



November 21, 2017

To the officers of the Portland Democratic City Committee:

When I was elected chair of the Portland Democratic City Committee more than 1.5 years ago, the committee was largely defunct and in debt. I'm proud that during my tenure we put the organization on solid financial footing, established regular monthly meetings, recruited up-and-coming leaders in the city to take on leadership roles, held many successful events and forums, instituted a municipal voter guide, and passed the first-ever local platform that defines what we stand for and are working to achieve as Democrats in Portland. The platform provides a blueprint for the committee's work to help solve the big problems confronting the city moving forward.

As you know, I took a leave of absence from the Portland Democrats in August and also left my full-time job at MoveOn.org in order to volunteer as the director of the campaign to pass Question 3 to fix Portland's four rundown elementary schools. I took the leave after discussion with each of you and with members.

Passing the bond was a huge victory, and now the city has four schools to renovate. After much consideration, I have decided that I need to prioritize seeing those renovation projects through. I plan to watchdog implementation of the bond as the volunteer director of Protect Our Neighborhood Schools. Now that the bond has passed, we'll continue to work with parents and others across the city to ensure that the city moves as expeditiously as possible on each project and that the community has a strong voice in key decisions about each school.

As I plan to return to work full-time at MoveOn.org, am co-chairing the Reiche PTO this year in addition to my work with Protect Our Neighborhood Schools, and of course have two young children, I unfortunately don't have the time necessary to also lead the Portland Democrats.

2018 will be a pivotal year for Democrats as we work to win back CD2 and the Blaine House—all while continuing to press ahead on major issues confronting the city, such as paid sick leave, the affordable housing crisis, and universal pre-K.

I wish I could do it all, but I can't, and my heart remains in seeing the schools finally fixed.

Please accept this as my formal resignation as chair of the Portland Democrats.

I'm grateful for all that you do as volunteer leaders of this committee. I wish you the very best in the future, and I will be on hand to help during this transition as well as at any time in the future when I can provide guidance or assistance.

Sincerely,

Emily Figdor