



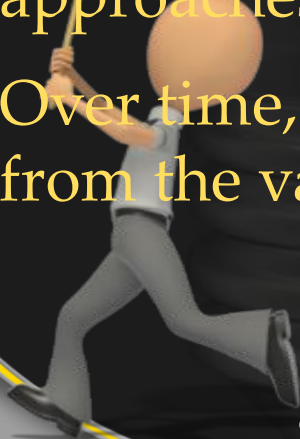
# Fostering Critical Thinking and Problem Solving in Mathematics

# Agenda

- |         |                                   |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| Topic 1 | Critical Thinking and Mathematics |
| Topic 2 | Polya's Problem Solving Approach  |
| Topic 3 | Understand the Problem            |
| Topic 4 | Devise a Plan                     |
| Topic 5 | Implement the Plan                |
| Topic 6 | Reflect on the Problem            |

# One Size Does **NOT** Fit All

- This process is dynamic, non-linear and flexible
- Students develop and discover their **own** problem-solving strategies
- Students develop confidence in tackling problem-solving tasks in any situation, and enhance their reasoning skills
- At times, teachers should highlight specific student strategies to display divergent thinking approaches
- Over time, students develop flexibility to choose from the variety of strategies



# Polya's 4 Step Problem Solving Process

Step #1 – Understand the Problem

Step #2 – Devise a Plan to Solve

Step #3 – Implement the Plan

Step #4 – Reflect on the Problem



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