Good morning!

(strong inflection energy in this greeting). Thank you for giving me a few minutes to share some thoughts on Global Leadership. I live with Type-1 diabetes . . . or what is typically called “T1D”,
and was diagnosed on April 27, 2015. All of us T1D’s know the exact day we were diagnosed because we would have otherwise died without the help of medicine. (pause) I am alive and healthy because I inject insulin into my thigh or abs. That’s about 4,000 injections per year . . . every year . . . for the rest of my life (pause).
This experience gave me a growth mindset, and commitment to seeing my challenges as a journey. The more I am focused on moving forward in this journey, the more I started asking questions (pause); Like, “What can I do for my family? What can I do for my country? And, what can I do for the world?”

Much of our society today is based on “What can I get?” and “What do I want?”. Instead, I think that we should be committing ourselves to a civic responsibility and asking: “what can I give” and “how can I help?”. 
I have been given a second chance in life . . ., and I’m resolved not to waste a single minute. My Dad has often told me:

“Live life as if there is no tomorrow . . . and always to be extremely proud of everything you do . . . or don’t even bother doing it.”

This is why I formed Kyle’s Campaigns for Change . . . Or KCC. (brief pause)
Since forming KCC I have helped T1D clinics in Gulu and Lira, Uganda

Now, I’m helping save T1D’s in Sudan and South Sudan.
So.... you may ask: (pause) “Why these areas?”

Well, . . . because most T1D children in these countries are rarely diagnosed. And so, . . . as a result of being undiagnosed, . . . they just die . . . (dramatic pause) as children.
For example, in South Sudan there are practically zero individuals with T1D, when there should be 15,000 to 30,000 T1D people.

What happened to all of the T1D’s? Most died as children, never knowing that they had T1D, . . . and so never grew up to be adults.

How am I doing all of these things? (inflection upward in voice as asking question) How can somebody in the 10th grade make a difference? (inflection upward in voice as asking
The answer is: I am a Global Citizen as well as a Globally Conscious Leader.

This sounds hard, but it’s actually pretty simple when you have intention. Nelson Mandela is one of my biggest heroes, and he showed the world that there are just a few key things to remember. As a Global Leader I develop an open mind; I am mindful of my thinking to reduce implicit biases that . . . if left unchecked. . . can lead me to unintentionally stereotyping or prejudging people or situations.
I am also committed to creating a culture of learning for understanding global issues better and for promoting cross-cultural understanding and collaboration.

It sounds intimidating, doesn’t it? (upward inflection in voice as asking question). Well, . . . it can be pretty simple.

You must:

• One . . . Keep an open mind (pause)

• Two . . . Don’t pre-judge people or things (pause), and

• Three . . . Always work together rather than by yourself.

That’s it!

Stories help me understand things better, so I’m going to share a few
stories with you. I was in Uganda in 2017 with my Dad to help T1D kids. We had a car driver take us to a week-long diabetes meeting in Gulu, which is a very rugged and dangerous part of Uganda.

The driver’s name was a man named Mr. Isaac. At first, I didn’t think much of him because I had grown up in privilege compared to his impoverished (careful with enunciation) background.

I’m a pretty good student. (pause) I plan to go to college. (Pause) while Mr. Isaac never even graduated from high school . . . and was driving a car for his earnings. At first, I was afraid to even talk to him. However, I got to know him pretty well and learned that his work often takes him away from his
family for long periods of time. His job was also very
dangerous since he often worked in the same region as the
infamous terrorist
and leader of the
Lord’s Resistance
Army…. Joseph Kony,
Mr. Isaac was
risking his life with his job and placed his priorities on his
children rather than on himself. He was so humble, yet so
inspiring. So . . . I learned, first-hand the importance of not
solely drawing a conclusion based solely upon my perceptions
and physical appearances. Instead . . . I am committed to
seeking an understanding of a person's action and character.

Next . . . another story. To lead, we must sincerely care
about each other. For example, another one of my KCC
supporters, a man named Mr. Mustafa, is a powerful businessman in Khartoum, the capital of Sudan. A few weeks ago, Mr. Mustafa told me a fantastic story. One day about ten years ago he went to a pharmacy in Khartoum to pick up his own medicine when suddenly, a man ran out of the store without paying the pharmacist. The pharmacist said, “This happens all the time.”

The following day the man returned and said, “I’m sorry. Please forgive me for stealing the medicine. I’m not a thief. My son was sick and dying of Type-1 diabetes. He needed the medicine immediately.”

Afterwards, Mr. Mustafa decided to leave a bag of money with the pharmacist to serve as a bank for people who
can’t afford the medicine. Mr. Mustafa now helps support a
thousand or more T1D people in and around Khartoum.

When I told him of KCC
and my efforts to help
T1D’s in South Sudan
he immediately agreed
to help. Now . . . keep in mind that Mr. Mustafa is from Sudan
and had never even been to South Sudan where he agreed to
support KCC. Mr. Mustafa showed me that no matter how rich
or poor we are, we are all human and we should all try to help
each other.

Finally (pause) . . . to lead, we must also have courage
and be fearless. For example, my mentor, friend and one of
the earliest supporters of KCC is a woman named Ms. Rowa. She is from both Sudan and South Sudan and previously managed a diabetes program in Juba, the capital of South Sudan. Ms. Rowa now lives in Washington, D.C. and has relentlessly promoted her opposition to President Omar Bashir, Sudan’s cruel dictator for the past 30 years. As many of you may know, President Bashir was kicked out of office just last month. Ms. Rowa and her family have also been tirelessly (careful with enunciation) working to help
the people of the Nuba Mountains. This Sudan region is known for extreme violence and poverty.

Ms. Rowa’s courageous humility is inspiring to me and so many others. Perhaps she will be President of Sudan someday. If I could, I would definitely vote for her. Why?

(Pause). Because what are we if we don’t have honor? A leader must have the courage to do what’s right, even if many disagree.

In closing, I would like to share with you a portion of a letter that I wrote to Congressman Robert Wittman in 2017, which is also very relevant to today’s conference since I just
met with Congressman Wittman yesterday (pause) . . one-on-one, (pause) . . . at his office in the Capital.

Two years ago, I wrote:

*What does it mean to be a leader? Does it mean to lead thousands of troops into battle . . . like Napoleon . . . or Julius Caesar? I don’t know. What I do know is that to be a leader and to do great things you have to be like a coxswain in an 8-man rowing shell. The coxswain steers the boat in the right direction. He also makes sure the men are doing what they are supposed to do.*
But, . . . most importantly . . . the coxswain motivates and inspires his team. So, Representative Wittman, I would like to become a better leader so that I can inspire other Type-1 diabetics to never give up on their dreams.

And so today I am continuing my quest to be a global advocate and to connect the thread of humanity as a global thinker and leader:
• **Just** like Mr. Isaac, the courageous father, guide, and driver from Uganda;

• **Just** like Mr. Mustafa, the executive from Sudan with a heart of gold;

• **Just** like Ms. Rowa, my friend, mentor and opposition leader from Sudan and South Sudan;

• **Just** like the coxswain of an 8-man rowing crew, inspiring and leading his team;

• **Just** like so many other people from around the world that I know, respect and cherish.
These people are part of my journey . . . (pause) . . . part of the spark within me, (pause) . . . igniting the flame to help others find their spark too.

(Long Pause) . . . Thank you very much.