



# COVID-19 Risks for Haverhill Schools

Tom Grannemann

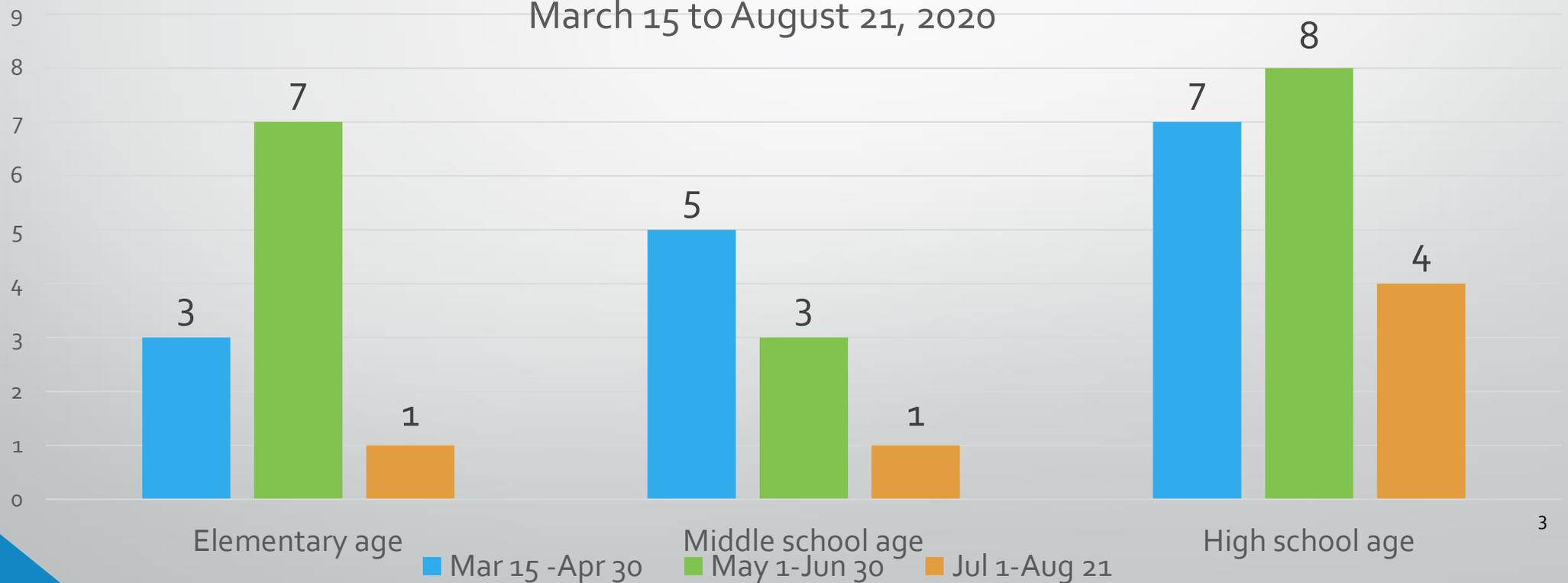
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# Reopening schools presents both risks and uncertainties

- Known risks can be estimated based on evidence from past experience
  - Observed COVID rates in locality
  - Effectiveness of masks and social distancing
- Uncertainties come from unknowns for which we do not have prior experience, or may depend on behavior we cannot control
  - Chance of transmission from other states or risky behavior in community
  - How COVID will spread in schools with prevention methods in place

# Haverhill has had few school-age COVID-19 cases

Confirmed COVID-19 Cases, Haverhill School-age Children  
March 15 to August 21, 2020



# Haverhill's Model 2 Hybrid Reduces Risk

- Option for remote learning
- Fewer students in school room and on buses
- Smaller classes
- Distancing, masks, hygiene, scheduling
- Facility cleaning, air ventilation/filtration, signs for distancing

# Unresolved Uncertainties

- How does COVID spread in schools?
- How effective will desk spacing, masks, hand washing, ventilation be in reducing risks, etc.?
- How quickly will schools identify cases in children that may be asymptomatic for many days?

# Conclusion

- What Haverhill is doing – hybrid reopening with fewer students and fewer days in person – is a reasonable approach in the current COVID-19 environment.
- The district is working hard to reduce the risk of in-school spread, but risks will not be zero. Risks may be lower in elementary schools and higher for those taking buses and in high school.
- Parents and teachers will need to assess risks based on their individual situations.
- Cooperation from all to comply with safety protocols and attention to school and community testing, tracking, and tracing will be needed to make Haverhill's reopening a success.