

# COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS CARDBOARD CHALLENGE

## 2026 EVENT HANDBOOK



“Lone Wolf Award”, West Central Elementary School  
2025 Cardboard Challenge



Communities  
In Schools

Rome-Floyd County

**THANK YOU TO THESE SPONSORS OF THE  
2026 CARDBOARD CHALLENGE!**



The Cardboard Challenge is an approach, and thus a vehicle, to healthy competition that fosters an engagement to hands-on learning, embrace problem solving, experience collaboration, and enjoy working through a creative process. The event seeks to provide a platform to produce ingenious designs that will stretch the boundaries of any previous thought and capability bandwidth!

The 2025 Cardboard Challenge event was one of the best ever! As such, there is a lot of excitement for the 2026 event as well! Another year of great competition is coming to your school!

## **2026 EVENT CATEGORY DESCRIPTIONS**

### **CULINARY**

**Examples may include a set of silverware or a functional kitchen!**

### **RECREATION**

**Examples may include a soccer field or a football stadium!**

### **ARCHITECTURE**

**Examples may include a mosaic of the Mona Lisa or a replica of an art museum!**

### **FASHION**

**Examples may include a pair of Nikes or a tuxedo!**

### **TRANSPORTATION**

**Examples may include a huge cruise ship or a replica of the space shuttle!**



## **CIS CARDBOARD CHALLENGE**

**WHAT:** The Communities in Schools (CIS) Cardboard Challenge is a fun, competitive, team-building event in which students use recyclable materials to design and produce creations. Last year's entries included a birthday cake, a military tank, an old school television and a tree house!

**WHEN:** **IMPORTANT DATES AND INFORMATION TO REMEMBER!!**

**By Friday, December 19, 2025:** Communities in Schools will need from each school: (1) the pieces of cardboard needed, and the number of glue guns, glue sticks, blue ribbons, and rolls of brown tape needed and (2) the total number and sizes of t-shirts needed. Only one t-shirt order and one delivery of cardboard, t-shirts, and supplies will be made for your school. Therefore, please adhere to the deadline so that your school does not experience a competitive disadvantage!

**By the week of January 12, 2026:** Cardboard and supplies will be delivered.

**Friday, March 6, 2026:** The School Challenge judging will be held at each individual school.

**Friday, March 13, 2026:** The District Challenge judging will be held at each individual school.

**Friday, March 20, 2026:** District Challenge winners will be announced by CIS.

**Thursday, March 26, 2026:** District Challenge winners will be awarded and recognized at the RCS Gifted/STEM Night at the RHS College and Career Academy.

**WHO:** Students in grades K-12 in the Rome City School System

**WHY:** Because STEM careers are very much in demand and students find them so interesting, Communities in Schools and Rome City Schools want to cultivate that interest by providing this exciting event!

**HOW:** If you have any questions, please email Gregory Wooten, CIS Executive Director at [gwooten@cisrome-floyd.org](mailto:gwooten@cisrome-floyd.org) or Sabrina Teems, Rome City Schools Gifted/STEM Coordinator at [steems@rcs.rome.ga.us](mailto:steems@rcs.rome.ga.us)