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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
Washington, D.C. 20549

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**FORM 8-K**

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**CURRENT REPORT**  
Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)  
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

**Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): April 24, 2019**

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**Portola Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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**Delaware**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation)

**001-35935**  
(Commission File Number)

**20-0216859**  
(IRS Employer Identification No.)

**270 E. Grand Avenue**  
**South San Francisco, California**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**94080**  
(Zip Code)

**Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (650) 246-7300**

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Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligations of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is an emerging growth company as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act of 1933 (§ 230.405 of this chapter) or Rule 12b-2 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (§ 240.12b-2 of this chapter).

Emerging growth company

If an emerging growth company, indicate by check mark if the registrant has elected not to use the extended transition period for complying with any new or revised financial accounting standards provided pursuant to Section 13(a) of the Exchange Act.

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**Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.**

**(b)**

On April 24, 2019, John Cumutte, M.D., Ph.D., Executive Vice President of Research and Development, notified Portola Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (the “*Company*”) of his decision to retire, effective May 17, 2019. Dr. Cumutte is expected to remain in a consultancy role to the Company following his retirement.

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

**Portola Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**

Dated: April 25, 2019

By: /s/ Mike Ouimette

Mike Ouimette

Executive Director, Corporate Counsel and Assistant Corporate Secretary