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and the Brogan Museum and Hanson served as chief operating officer. Both taught interactive classes for thousands of students.

“These are hands-on, interactive experiences,” Hanson said. “Students are learning in a different, project-based, way.”

This is the third time MoLab has ventured into Leon County Schools to teach youngsters with interactive learning experiences. Hills and Hanson hosted Camp Spark, an interactive science camp at SAIL High School, in December and February.

Typically, the students spend the program in groups, working together on laptops to find averages and graph results.

Hanson said “Tomorrow’s Energy Auditors” has a narrower focus when compared to Camp Spark.

“I’d say both programs are equally satisfying,” she said. “Camp is themed. During the camp there’s a theme for each day. This one is very specific. I would say both groups have enjoyed it very much because they’re getting that hands-on experience.”

Hill agreed and said having a guest teacher come in after school can break up a student’s regular routine.

“MoLab is also still working toward its eventual goal of funding a fully-stocked mobile laboratory that can travel to different schools. The “MoBus” will function as a sort of classroom on wheels, complete with telescopes, a discussion area and a robotics station.

Hill said she and Hanson recently found a suitable bus that’ll cost about $15,000.

“We’re still in the fundraising phase for our mobile vehicle,” Hills said. “That will allow us to bring science-centered experiences to our communities. We’re focusing on getting that off the ground.”

GlenBeil/Democrat

Trish Hanson works with Katherine Morales teaching children about science, math and working together in their MoLab after-school program.