiles, build resume writing and interviewing skills, teach students proper email etiquette and meeting preparedness, help solicit job shadows and internships, as well as share scholarship opportunities and provide collegiate & employment guidance.

H. GRADY SPRUCE HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Engineering
Dallas, TX

BEST PRACTICE: The academy continues to collaborate with advisory board members to strategically plan work-based learning activities. This has led us to land great opportunities, including guest speaking events with the Navy, Lincoln Technical College, and multiple field trips.

HIALEAH HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Health Sciences
Hialeah, FL

BEST PRACTICE: Our core and career themed teachers frequently collaborate with guest speakers in the medical field to provide the most up-to-date information for students.

NORTHWEST CABARRUS HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Health Sciences
Concord, NC

BEST PRACTICE: Our advisory board consists of members of the post-secondary community, healthcare professionals, and the local public health agency who have previously hosted week-long transition camps for incoming 9th graders. During the camp, students are exposed to unique careers in health sciences and also have the opportunity to visit post-secondary institutions to learn from professors and students in various healthcare fields.

RONALD REAGAN HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Health Sciences
Milwaukee, WI

BEST PRACTICE: Our dedicated advisory board members represent a broad range of healthcare professions and university personnel who are experts in medical education. These professionals leverage their real-world experiences to role-play with our high school students, host mock interviews, and offer their unique insight on workplace practices and issues, as well as assisting with securing internship opportunities.

"EXCELLENCE HAPPENS WHEN THE COMMUNITY, LOCAL BUSINESSES, & PUBLIC SCHOOLS TEAM UP TO DO WHAT'S RIGHT FOR STUDENTS."

EDGEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Finance
Edgewood, MD

BEST PRACTICE: We have been passionate about our academy's commitment to take a model program and build upon it over the past few years. Combining expertise in financial literacy and connecting that to our International Baccalaureate (IB) program, the academy has created a streamlined pathway that ensures students have access to not only financial literacy tools, but a certification that can assist with future employment.

"WE BELIEVE THAT OUR STUDENTS HAVE THE POWER TO CHANGE THE WORLD AND TEACH THEM TO HARNESS THAT POWER TO MAKE OUR SOCIETY A BETTER PLACE."

INNOVATION DESIGN ENTREPRENEURSHIP ACADEMY (IDEA HS)

Academy of Finance
Dallas, TX

BEST PRACTICE: Our academy is proud to nurture students' growth with focuses on global finance, accounting, and entrepreneurship. Our continuous improvement model within our advisory board has consistently bridged a gap between our school curriculum and the workplace, and has been instrumental in supporting our NAFTrack Certified graduates.

getting career ready



NORTH MIAMI BEACH SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

BARBARA GOLEMAN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Finance
Miami Lakes, FL

BEST PRACTICE: The academy's on-site credit union is a great opportunity for students to practice skills and gain work-based learning experience. Students also enjoy the curriculum because it is relevant and helps prepare them to enter the financial industry.

HOMESTEAD SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Hospitality & Tourism
Homestead, FL

BEST PRACTICE: The InterContinental Hotel —Miami has been a host to the students in our academy for Groundhog Job Shadow Day for over seven years. In preparation, students research the hotel's background and the different positions within the hotel so that they can ask meaningful questions during the job shadow. After the experience, students write an essay reflecting on their experience for the day and share with the class. They also receive feedback from the employees of the different departments of the hotel.

NEW BEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Finance
New Bedford, MA

BEST PRACTICE: Our academy is committed to project-based learning, active integration with academic instructors, and has a dedicated advisory committee. With state-of-the-art equipment in our new finance laboratory, students have created and presented products that showcase their learning about financial services in conjunction with their math, history, and science coursework.

NORTH MIAMI BEACH SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Information Technology
North Miami Beach, FL

BEST PRACTICE: The academy has implemented changes into the program to better align with student interests and the needs of business partners to create a program that includes 3 tracks (Multimedia Design, 3D Animation, and Computer Science). Our youth Summer Youth Internship Program has doubled in participation year after year and our students have been successful because of their academy education.

PHELPS ARCHITECTURE, CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Engineering
Washington, DC

BEST PRACTICE: The network of support partners at Phelps Architecture, Construction and Engineering High School have changed the trajectory of the academy by providing students exposure to various engineering and technical career opportunities. This advisory board sponsors the annual Engineering and Shadow Days, organizes industry field trips for students, facilitates mock interviews, provides mentorship opportunities, and engages students in special projects. Additionally, they foster student participation in real-world experiences, such as paid internships and a guest speaker series.

PIPER HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Finance
Sunrise, FL

BEST PRACTICE: The prominent relationship with City of Sunrise and municipality partners forge business engagement and community outreach that leads to meaningful internship opportunities. This is why Piper High School students commit in their freshman year and stay with the program until graduation.

SOUTHWEST MIAMI SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Information Technology
Miami, FL

BEST PRACTICE: Our academy is designed to provide educational opportunities for students interested in learning .NET Technologies, web design, or gaming. Our mission is to provide a unique curriculum with enriched learning opportunities, including work-based learning experiences. Our students participate in summer internships, earn industry certifications, such as Microsoft Office Specialist and Adobe CC Certified Associate, and our industry partners, such as Cigna and State Farm, provide virtual tours, job shadowing opportunities, and classroom speakers to teach students hard and soft skills.

THOMAS JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Finance
Tampa, FL

BEST PRACTICE: Students offer financial literacy workshops in order to educate non-academy students on vital Financial Literacy principles. Our academy's advisory board consists of partners such as PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC), The Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), Suncoast Credit Union, GTE Financial, Grow Financial, EverFi, the University of South Florida, and more. These connections help students with scholarships, internships, and real-world work-based learning experiences. Our students also receive hands-on experiences, by operating and managing our school branch of Suncoast Credit Union and running a school-based enterprise, DECAfe Coffee Shop.

WILLIAM H. TURNER TECHNICAL ARTS HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Finance
Miami, FL

BEST PRACTICE: Participation in NAF's Discover Audit fieldtrip to EY. This is considered the academy's signature field trip because of the impact it has on our students' career choices. Many students have decided to become Certified Public Accountants because of this annual field trip.

"AS MEMBERS OF THE AOF PROGRAM, WE HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPERIENCE WHAT MANY OTHER STUDENTS NEVER RECEIVE BEFORE THEY GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL."

CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION ACADEMY

Sioux Falls School District,
Academy of Finance
Sioux Falls, SD

BEST PRACTICE: The academy's overarching theme is work-based learning, with personalized supports for students. The advisory board members are active participants—hosting business job shadow trips and/or classroom visits speaking to students.

"HERE IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL, OUR ACADEMY'S SUCCESS COMES DOWN TO OUR STUDENTS—THEIR DIVERSITY, UNIQUE PERSONALITIES, PASSION TO SERVE OTHERS, AND DRIVE FOR MEANINGFUL CAREERS."

WOODROW WILSON HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Hospitality & Tourism
Washington, DC

BEST PRACTICE: The valuable NAF AOHT internships and work-based learning experiences guarantee that our NAF graduates have a jumpstart on becoming the next generation of hospitality professionals and leaders.

preparing for college



WARREN EASTON CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

“BECOMING A
DISTINGUISHED
ACADEMY IS ALL
IN THE ROUX!”

**WARREN EASTON CHARTER
HIGH SCHOOL**
Academy of Hospitality & Tourism
New Orleans, LA

BEST PRACTICE: Academy students begin college their junior year of high school and finish with nine hours of college credit. The last four semesters of the Academy of Hospitality & Tourism program is in collaboration with Delgado Community College and all academy students finish their high school careers already as college students.

HIALEAH GARDENS HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Education
Hialeah Gardens, FL

BEST PRACTICE: The academy embeds the earning of industry certifications into their curriculum, and as students advance, they have more responsibilities and leadership opportunities. They first learn about careers in education and develop a base knowledge, before working with other students; writing lesson plans; engaging in curriculum development; and becoming involved in teaching. Students also mentor their peers and have the opportunity to teach preschool and elementary children.

HIALEAH GARDENS HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Agricultural Sciences
Hialeah Gardens, FL

BEST PRACTICE: Students feel well-connected and believe that their peers and teachers are always available to help each other. The academy feels fortunate to have live animals to work with, as they learn from real-world experience and feel empowered to take on responsibilities. Each month, the academy presents a workshop that students design and lead, regarding a topic related to college and career readiness.

JENNINGS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Academy of Health Sciences
Jennings, MO

BEST PRACTICE: We integrate real-world challenges by engaging students with hands-on activities while leveraging workforce professionals to prepare students with 21st century skills. Students are provided dual credit opportunities at St. Louis Community College and St. Louis University and industry certifications are offered in nursing and pharmacy. The academy is committed to supporting students, in finding future employment opportunities directly out of high school to help them achieve their career goals.

“DETERMINATION IS
THE KEY TO SUCCESS”

W.H. ADAMSON HIGH SCHOOL
Academy of Health Sciences
Dallas, TX

BEST PRACTICE: Our academy offers college trips to Texas Woman's University, El Centro College, and the University of Texas at Dallas, and students learn about the college application process. Students also hear from a variety of guest speakers, including physician assistants, nutritionists, medical billers, dental hygienists, social workers, research scientists, pharmacologists, and nurses.

“THERE IS A STRONG
EMPHASIS ON ETHICS
IN THE ACADEMY,
AND MANY STUDENTS
BELIEVE THAT INTEGRITY
WILL HELP THEM REACH
THEIR GOALS AND
REFLECTS HOW THE
ACADEMY DEVELOPED
THEM AS PEOPLE.”

H. GRADY SPRUCE HIGH SCHOOL
Academy of Information Technology
Dallas, TX

BEST PRACTICE: Students receive training for research papers and are prepared to complete college applications and supplementary materials.



H. GRADY SPRUCE HIGH SCHOOL

Barbara Goleman Senior High School, Academy of Finance / [Miami Lakes, FL](#)
Barbara Goleman Senior High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / [Miami Lakes, FL](#)
Blanche Ely High School, Academy of Health Sciences / [Pompano Beach, FL](#)
Blanche Ely High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / [Pompano Beach, FL](#)
Brooklyn Academy of Global Finance / [Brooklyn, NY](#)
Career & Technical Education Academy, Sioux Falls School District Academy of Finance / [Sioux Falls, SD](#)
Cox Mill High School, Academy of Information Technology / [Concord, NC](#)
Dillard High School, Academy of Finance / [Fort Lauderdale, FL](#)
Eastern Idaho Professional-Technical High School, Academy of Finance / [Idaho Falls, ID](#)
Edgewood High School, Academy of Finance / [Edgewood, MD](#)
Fort Lee High School, Academy of Finance / [Fort Lee, NJ](#)
Granite Hills High School, Academy of Law, Justice, & Ethics / [Porterville, CA](#)
Hamburg High School, Academy of Finance / [Hamburg, NY](#)
H.D. Woodson STEM High School, Academy of Engineering / [Washington, DC](#)
H. Grady Spruce High School, Academy of Engineering / [Dallas, TX](#)
H. Grady Spruce High School, Academy of Finance / [Dallas, TX](#)
H. Grady Spruce High School, Academy of Information Technology / [Dallas, TX](#)
Hialeah High School, Academy of Health Sciences / [Hialeah, FL](#)
Hialeah Gardens High School, Academy of Agricultural Sciences / [Hialeah Gardens, FL](#)
Hialeah Gardens High School, Academy of Education / [Hialeah Gardens, FL](#)
Homestead Senior High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / [Homestead, FL](#)
Innovation Design Entrepreneurship Academy (IDEA HS), Academy of Finance / [Dallas, TX](#)
J. Christian Bollwage Finance Academy / [Elizabeth, NJ](#)
Jennings Senior High School, Academy of Health Sciences / [Jennings, MO](#)
McKinley Technology High School, Academy of Biotechnology / [Washington, DC](#)
New Bedford High School, Academy of Finance / [New Bedford, MA](#)
Northridge High School STEM Academy / [Greeley, CO](#)
Northwest Cabarrus High School, Academy of Health Sciences / [Concord, NC](#)
North Miami Beach Senior High School, Academy of Information Technology / [North Miami Beach, FL](#)
North Miami Senior High School, Academy of Finance / [North Miami, FL](#)
North Miami Senior High School, Academy of Health Sciences / [North Miami, FL](#)
Phelps Architecture, Construction and Engineering High School, Academy of Engineering / [Washington, DC](#)
Piper High School, Academy of Finance / [Sunrise, FL](#)
Ronald Reagan High School, Academy of Health Sciences / [Milwaukee, WI](#)
South Oak Cliff High School, Academy of Engineering / [Dallas, TX](#)
Southwest Miami Senior High School, Academy of Information Technology / [Miami, FL](#)
Stranahan High School, Academy of Engineering / [Fort Lauderdale, FL](#)
Strathmore High School, Academy of Emerging Agricultural Technology / [Strathmore, CA](#)
Sunset High School, Academy of Health Sciences / [Dallas, TX](#)
Thomas Jefferson High School, Academy of Finance / [Tampa, FL](#)
Warren Easton Charter High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / [New Orleans, LA](#)
Wenonah High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / [Birmingham, AL](#)
W.H. Adamson High School, Academy of Health Sciences / [Dallas, TX](#)
William H. Turner Technical Arts High School, Academy of Finance / [Miami, FL](#)
Wilmer-Hutchins High School, Academy of Information Technology / [Dallas, TX](#)
Woodrow Wilson High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / [Washington, DC](#)
Zebulon B. Vance High School, Academy of Engineering / [Charlotte, NC](#)

Academy of Finance and Enterprise, Academy of Finance / Long Island City, NY
Alonzo and Tracy Mourning Senior High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / North Miami, FL
Apex High School, Academy of Information Technology / Apex, NC
Atlantic Technical College, Academy of Information Technology / Coconut Creek, FL
Barbara Goleman Senior High School, Academy of Information Technology / Miami Lakes, FL
Barron Collier High School, Academy of Engineering / Naples, FL
Barron Collier High School, Academy of Finance / Naples, FL
Barron Collier High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / Naples, FL
Barron Collier High School, Academy of Information Technology / Naples, FL
Blanche Ely High School, Academy of Information Technology / Pompano Beach, FL
Bryan Adams High School Leadership Academy, Academy of Health Sciences / Dallas, TX
Carver High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / Winston-Salem, NC
Clarence High School, Academy of Finance / Clarence, NY
Clark High School, Academy of Finance / Las Vegas, NV
Columbia Heights Educational Campus, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / Washington, DC
Coral Gables Senior High School, Academy of Finance / Coral Gables, FL
Coral Reef High School, Academy of Finance / Miami, FL
Crooms Academy of Information Technology / Sanford, FL
David W. Butler High School, Academy of Health Sciences / Matthews, NC
Dinuba High School, Academy of Health Sciences / Dinuba, CA
East Forsyth High School, Academy of Finance / Kernersville, NC
East Mecklenburg High School, Academy of Engineering / Charlotte, NC
Emmett J. Conrad High School, Academy of Engineering / Dallas, TX
Emmett J. Conrad High School, Academy of Finance / Dallas, TX
Emmett J. Conrad High School, Academy of Health Sciences / Dallas, TX
Emmett J. Conrad High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / Dallas, TX
Emmett J. Conrad High School, Academy of Information Technology / Dallas, TX
Enloe High School, Academy of Health Sciences / Raleigh, NC
Everglades High School, Academy of Health Sciences / Miramar, FL
Frank W. Ballou Senior High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / Washington, DC
G. Holmes Braddock Senior High School, Academy of Information Technology / Miami, FL
Harmony Magnet Academy of Engineering / Strathmore, CA
Harmony Magnet Academy of Performing Arts / Strathmore, CA
Hialeah Gardens High School, Academy of Engineering / Hialeah Gardens, FL
Hialeah Gardens High School, Academy of Finance / Hialeah Gardens, FL
Hialeah Gardens High School, Academy of Health Sciences / Hialeah Gardens, FL
Hialeah Gardens High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / Hialeah Gardens, FL
Hialeah Gardens High School, Academy of Information Technology / Hialeah Gardens, FL
Immokalee High School, Academy of Engineering / Immokalee, FL
Immokalee High School, Academy of Information Technology / Immokalee, FL
Independence High School, Academy of Engineering / Charlotte, NC
John A. Ferguson Senior High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / Miami, FL
J.P. Taravella High School, Academy of Finance / Coral Springs, FL
Justin F. Kimball High School, Academy of Engineering / Dallas, TX
Justin F. Kimball High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / Dallas, TX
Lancaster High School, Academy of Finance / Lancaster, NY

Mallard Creek High School, Academy of Engineering / Charlotte, NC
Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, Academy of Finance / Parkland, FL
McKinley Technology High School, Academy of Engineering / Washington, DC
McKinley Technology High School, Academy of Information Technology / Washington, DC
Miami Beach Senior High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / Miami Beach, FL
Miami Edison Senior High School, Academy of Finance / Miami, FL
Miami Jackson Senior High School, Academy of Finance / Miami, FL
Miami Lakes Educational Center & Technical College, Academy of Health Sciences / Miami Lakes, FL
Miami Lakes Educational Center & Technical College, Academy of Information Technology / Miami Lakes, FL
Miami Springs Senior High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / Miami Springs, FL
Miami Sunset Senior High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / Miami, FL
Naples High School, Academy of Engineering / Naples, FL
New Britain High School Academy of Business & Finance / New Britain, CT
Northeast High School, Academy of Finance / St. Petersburg, FL
Northport High School, Academy of Finance / Northport, NY
North Dallas High School, Academy of Information Technology / Dallas, TX
Olympic High School, Academy of Engineering / Charlotte, NC
Olympic High School, Academy of Finance / Charlotte, NC
Olympic High School, Academy of Health Sciences / Charlotte, NC
Olympic High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / Charlotte, NC
Olympic High School, Academy of Information Technology / Charlotte, NC
Orosi High School, Academy of Engineering & Green Technology / Orosi, CA
Orosi High School, Academy of Health Sciences / Orosi, CA
Palomares High School, Academy of Health Sciences / Pomona, CA
Pathways Academy of Technology & Design, Academy of Information Technology / East Hartford, CT
Phillip O. Berry Academy of Technology, Academy of Engineering / Charlotte, NC
Phillip O. Berry Academy of Technology, Academy of Health Sciences / Charlotte, NC
Phillip O. Berry Academy of Technology, Academy of Information Technology / Charlotte, NC
Porterville High School, Academy of Business & Finance / Porterville, CA
Porterville High School, Academy of Health Sciences / Porterville, CA
Sanderson High School, Academy of Finance / Raleigh, NC
Scotlandville Magnet High School, Academy of Engineering / Baton Rouge, LA
Skyline High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / Dallas, TX
Southern Lee High School, Academy of Engineering / Sanford, NC
Southern Lee High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / Sanford, NC
Southwest Miami Senior High School, Academy of Finance / Miami, FL
Thomas Jefferson High School, Academy of Engineering / Dallas, TX
Thomas Jefferson High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / Dallas, TX
Valley High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / Las Vegas, NV
West Seneca Central Schools, Academy of Finance / West Seneca, NY
West Seneca Central Schools, Academy of Information Technology / West Seneca, NY
W. H. Adamson High School, Academy of Finance / Dallas, TX
William H. Turner Technical Arts High School, Academy of Information Technology / Miami, FL
Woodrow Wilson High School, Academy of Finance / Dallas, TX
Woodrow Wilson High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / Dallas, TX

Brandon High School, Academy of Finance / Brandon, FL
Brandon High School, Academy of Information Technology / Brandon, FL
Bryan Adams High School Leadership Academy, Academy of Engineering / Dallas, TX
Carencro High School, Academy of Information Technology / Lafayette, LA
Charlotte Engineering Early College, Academy of Engineering / Charlotte, NC
Dr. Michael M. Krop Senior High School, Academy of Finance / Miami, FL
Dunbar High School, Academy of Engineering / Washington, DC
Fort Myers High School, Academy of Finance / Fort Myers, FL
Friendship Tech Prep, Academy of Engineering / Washington, DC
Golden Gate High School, Academy of Engineering / Naples, FL
Golden Gate High School, Academy of Finance / Naples, FL
Golden Gate High School, Academy of Health Sciences / Naples, FL
Golden Gate High School, Academy of Information Technology / Naples, FL
Gulf Coast High School, Academy of Engineering / Naples, FL
Gulf Coast High School, Academy of Health Sciences / Naples, FL
Gulf Coast High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / Naples, FL
Hawthorne Academy of Health Sciences / Charlotte, NC
H.D. Woodson STEM High School, Academy of Information Technology / Washington, DC
Immokalee High School, Academy of Finance / Immokalee, FL
James Madison High School, Academy of Information Technology / Brooklyn, NY
Lely High School, Academy of Engineering / Naples, FL
Miami Sunset Senior High School, Academy of Engineering / Miami, FL
Milpitas High School, Academy of Information Technology / Milpitas, CA
Monache High School, Academy of Environmental Science / Porterville, CA
Monache High School, Academy of Multimedia & Technology / Porterville, CA
Monarch High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / Coconut Creek, FL
Mountain Ridge High School, Academy of Entrepreneurship / Glendale, AZ
Naples High School, Academy of Information Technology / Naples, FL
New Britain High School, Academy of Health & Sciences / New Britain, CT
New Britain High School, Academy of Manufacturing, Engineering & Technology (MET) / New Britain, CT
North Division High School, Academy of Information Technology / Milwaukee, WI
Porterville High School, Academy of Energy & Resource Occupations / Porterville, CA
Robert Morgan Educational Center, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / Miami, FL
Skyline High School, Academy of Finance / Dallas, TX
Skyline High School, Academy of Health Sciences / Dallas, TX
Skyline High School, Academy of Information Technology / Dallas, TX
South Oak Cliff High School, Academy of Information Technology / Dallas, TX
Thomas Jefferson High School, Academy of Finance / Dallas, TX
Westminster High School, Academy of Finance / Westminster, MD
William L. Dickinson High School, Academy of Information Technology / Jersey City, NJ
Wilmer-Hutchins High School, Academy of Hospitality & Tourism / Dallas, TX
W.R. Boone High School, Academy of Finance / Orlando, FL



REMEMBERING PATRICIA SMITH, NAF’S DIRECTOR OF EVALUATION & CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Patricia Smith, or as her colleagues and friends called her, “Patti” was a true champion for NAF and our national network. Patti served in a variety of roles during her time at NAF—spanning nearly 20 years—and most recently held the position of NAF’s Director of Evaluation & Continuous Improvement, retiring in late 2018. During that time, she visited hundreds of schools, district offices, and spearheaded the continuous improvement cycle and academy assessment system. Quality was a priority for Patti, as she strived to help academies become the best they can be and reach their full potential.

Patti passed away on June 24, 2020 and will always be remembered for her adventurous spirit, zest for life, commitment to excellence, and passion for our NAF network. Her many contributions to our academies, students, partners, and supporters will continue to live on.

NAF is working on a Student Scholarship in honor of Patti that will ensure her values, hard work, and legacy will be exhibited through the goals and aspirations of our future leaders.

Patti herself said, “Reflect on NAF’s important work, especially the friendships and memories we generate from our interactions, and to notice together the power of love and commitment.”



STRATHMORE HIGH SCHOOL



GRANITE HILLS HIGH SCHOOL



BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF GLOBAL FINANCE



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