Each month at Grays Chapel Elementary School, Physical Education teacher Pattie Nance gives out a Golden Big Shoe Award for the grades K-2 and 3-5 classrooms who wear their sneakers and have the most participation in physical education. This small gesture has become a very popular and coveted award at the school.

Ms. Nance started this award several years ago and it has grown in popularity each school year. Everyone on the school staff has gotten involved, encouraging students to wear their sneakers on the days they have physical education, in order to fully participate and also have a chance of earning this coveted award. This small positive gesture by Ms. Nance has encouraged student participation and engagement to maximize their physical education experience each week.

The Golden Big Shoe Award has created a very positive culture for good health and exercise at Grays Chapel Elementary School. It has also helped the overall school attendance (98%) to be at the top each month in the school district among the seventeen elementary schools.

It just goes to show you that sometimes a small idea can grow into something that has a large positive impact on others. Thank you, Ms. Nance, for your dedication to students and your resourcefulness in creating such an engaging and positive environment for the school’s physical education program.