Ami Newell Albion

My oldest son, now age 15, experienced multiple "punishments" in the 5th grade that were not appropriate and cause major anxiety for him. His school, Albion Elementary also had recently gotten rid of their morning recess and went to one 20 minute recess per day. He lost recess multiple times for talking in class, and lack of focus. He was a student with sensory issues, which the school was aware of, and they thought it was appropriate for a kid who was talking too much to sit instead of exercise at recess. One of his "noon rooms" was from the following incident at recess. It was early spring and the teacher asked students without boots to stay on the tar. My son went into the snow to retrieve a ball and the teacher gave him a noon room. And this is after she had discussed with us that 5th graders were old enough to learn natural consequences. Well, wouldn't having wet feet for the remainder of the day be a natural consequence, rather than loosing recess time the following day. My son became very anxious about going to school and was worried that he had gotten so many noon rooms (3 or 4) that the next disciplinary action would be suspension. He was terrified of getting a suspension and being labeled a bad kid. After multiple complaints from myself and my husband, his teacher stopped giving him noon rooms.