Sister Deirdre Mullen Visits Mount Mercy Academy

Sister Deirdre Mullen, RSM spoke to the Mount Mercy student body last week about her efforts to ensure that all girls throughout the world have the opportunity to be educated. Sister Deirdre, a Sister of Mercy from Ireland, served as the executive director of Mercy Global Concern at the United Nations for more than ten years. In 2011 she became the Director of The Partnership for Global Justice, a network of over 125 small congregations at the UN. Her present ministry is working with UNICEF to look at ways in which they can partner with religious communities. Sister also holds a doctorate degree in the Feminization of Poverty and was a teacher or administrator for 25 years in Northern Ireland.

Sister Deirdre spoke of the four words that they are using to identify the Mercy Rising project this year-resist, insist, persist and enlist. She urged the students to let their voices be heard. The students of Mount Mercy spearheaded by seniors Emily Lewandowski (East Aurora) and Megan Michalski (Buffalo), junior Megan Cycon (West Seneca) and sophomore Olivia Larson (Orchard Park), will be raising funds throughout the school year to support the rebuilding of a school on the border of Nigeria and Cameroon that was destroyed by the Boko Haram. These four students, through the generosity of the family of the late Dr. Richard Sheehan were able to attend a leadership conference. They heard Sister Deirdre speak and then invited her to Mount Mercy.

“I was shocked to learn that there are so many girls who do not have the opportunity to be educated,” junior Josslynn Strang (Westfield) commented.

“It was hard to believe that in today’s times there are still so many girls who are getting married at the age of 12 and becoming mothers at 13,” junior Breanna Sikora (Buffalo) remarked.