

Telling Your Story

It's Not Just a Job –

Providing a Valuable Public Service for Our Communities

All of our members make important contributions – both at work and in your personal lives – as a member of your community. Most days, you go above and beyond what is required, whether it's the mentoring you give a student, volunteering, or many other ways you are involved.

Because of the years of austerity, we have done without. We have not seen any state investment at all levels of public education. It is important that everyone who cares about our students know about your work and the many contributions you make. We want to share these stories because your elected representatives and the general public need to know the **real** stories of **real** people

Please take a few minutes to tell us your story. Below is a form to help guide your story but, by all means, feel free to add anything else. We are not emphasizing compensation issues but rather **focusing on the value of your work for the public good**. For example, correctional officers keep our communities safe; custodians make sure students are not exposed to toxic environments, etc.

YOUR STORY

Describe your job and the work you do in a few sentences.

Do you work full-time or part-time?

___ Full-Time Part-time # of hours per day: 5 or less ___ 6 or less ___ 7 or less ___

How much time do you spend doing work-related activities during your personal time away from work?

What makes you most proud of your job?

List two situations or activities that you perform at work that go above and beyond what you would normally do.

Briefly describe how the situations or activities previously listed make an extraordinary contribution to the college or school, or in the lives of students, and what would happen if you did not do them.

Generally describe what has happened in your work environment since the Great Recession in 2008 until the current time (i.e., courses offered, employee turnover, enrollment, supplies, defunding, etc.)

List any volunteer activities you are involved with in the community where you live and work.

How many people are in your household? _____

Are you the sole or primary source of income for your household? ____ Yes ____ No

What (if any) adjustments have you had to make in your lifestyle after several years of pay freezes, unpaid furloughs, higher health costs, and/or other budget cuts that directly affect your family's finances?

Why do you think it is important to be actively involved in your union?

Name _____ Local _____

Personal E-mail _____

Work E-mail _____

Phone _____

Yes, you have permission to use my name, responses, and/or photo in AFT Washington electronic and print materials.

