## Rotary Club Remarks Michael G. Makhoul, Assistant Principal, Dieruff High School January 11, 2019

Thank you for this esteemed invitation. I'll keep my remarks brief and start off by borrowing words from Zig Ziglar who said, "Outstanding people have one thing in common: an absolute sense of mission." What excites me most about this partnership with the Rotary club of Allentown and the revival of our Dieruff High School Interact club is that its foundation stands on the Rotarian belief that "one profits most who **serves** best."

As an educational institution, we can get caught up in the pedagogy of the common core standards and the Ps and Qs of content and the day-to-day grind of running a school. Moreover, we can even get sucked into the politics that seem to grip, influence, and sadly divide so much of our country and local community.

While we do many important things with and for our youth, NOTHING is more important than teaching the value of *service to others*. Service to others is how we find ourselves (Gandhi), it's the rent we pay for our room here on earth (Muhammad Ali), it's how we show and experience divine and true LOVE.

The other imperative thing that our students can and will learn from this collaboration is the 4-way test. Is it truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build goodwill and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned? Can you imagine if we all internalized these questions before we hit send on a text or posted something on our social media sites? How different would our lives be if all applied this test to all things?

These are just my reflection on the importance of this relationship. This is nothing less than extraordinary. I'm elated at the prospect of our continued success serving and spreading goodwill together, indeed it is the ideal of Husky Pride.

I will end with words again from Zig Ziglar, "I believe success is achieved by ordinary people with extraordinary determination." God bless you all.