LabQuest 2 Networking: Instructor Overview

The **LabQuest 2 Connected Science System** is a collection of networked features that allows for increased collaboration and individual accountability in science classrooms and labs. This guide will explain some common network configurations you may wish to consider when planning your LabQuest 2 setup. A technical guide to LabQuest 2 networking is available for system administrators.

What features of LabQuest 2 require networking?
- Printing (wireless)
- LabQuest Viewer (wireless)
- Emailing graphs and data (messaging not supported)
- Vernier Data Share (with a web browser or using Graphical Analysis™ for iPad®)

Do all LabQuest 2 features require an Internet connection?
No. Many of the features of the LabQuest 2 Connected Science System work over a local network. This means that communication occurs between LabQuest 2 and other nearby devices, and it does not require a connection to the Internet.
Note: Email is one exception; many system configurations require the use of an Internet connection to send graphs and data via email.

What are my choices for network configuration?
1. Existing school network (infrastructure)
   - LabQuest 2 connects to an existing network.
   - Coexists with computers and other devices
   - Internet access used by LabQuest 2 to email graphs and data.
   - Best for: Classrooms connecting LabQuest 2 with school-owned devices (laptops, iPad, etc.)

2. Create a LabQuest 2 network (ad hoc)
   - Use LabQuest 2 to create a classroom network.
   - Network is isolated; it does not affect existing school networks.
   - Classroom network does not provide internet access; LabQuest 2 cannot email graphs and data.
   - **Best for:** Classrooms with student-owned devices (*Bring-Your-Own-Device*) or where an existing network is unavailable (i.e., restricted networks, unreliable networks, and field use)

What do I do next?
1. Share the LabQuest 2 Networking Technical Guide for System Administrators with your system administrator. Be sure to tell your system administrator the way in which you would like to configure your LabQuest 2 network; by using an existing network or by creating a classroom network.
2. If you plan to connect to an existing network, ask your system administrator to verify that your school's network meets the technical requirements for LabQuest 2.
3. Obtain approval and an implementation plan from your system administrator.