## 5,000 QC teachers to get longevity pay

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THE Quezon City Council on Monday passed on second reading an ordinance increasing the longevity pay of public school teachers from P100 to P400 for every five years of service.

"We want to extend whatever help that will benefit our teachers," First District Councilor Victor Ferrer, author of the ordinance, told TheManila Times.

Ferrer said that once a teacher has taught for five years, P400 would be added to his or her monthly salary until he or she retires.

The increase will apply prospectively to public school teachers who shall have rendered at least five years of continuous service within Quezon City. For teachers with at least 10 years of service, a gap of one year of service is allowed provided that the gap year was done "on account of medical or grave personal problems."

Ferrer expressed hopes that the longevity pay would be given starting early next year.

The QC council, presided by Vice Mayor Joy Belmonte, has backed the speedy approval of several ordinances concerning increases in teachers' allowances. Belmonte said education was one of the priorities in the city.

On Oct. 2, 2018, Mayor Herbert Bautista approved Ordinance 2751 to raise the monthly supplemental allowance from P1,000 to P1,500 for national paid public school teaching and non-teaching personnel in Quezon City.

The council has also proposed to increase the quarterly rice allowance from P1,500 to P2,000 for teaching and non-teaching staff.