FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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 **(NAF Academy(ies) in (District Name) Reach(es) Model Level**

(date, location) – NAF Academy(ies) in district name are among a select group who have reached NAF’s model level for 2022. These academies are being spotlighted for their excellent efforts in delivering high-quality educational experiences for high school students across the nation.

Model level is determined by an academy’s score on the assessment, which measures strengths and challenges in implementing NAF’s results driven educational design, followed by a virtual academy visit this year to verify that the academy is meeting fidelity to an educational design that prepares students for success in college and careers. A subset of these high performing academies meets additional thresholds to reach Katherine Blasik Distinguished level – NAF’s highest level of achievement.

The assessment is designed to help all academies assess their progress and move up on the continuum of NAF’s standards.

NAF Chief Executive Officer, Lisa Dughi, said, “In the midst of the uncertainty of the past two years, we are blown away by our educators and students who persevered to achieve successful results. While we must not forget the challenges that remote and hybrid learning posed for our network, we applaud our Katherine Blasik Distinguished and NAF Model academies for always putting students first – congratulations on this tremendous accomplishment!”

INSERT LIST OF ACADEMIES

“This recognition is a testament to all those who help make our academy a success,” said (academy leader). “Without our students, teachers, business and community partners, we couldn’t achieve this level of success.”

ACADEMIES are part of NAF, a national network of education, business, and community leaders who work together to ensure that high school students are college, career, and future ready.

**About NAF**

NAF is a national network of education, business, and community leaders who work together to ensure high school students are college, career, and future ready. NAF’s educational design is uniquely comprehensive in its approach to skill development, enabling students of all backgrounds to participate in a meaningful education and gives businesses the opportunity to shape America’s future workforce by transforming the learning environment to integrate STEM infused, career-relevant curricula and work-based learning experiences, including internships.

NAF has grown from one NAF Academy of Finance in New York City to hundreds of academies across the country focusing on growing industries including finance, hospitality & tourism, information technology, engineering, and health sciences; and support programs of study that are aligned with the National Career Clusters Framework.

During the 2021-22 school year, over 120,000 students attended 618 NAF academies across 35 states, plus DC, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands. In 2021, NAF academies reported 99% of seniors graduated with 87% of graduates planning to go to college. For more information, please visit: <http://naf.org/>