

# **2012 TEEA Winner Individual Category: Hannah Jordan Bevers, Sugar Land**

## **Hannah Jordan Bevers, High School Junior:**

Recycling has always been part of my life. We recycle at home—big time. And, when I got to high school I noticed people weren't recycling because recycling wasn't readily available in the cafeteria. So much trash was going into the trash cans, but that was including things that could be recycled like paper and plastic and aluminum. I came up with the idea of actually starting a cafeteria recycling program.

## **Walter Bevers, Executive Director of Secondary Education, Lamar Consolidated Independent School District:**

We've had a number of different groups that tried to start recycling programs that would get started and then as soon as a year would go by, it would become nonexistent. She got with a couple of folks in downtown Houston and looked at how some of those recycling programs were working.

## **Leslie Haack, Principal, George Ranch High School:**

Our first impression is Hannah is not a typical ninth-grade student. She was very articulate and her vision for a program was very well thought out.

## **Hannah Bevers:**

The biggest challenge was surprisingly not getting the bins ... the biggest challenge definitely was getting everyone gung ho and on board.

## **Walter Bevers:**

It was unique to be able to start building traditions with a new school, and especially a new high school out here.

### **Delaney Quattlebaum, High School Sophomore:**

Because of Hannah's project, a lot of people are realizing the importance of it. I brought the project to my house and told my parents like ... and now we recycle every day.

### **Hannah Bevers:**

I figured other schools are (gonna wanna) going to want to try to do the same thing, so I took all my research, everything I did, all my hours that I put into it, and I put it into a resource guide. And I know definitely that two junior highs and one high school—other than George Ranch—are using it now,

### **Hannah Bevers voiceover begins at video of students laughing in cafeteria:**

It's just cool because it's what they do now and it's not just like, "Oh, we have recycling bins." It's like, "Yeah, we have recycling bins." (short laugh)