NAF APPROACH
NAF’s design focuses on connecting the classroom to the workplace by integrating career-focused curricula and authentic learning projects into the traditional high school experience and offering real-world application opportunities. With a rigorous program of study and a progressive continuum of activities designed to build career awareness, exploration, and preparation, students gain the skills and knowledge needed to make informed choices and be successful in their future careers.

INDUSTRY NEED
Employment in business and financial operations occupations is projected to grow 7 percent from 2021 to 2031, about as fast as the average for all occupations, adding about 715,100 new jobs. Globalization, a growing economy, and a complex tax and regulatory environment will lead to strong demand for accountants and auditors. People of color and women are underrepresented at the top tiers of the profession, such as certified public accountants (CPA) and chief executive officers (CEO).

CURRICULUM
NAF’s Future Ready Learning hosts a wide array of instructional content vetted by industry experts, post-secondary instructors, and professional organizations. The Academy of Finance curriculum includes:

- Courses in Finance, Accounting, Entrepreneurship, and Insurance Authentic learning projects that address real-world issues in partnership with career experts like Finance Expeditions
- On-demand resources from the Council for Economic Education and Next-Gen Personal Finance

Essential partners supporting NAF’s Academy of Finance curriculum include KPMG, Truist Bank, Florida International University - College of Business, American Accounting Association (AAA), Association of International Certified Professional Accountants (AICPA), Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE), and Council for Economic Education.

WORK-BASED LEARNING
Industry professionals play a significant role in helping students see the connections between high school and the world of work. NAF collaborates with major corporations, post-secondary institutions, and local companies to provide career readiness and work-based learning experiences throughout the academy experience.

Students connect directly with finance professionals to learn first-hand about careers in this industry and determine how their strengths and interests might be a good fit. Adults serve as role models and guides to students, helping them develop the skills they will need to thrive in their future careers, navigate pathways to get there, and help them start building their professional network to open doors of opportunity. Businesses that collaborate with NAF academies play an active and integral role in shaping the future workforce and building their own local talent.

*The Bureau of Labor Statistics