



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dana Pungello

Director, Communications
NAF
212-635-2400
dpungello@naf.org

Pat Burgio

Director of Communications
Lancaster Central School District
716-686-3214
pburgio@lancasterschools.org

**Local businesses ensure high-school students are Future Ready
by hosting job-shadows for The Academy of Finance at Lancaster High School.**

(~~April 16, 2019, Lancaster, NY~~) ~~Lawley Insurance~~ partnered with the ~~LANCASTER-HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMY OF FINANCE~~ to provide ~~9~~ sophomores a snapshot into a variety of careers by hosting a job-shadow day on ~~Tuesday April 16, 2019~~.

A job-shadow day is a four-hour opportunity for students to learn about a variety of career choices at a local business as they engage in Lancaster's nationally recognized work-based-learning program. Work-based learning connects what students are learning in class with the working world. It's a continuum of activities that begin with awareness, goes on to exploration and finally transitions to preparation.

Students enrolled in the Academy of Finance spend time with professional mentors, engage in mock-interviews, spend time researching a variety of careers and then explore those careers through job shadows. Each of these activities is designed to prepare students for a high quality 120-hour paid internship before high school graduation, dramatically increasing their college and career readiness, leading to better decision making about their futures.

Local, regional and national partners work together in support of students enrolled in Lancaster's Academy of Finance by sitting on our local advisory board to ensure the classroom matches the needs of today's workforce while providing students with opportunities and resources necessary to be successful for college and career.

"When companies take time to provide students with opportunities such as job-shadows they have taken a shared responsibility to ensure our youth has a realistic view of the workplace. Each student is then able to envision him or herself in that workplace." says ~~Scott Dixon, Academy of Finance director at Lancaster High School~~.

"It's great to see students mature into young adults as these work-based-learning experiences are a vital part of understanding what to expect after high-school graduation and yet cannot be provided within the classroom. Our board works to ensure those experiences happen." says ~~Marc Rachiele, the president of Lancaster's Advisory Board~~.

About NAF and the Academy of Finance at Lancaster High School

- **~~The Academy of Finance at Lancaster High School~~** is 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. ~~NAF academies focus on one of five career themes: finance, hospitality & tourism, information technology, engineering, and health sciences. During the 2018-19 school year, over 100,000 students attended 617 NAF academies across 35 states, including DC and the US Virgin Islands. In 2018, NAF academies reported 99% of seniors graduated with 87% of graduates planning to go to college. For more information, please visit: <http://naf.org/>~~
- **~~The Academy of Finance at Lancaster High School~~** has earned NAF's highest threshold of distinction having been named a Distinguished Academy each year since 2011, joining only ~~4~~ other academies nationwide to have earned this distinction as often.

For more information please, please visit: <http://naf.org/> and www.lancasterschools.org/finance