

Copper theft stalls school's air-con installation

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A "GRINCH" stole the holiday gift to Tamuning Elementary School students, faculty, and staff last week — the copper tubes in the new air-conditioning chiller units on campus.

The units arrived on island last week and were delivered to the campus Thursday morning, to be installed by contractors the next morning, according to Guam Public School System spokesperson Gerry Cruz.

The total value of the stolen material is \$20,000.

GPSS now has to find money to make up for the stolen material.

"It took place sometime Thursday night or early Friday morning," said Cruz.
"They cut the wires to the control unit and stole the copper tubing."

Cruz said the units were supposed to be temporarily stored on campus overnight on Thursday as contractors were scheduled to install them on Friday.

"Friday was a holiday and it would have been easy for contractors to install them while the kids weren't on campus," added Cruz.