



Nationally-known speaker Paul Vitale stresses a point to students and teachers at a workshop held this summer at the Northeast Arkansas Educational Cooperative in Walnut Ridge. Black Rock students Hunter Horton and Sarah Penn (background) were two of the workshop participants.

## **John Bland Publisher**

The Northeast Arkansas Educational Cooperative in Walnut Ridge is a busy place and the site of many workshops and seminars. One of the most dynamic presenters there this summer would have to be nationally known speaker, author and trainer Paul Vitale.

Vitale's presentation was a two-hour plus overview of a curriculum he wrote titled, "A Hero Within." The NEA Cooperative sponsored the workshop for a small group of area student leaders and teachers, said

Sherry Moore, co-op workforce education coordinator.

"A Hero Within—Today's Youth, Tomorrow's Leaders" is a program of study designed to help prepare students to succeed in an ever-changing world. Moore said the teachers present at the workshop had either taught or were planning to teach Vitale's "A Hero Within" curriculum.

"People are always watching you," Vitale told the student leaders and teachers. "We will get knocked down during this path of leadership," he added. He also engaged them in

## **Vitale inspires 'A Hero Within'**

thought processes, such as stating their greatest fears.

Vitale's website, [www.paulvitale.com](http://www.paulvitale.com), states "By following his dream of helping others find their niche in life, expert Paul Vitale has become one of America's most sought-out professional speakers and trainers."

Moore said, "He gets them to think about who they are, the image they present and about the hero within them." Other practical tips he shares are about such things as presentation skills and the importance of making eye contact and writing thank you notes.

Thirteen students, representing Green County Tech, Piggott, Maynard, Walnut Ridge and Black Rock schools were present for the workshop. Approximately eight teachers from those schools also attended.

Vitale, a native of Russellville, founded Vital Communication, Inc. based in Little Rock, in 1996. He has written three books, including the best seller "Are You Puzzled by the Puzzle of Life?" and has recorded the audio CD "Live Life Like You Mean It."

He has also developed several curriculums based on his principles and has been a popular keynote speaker at hundreds of schools and universities, corporate meetings, conventions and training conferences. ■