

BREMERTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 1st, 2020 Contact: Lt. Aaron Elton (360) 473-5978

Reported "pipe bomb" at Armin Jahr Elementary (B20-003315)

On May 31, 2020, a person observed an adult male near buildings at Armin Jahr elementary school, on Dibb Street, with what appeared to be a "pipe bomb." The alert citizen called 911 and described the suspect who hurriedly concealed the object on his person and peddled away on a bicycle. Officers were able to quickly detain the man. Through the course of the investigation a 10" and 6" galvanized pipe topped with 12-gauge shotgun shells were located. These were determined to be homemade weapons referred to as 'slam guns' or 'zip guns.'

The suspect admitted to entering school property with the weapons where he locked his bike up between two portables. He then entered the nearby woods to smoke some meth. Once finished in the woods, he returned to school property to retrieve his bike. He placed one of the "slam guns" on the ground while he unlocked his bike. This was when he was observed by the 911 caller.

Other officers arrived on scene and began addressing the immediate safety concerns to the nearby residents by setting containment and restricting access to the property. Explosives detection dogs were requested, as well as a Bomb technician. The school property was scoured for other devices and determined safe before being released to school officials.

The suspect indicated he was carrying the improvised weapons for protection. The suspect was booked into jail for firearm and drug violations. His bail was set at \$50,000.

This case has been assigned to a Bremerton Police Detective for follow-up.

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