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Dear Students:

I hope you will have a chance to see the movie entitled "Gifted Hands" or at least be scheduled to see it soon. This is the depiction of my life with special emphasis on some of the problems that I faced when I was your age. I hope that through this movie and the educational material that accompanies it, you will be able to realize that the person who has the most to do with what happens to you in life is you. We all face difficulties and challenges, but there are ways to overcome them. Our nation cannot afford to waste any intellectual capital, and we need all of you to develop your brains to help solve the problems we currently face as well as the problems of the future. I hope you will take seriously this opportunity you have to learn more about your own potential and to take advantage of relationships you have with your family, friends, and teachers to become a stellar member of our society.

My very best wishes to you in all of your future endeavors.

Sincerely yours,

Benjamin S. Carson, Sr., M.D.

The Benjamin S. Carson, Sr., M.D. and

Dr. Evelyn Spiro, R.N. Professor of Pediatric Neurosurgery

Director of Pediatric Neurosurgery

Professor of Neurological Surgery, Oncology,

Plastic Surgery, and Pediatrics